



RCS GLOBAL
Making Sure.

THE RCS GLOBAL SOURCING INQUIRY AUDIT

CONTINUOUS COMPLIANCE IMPROVEMENT FROM SOURCE TO STORE
World leading advisory, audit and training in responsible sourcing of natural resources

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To commission or discuss an audit contact: info@rcsglobal.com

THE RCS GLOBAL SOURCING INQUIRY AUDIT

This enquiry product has been developed by RCS Global to provide an independent investigation to validate whether specific companies, smelters or refiners are present in, or absent from the supply chain.

Who should implement a sourcing inquiry audit

Users of the sourcing enquiry are typically SEC Issuers with a concern about a specific actor in their supply chain – this could be a high-risk smelter or potentially an entity on a sanctions list. In contrast the enquiry customer may also wish to declare a specific product to be conflict free – in this case they want to independently verify only conflict free smelters are in their supply chain.

The investigation is completed at the Tier One or Tier Two level of suppliers of the respective SEC Issuer. RCS Global works in collaboration with the supplier and sub-suppliers to obtain sufficient evidence to provide reasonable assurance regarding entities in the supply chain. Our sourcing enquiries are conducted remotely via desktop review of data and phone interviews.

AN AUDIT OVERVIEW

The audit can be broken down in to two parts:

- a) RCS Global looks at the smelters and refiners reported to the supplier and checks that the supplier has correctly aggregated the information and has accurately disclosed the smelter information to their customer.
- b) The sourcing enquiry focuses on specific supply chains where the smelters or refineries were reported. RCS Global investigates with tier two and tier three suppliers to gather evidence on the presence or absence of smelters and refineries.
- c) The investigation does not provide full traceability information but relies on and verifies reasonable assurance provided by suppliers regarding the smelters and refineries included in the sourcing enquiry.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING

1. Enables SEC and non-SEC issuers to make public declarations or regulatory claims about conflict free products
2. Improved confidence levels and assurance for SEC Issuers in the smelter data provided by suppliers.
3. Provides a tool for risk mitigation by identifying specific high-risk smelters or counting them out. The enquiry also results in a detailed mapping of actors in the supply chain who reported the high-risk smelters, facilitating the engagement with suppliers to transition away from high-risk entities where required.