

EICC & GeSI Support the ITRI Tin Supply Chain Initiative

ITRI's Supply Chain research an important extension of EICC's and GeSI's own work.

The Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC) and the Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI) joint Extractives workgroup want to express their support for ITRI's¹ Tin Supply Chain Initiative (iTSCi)², which aims to develop a due diligence plan for tin minerals sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo and encourage groups with similar initiatives to proactively support iTSCi. ITRI, a non-profit organization representing the tin industry, conducts tin supply chain research in addition to many other tin industry activities. ITRI's work is an important complement to the EICC-GeSI Extractives workgroup's own supply chain research.

Additionally, the Extractives workgroup is implementing an initial three-pronged approach to improving supply chain conditions in the mining and processing of minerals:

1. **Learning & Capability Building:** The Extractives workgroup commissioned a report on key metals and associated mining conditions. This report, combined with media analysis, non-governmental organization (NGO) literature and reports from other industries, informs member companies about mineral mining and processing complexities.
2. **Stakeholder Engagement:** The Extractives workgroup is collaborating with industry experts, NGOs, governmental agencies, academics, adjacent industry organizations and other organizations in the electronics supply chain, like ITRI, to learn more about mineral mining and processing. Additionally, they seek collaborative solutions to gain assurance that materials used in electronics products originate from responsible producers.
3. **Materials Supply Chain Transparency:** In April 2009, the Extractives workgroup initiated an industry project to develop visibility into the minerals supply chain, with particular focus on cobalt, tin, and tantalum. The project aims to develop an understanding of specific mineral origination points and how the minerals move through their lifecycle – from mine to electronics manufacturing. To do this, the research will identify companies within the supply chains, and to seek to obtain details of supplier codes of conduct and other corporate social responsibility programs.

iTSCi enables tin supply chain visibility through research and relationships with mining, smelting and processing organizations. The iTSCi is developing a structure that will enhance the Extractives workgroup's own research and transparency efforts. The Extractives workgroup believes this initiative can broaden their understanding of mineral sourcing and processing, and supports their goal of having responsibly produced materials originating in all layers of the electronics supply chain.

¹ More information about ITRI can be found at:

http://www.itri.co.uk/bfora/systems/xmlviewer/default.asp?arg=DS_ITRI_ABOUTART_16/_firsttitle.xml/4

² More information about ITRI's Tin Supply Chain Initiative can be found at:

http://www.itri.co.uk/pooled/articles/BF_NEWSART/view.asp?Q=BF_NEWSART_313589



About EICC (Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition)

EICC was established in 2004 to improve social, economic, and environmental conditions in the global electronics supply chain through use of a standardized code of conduct. EICC was incorporated in 2007 as an association to ensure greater awareness of the code, and to expand its adoption across the industry. EICC includes 40 global electronics companies.

For more information or to view the EICC code of conduct, see www.eicc.info.

About GeSI (Global e-Sustainability Initiative)

The Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI) is uniquely dedicated to information and communication technologies (ICT) sustainability through innovation. GeSI brings together leading ICT companies – including telecommunications service providers and manufacturers as well as industry associations – and non-governmental organisations committed to achieving sustainability objectives through innovative technology. In June 2008, GeSI became an AISBL, a legal independent entity, an international non-profit association with an office near the EU institutions in Brussels, Belgium.

For more information, see www.gesi.org

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