

**K+S Group** 

# **Supplier Code of Conduct**



#### **Preamble**

K+S considers itself as a customer-focused, independent minerals company for the segments of Agriculture, Industry, Consumers, and Communities. Our employees enable farmers to provide nutrition for the world, provide solutions that keep industries going, improve daily life for consumers and provide safety in the winter. We strive for sustainability because we are deeply committed to our responsibilities to people, environment, communities and economy of the regions in which we operate. In this sense, sustainability is an essential part of our values and principles integrated into our Code of Business Conduct & Ethics.

For the purposes of this Supplier Code of Conduct (Code), K+S Group includes the K+S Aktiengesellschaft (K+S AG) and all Group companies, i. e. the associated companies in which the K+S AG is entitled to exercise the majority of voting rights directly or indirectly, or in which the K+S AG is entitled by law, articles of association or contract to exert dominant influence in any other way directly or indirectly to share the principles which are expressed in this Code. To live our commitment and operate in accordance with our Code of Conduct, K+S expects all its suppliers, that provide products or services to K+S Group, to respect and adhere to the principles of this Code.

The Code is made available to suppliers with the goal of strengthening the mutual understanding of how sustainability issues should be practiced in day-to-day business. We recognize the different circumstances and challenges our suppliers face and believe by working together we can raise standards, drive sustainable practices and create shared value for all.

K+S expects its suppliers to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and contractual obligations that apply to their business operations, while taking reasonable steps to promote adherence to the requirements of this Code within their own supply chain by making it available to their own new and existing sub-suppliers.

Furthermore, we expect our suppliers to be in line with the ten principles of the UN Global Compact which are reflected in our core values and principles. In addition, we expect our suppliers to be aware of global standards, e.g., the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organization (ILO) Core Labour Standards, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for multinational enterprises, taking into account the applicable laws and regulations in different countries and at different sites.

### **Human and Labor Rights**

Suppliers should seek to identify potential and actual adverse human rights impacts related to their activities and business relationships. They should take appropriate steps to ensure their operations do not contribute to human rights abuses and to remedy any adverse impacts directly caused, or contributed to, by their activities or business relationships.

For their own employees and contract workers, we expect suppliers (at a minimum):

- To prohibit and refrain from any kind of child labor within their organization;
- To prohibit any kind of forced labor or human trafficking in their organization and any contribution to it;
- To promote equal opportunities and equal treatment. Furthermore, we expect our suppliers to prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender, age, color, ancestry, ethnical or social origin, nationality, sexual orientation, incapacity, covered veteran status,

religion or world view or political opinion when making any employment decision. Employment decisions include, but are not limited to, recruiting, promoting, compensating, disciplining, terminating, or selecting employees for basic or advanced training programs;

- To prohibit and refrain from any unacceptable treatment of employees, such as mental cruelty, corporal punishment, abuse, or sexual harassment;
- To respect the right of their employees, to the full extent of applicable laws, rules, and regulations, to form a workers council, collective bargaining unit or other employee representations, and to enter into collective bargaining;
- To fully comply with applicable statutes on working time. Furthermore, we expect that the employees of our suppliers receive wages that are in line with applicable national statutes or, in nations where no minimum wage legislation exists, wages are consistent with applicable local industry benchmarks.

### **Health and Safety**

Suppliers must comply with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations related to worker safety, and should provide a safe and secure workplace for all employees which meets or exceeds industry standards.

- Suppliers should ensure that health and safety procedures are established, monitored, and kept up-to-date with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and practice within their industry. Worker exposure to potential safety hazards is to be controlled through proper design, engineering, administrative controls, preventative maintenance, safe work procedures, and ongoing safety training.
- Suppliers and their agents must understand and comply with applicable K+S safety procedures and policies while on site at a K+S facility.
- K+S consistently assesses its products for possible risks to health and safety and for their environmental friendliness, and strives to ensure that they are safe for people and not harmful to nature when they are used responsibly and properly. Suppliers are expected to handle their products with the same amount of care and responsibility as we do.

- Suppliers should ensure that their employees are trained and encouraged to report both injuries and illnesses encountered during work activities.
  Consistent with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations, a tracking system should be in place to record such incidents, track results, and help implement corrective actions to eliminate their causes.
- Our suppliers are expected to establish and maintain appropriate occupational health and safety structures or systems.
- We expect our suppliers to prepare and implement emergency plans in order to minimize the impact of emergency situations. This includes that the supplier's employees are educated on proper evacuation procedures, emergency reporting, and emergency plans.

### **Environmental Considerations**

Suppliers shall operate in an environmentally responsible and efficient manner to minimize the adverse impact on the environment. At K+S, we expect our suppliers to comply with all applicable laws, regulations and standards to protect the environment.

- Our suppliers should avoid hazards for humans and the environment, minimize any impact on the environment and use resources economically.
- The processes, business premises and equipment of our suppliers should comply with the applicable legal specifications and standards for environmental protection.

- Hazardous waste must be properly labeled, stored, disposed, and documented to protect the health of the supplier's employees, the public and the environment.
- Suppliers are encouraged to maintain environmental management structures or systems in order to understand the environmental impact of their business operations.

## **Responsible Business**

#### **Ethical Behavior**

Suppliers are expected to conduct fair dealings with their employees, customers, suppliers, competitors, and other third parties, and not take advantage of anyone through manipulation, concealment, misrepresentation of material facts, or any other unfair-dealing practice. Suppliers are expected to provide full, fair, accurate, complete, timely, and understandable information in reports required by law and in other public communications.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

Suppliers must avoid conflicts of interest, or the appearance of conflicts of interest, including disclosing any material transaction or personal or professional relationship that reasonably could be expected to give rise to such a conflict. In addition, suppliers must not take advantage of any business information discovered through their dealings with K+S.

#### **Anti-Trust**

Suppliers' choice of business partners shall not result from, or be influenced by, an anticompetitive agreement with other partners in order to promote an exclusionary strategy to acquire or maintain a monopoly. K+S expects its suppliers to always compete in a fair manner and to comply with applicable antitrust laws and regulations. Our suppliers are expected not to enter into agreements with their competitors that might constitute a breach of any applicable antitrust law, nor to take advantage of any dominant market position they might hold.

### **Non-Retaliation Policy**

Suppliers should have policies or procedures in place to protect their employees who, in good faith, report suspected wrongdoing to a supplier's internal management or, where appropriate, the appropriate government authority, regarding actions that violate applicable law, policy, or this Code.

# Complying with Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Laws

Suppliers must comply with all applicable anti-corruption laws, rules, and regulations. Offering, making, and receiving kickbacks or bribes that are illegal under applicable laws and regulations

is not condoned. K+S expects that its suppliers will not engage in any form of commercial bribery, either directly or through a third party.

# Gifts, Entertainment, and Other Donations

K+S prohibits its employees from giving or receiving gifts, entertainment, or donations from suppliers except in limited business circumstances. Suppliers must understand and comply with any and all gifts and entertainment policies applicable to the K+S Group company with which the supplier is doing business.

### **Data Privacy and Intellectual Property**

Suppliers are expected to: comply with all applicable laws and prevailing industry standards concerning the privacy and security of personal and confidential information as well as all K+S policies that are applicable and relevant to the goods and services provided by the supplier; and respect the privacy and the confidentiality of K+S and its employees' personal information. Furthermore, suppliers agree to protect any K+S intellectual property (including, but not limited to, patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, and/or K+S confidential information) that may be divulged to the supplier by K+S as part of the relationship between the supplier and K+S.

### **Documentation and Review Policy**

The supplier is required to confirm that it has read, understood, and complies with the Code. K+S will have the right to review and to audit suppliers' compliance with the principles and requirements of the Code.

When this Code has been communicated to and accepted by a supplier, it shall be regarded as a contract document and as an integral part of any existing or potential agreement entered into between K+S and the supplier.

The supplier has a responsibility to fully cooperate with all investigations and audits in a reasonable timeframe; this includes K+S internal investigations and audits as well as those initiated by government authorities.

This Code may be amended, modified, or withdrawn, in whole or in part, by K+S at any time and at its sole discretion. In the event of any conflict between the Code and any terms or conditions of any contractual agreement between K+S and the supplier, the more stringent of the requirements shall apply.

In the event of violation by the supplier of this Code, K+S reserves the right to respond in a manner appropriate to the severity of the violation, including, but not limited to, termination or rejection of existing or potential agreements with the supplier.

#### CONTACT

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