



RMI's Risk Readiness Assessment Voluntary Standard System (VSS) Equivalency Benchmark Results

Updated 18 December 2020

Background and intended use:

- This methodology for conducting this benchmark follows the RMI's Recognition Process for Voluntray Standards Systems (VSS).
- VSS may independently utilize the results of the RRA Equivalence Benchmark in their assurance processes.
- The purpose of this document is to provide succinct information on the extent to which VSS meet some or all of the RRA industry norms.
- This document also clearly indicates the results of the equivalency function within the RMI's RRA Online Platform for sites that have independent third-party validation against select VSS.
- For more information about the RRA Equivalence Benchmark, please contact RMI@responsiblebusiness.org.
- For more information on how the RRA Equivalence Benchmark is applied in the Copper Mark Assurance Process, contact info@coppermark.org.

This equivalence benchmark uses the following terminology:

Equivalent	Equivalent: where the scope and intent (and therefore likely outcomes) of the requirements are the same, even if there are minor differences in the details of the requirements and/or the language used.
Not fully equivalent	Not fully equivalent: where the scope and intent (and therefore the likely outcomes) of the requirement are not the same. Similarly, issues that would generally be expected to be considered within the scope of the VSS but which are not addressed in the VSS are not considered as equivalent to the industry norm.
Not applicable	Not applicable: requirements that are beyond the scope of the VSS because the VSS was not designed with those issues in mind, or those issues that are specific to a type of metal or type of production process not included in the scope of the VSS are considered not applicable.

ISSUE AREA	INDUSTRY NORM	Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) Performance Standard V.2 (2017)	The Copper Mark Risk Readiness Assessment (2019)	Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA) Standard for Responsible Mining (2018)	International Council for Mining & Metals (ICMM) Performance Expectations (2019)	International Tin Association (ITA) Code of Conduct (2019)	ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems (2015)*	ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems (2018)	London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) Responsible Gold Guidance V8 (2018)	Mining Association of Canada Towards Sustainable Mining (TSM) Guiding Principles (2019) **	World Gold Council Responsible Gold Mining Principles (RGMPS) (2019)	International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards*** (2019) **
1. Legal Compliance	To implement a management system that ensures compliance with all national legal requirements, including national obligations under international law.											
2. Business Integrity	To implement a management system that prohibits and effectively prevents bribery (including facilitation payments), corruption and anti-competitive behavior.											
3. Stakeholder Engagement	To carry out stakeholder mapping, and to implement an engagement plan, and to establish a grievance mechanism.											
4. Business Relationships	To promote responsible business practices with significant business partners, including suppliers.											

27. Security and Human Rights	To implement the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (VP on SHR) when engaging with private or public security forces.												
28. Indigenous Peoples' Rights	To implement a management system to respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including FPIC; avoid adverse impacts on Indigenous Peoples' lands, livelihoods, resources, and cultural heritage; and develop and implement an Indigenous Peoples' engagement plan.												
29. Land Acquisition and Resettlement	Where land acquisition or resettlement is necessary; to implement a policy to explore all viable alternative project designs to avoid and/or minimize land acquisition and physical or economic displacement and to implement a resettlement action plan to fairly address and compensate for residual adverse impacts.												
30. Cultural Heritage	To identify cultural heritage sites and to establish a process based on consultation with stakeholders to avoid, minimize, reduce and compensate for adverse impacts on cultural heritage.												
31. Due Diligence in Mineral Supply Chains	To implement the OECD Due Diligence Guidance on Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas.												
32. Transparency and Disclosure	Report annually on environmental, social and governance performance in line with internationally recognized standards (e.g. GRI) and to publicly support the implementation of EITI, and report where appropriate.												

Notes:
* ISO14001: With the exception of Criterion 14, equivalency is dependent on the company having included the issue area in their policy commitment and disclosure practices of the ISO certified management system.
** TSM: Areas that are rated "not fully equivalent" can be considered "fully equivalent" if a company fully implements the TSM Responsible Sourcing Alignment Supplement.
***IFC Performance Standards: Equivalency is dependent on the company having been independently assessed by a qualified assessor against the requirements.