

March 23, 2011

Conflict Metals Statement

Dear Customer,

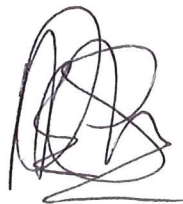
Southco wants to assist its customers and suppliers from preventing the sourcing of certain metals, referred to as “conflict metals” from being incorporated into its products. “Conflict Metals” have been identified as gold, tantalum, tungsten, tin, cobalt and copper derived from ores mined in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Southco does not purchase raw ores or virgin metals. Southco purchases bar stock, wire, sheet steel and steel plate or metal components through its global supply chain, all of which has been processed, in some cases, through multiple tiers of the global supply chain.

Southco does not knowingly use any conflict metals, however, Southco does not, within its organization, possess the capability to trace, with certainty, the origins of the raw ores or virgin metals which are incorporated in its products.

Southco will use commercially reasonable efforts to enhance its supplier audit process to verify the source of the raw metals which are incorporated into its purchases of processed steel and metal components and seek sources which can assure that conflict metals are not incorporated in its purchased materials.

Sincerely



P E Smith

Director, Global Supply Chain