

Re: Response to Request for Conflict Minerals Information (2015)

Dear Valued Customer:

This letter is in response to your request for information as to whether various Fastenal products contain “conflict minerals,” which the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) has defined as gold, columbite-tantalite (coltan), cassiterite, wolframite, or their derivatives (tin, tantalum, or tungsten).

Fastenal is fully aware and in compliance with Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Act and has continued due diligence since the inception of the Rule. To access the most current CMR, Conflict Mineral Report, visit the Investor Relations site: <http://investor.fastenal.com/>.

### **Action Required in order for Fastenal to proceed with Review**

In order to provide a timely response to your inquiry, please supply Fastenal with a list of products deemed to be “in scope” for the Rule and your company’s SEC due diligence. Fastenal’s understanding of the Rule is that the only Fastenal items in scope should be limited to **OEM/Direct Materials used in the production or manufacturing process of end items that are taken to market.** Anything outside of that scope will not apply to the review and only delay the response time. *An example of indirect/not in scope product is anything that doesn’t stay in a manufactured end item that is meant for sale (tools, PPE, material handling, fasteners used to maintain a building, etc.).*

To obtain this list of parts (if unknown), please reach out to your local representative or main Fastenal contact for the following as **we cannot proceed without this information:**

1. YTD (or yr after 2013) Summary Usage Report showcasing: Fastenal part, customer part, description, product category name, qty shipped, and ext price.
2. Add a column so you can identify which items are OEM/Direct Materials (In Scope)
3. Send the complete list to [conflictminerals@fastenal.com](mailto:conflictminerals@fastenal.com) and Cc’ your local Fastenal representative so we can proceed with the review.

Upon receipt of the completed review, please note that items with a result of “does not contain 3TG” **should not be included in future inquiries;** only items that did contain 3TG or are new additions to the list of in scope items. Any Fastenal part number that is reviewed will end up with a status visible on Fastenal.com showcasing its status within the Product Details section. Product reviews are ongoing and any product that does contain 3TG will be a part of continued due diligence as required by the Rule to ensure a conflict-free supply chain.

We appreciate your continued business and support of this process. Please send any questions regarding this topic to the email listed above.

Sincerely,



**Melissa Puchalla**

Director of Product Compliance

[mpuchall@fastenal.com](mailto:mpuchall@fastenal.com)