

Press Release

AVX Commits to 'Solutions for Hope' Through Use of Conflict-Free DRC Tantalum Ore

GREENVILLE, S.C., September 1, 2011 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- **AVX Corporation (AVX) today announced that it has taken delivery of the first shipment of verified conflict-free DRC tantalum ore from the "Solutions for Hope Project" through the secure "closed pipe" supply line. AVX is also pleased to announce an additional four leading technology companies have joined the project including Intel and HP.**

The "Solutions for Hope Project" is the pilot program established in July 2011 by AVX in partnership with a leading producer of communications technology to demonstrate a process for delivering conflict-free tantalum material from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) under the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) due diligence guidance.

On August 30, 2011, AVX took delivery of the first shipment of "Conflict-Free" DRC tantalite ore containing 5,000 lbs of Ta₂O₅ from the DRC regional government licensed mine area concession holder. The ore is now being freighted from Johannesburg, South Africa to a smelter who is a participant in the EICC and GeSI Conflict-Free Smelter (CFS) program to be converted into capacitor grade powder and wire. AVX will process these materials into high quality capacitors for shipment to the growing number of participating customers for incorporation into end market products.

The project followed ITRI's Tin Supply Chain Initiative (ITSCI) "bag and tag" scheme, which is itself subject to independent third party on-the-ground assessment. The assessment and audit review confirmed the initial shipment meets the OECD "conflict free" requirements for due diligence. During the year, there will be a number of audits of the pilot program by key stakeholders including an ex-member of the UN Panel of Experts for the DRC; the director of supplier corporate responsibility from AVX's initial customer partner company; Bill Millman, AVX Tantalum Divisional Director of Quality and Technology; and members of the regional and national governments, as well as the concession holder. AVX is also engaged with capacity building experts with regional experience to assist in building a reliable, robust and sustainable process for delivering conflict-free ore from the DRC to global markets.

The initial delivery of conflict-free tantalum ore is a small but crucial first step to fulfilling the project's goal of establishing a secure "closed pipe" supply line from the DRC region. This will both help companies to respect human rights and avoid contributing to conflict through their mineral or metal purchasing decisions and practices, while providing income to artisanal miners and communities in the DRC region. AVX encourages others involved in the production and use of tantalum products to follow this example.

For further information on this project, please contact Bill Millman at AVX: +44 (0) 1803 697211 or conflict.free@eur.avx.com

About AVX

AVX Corporation is a leading international supplier of electronic passive components and interconnect solutions with 24 manufacturing and customer support facilities in 15 countries around

the world. AVX offers a broad range of devices including capacitors, resistors, filters, timing and circuit protection devices and connectors. The company is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE:AVX).

SOURCE: AVX Corporation

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