2023: a year of opportunity

As the end of the year approaches, we are thankful for the support we have received from our participants, partners and stakeholders. 2023 has been a year of growth and opportunity for the Copper Mark as we seek to scale adoption of responsible practices across the copper industry and along its value chain.

A few highlights for us this year include:
- 30% of the world copper mine output is produced from The Copper Mark sites.
- Almost 80% of mined copper in Chile, the world’s number one copper mining nation, is produced by The Copper Mark sites.
- Over 70 sites participate in The Copper Mark, of which 56 sites have received the award and 21 are in process.
- 77 brands of the London Metals Exchange (LME) use the Joint Due Diligence Standard for Copper, Lead, Molybdenum, Nickel and Zinc to demonstrate compliance with the LME Responsible Sourcing Rules.
- 10 fabricator sites achieved The Copper Mark.
- The first two sites, División Radomiro Tomic and División Gabriela Mistral of Codelco, received the Chain of Custody awards.
- 38 Partners publicly support the Copper Mark’s mission and vision.

2023 was the first year of the Molybdenum Mark, Nickel Mark and Zinc Mark. Using the Copper Mark’s foundations, we saw:
- 47 sites are participating in the Molybdenum Mark, Nickel Mark and Zinc Mark.
- The Molybdenum Mark, Nickel Mark and Zinc Mark, all together were awarded to 32 of the participating sites, with some sites receiving more than one mark.
• 7 sites were awarded either a Molybdenum Mark, Nickel Mark or Zinc Mark, while 25 received it in combination with The Copper Mark

On standards, we launched the Risk Readiness Assessment (RRA) v3.0 on 19 October 2023, together with the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI). The RRA is the standard against which participating sites self-assess and are independently audited to obtain our marks. RRA 3.0 is firmly grounded in the UN Guiding Principles and the OECD Due Diligence Guidance and ensures coverage of the critical ESG issues facing the mining and metals industry, including circular economy and the calculating and reporting of scope 3 emissions. The revision process included two public consultations, ten public workshops to explain the changes made and to receive feedback on those changes, and over 30 1-on-1 briefings with key stakeholders.

On monitoring, evaluation and impact, we have published our first Monitoring and Evaluation Report this year. This baseline study provides the foundation to demonstrate the Copper Mark’s impact over time.

We have also made progress on research initiatives related to topics that will support our impact along the supply chains of the metals we cover. Our first project developed jointly with the Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) aims to improve knowledge on Artisanal Scale Copper Mining (ASCM) practices in southern Peru and inform an open dialogue for sustainable development between all ASCM supply chain stakeholders. This is possible thanks to a grant from the ISEAL Innovations Fund, which is supported by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) as well as matching funds from Intel Corporation and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

Last, but definitely not least, our team has grown to welcome Alicia Polo y La Borda as our Director of Outreach and Research.

As we get ready to spend some time with our loved ones, we wish you a Happy Holiday Season and look forward to continue our work with participants, partners and our stakeholders in 2024!
with the following new recipients:

**Mining, smelting and refinery sites**
- Carmen de Andacollo (Chile, Teck Resources Limited)
- División Andina (Chile, Codelco)
- División Chuquicamata (Chile, Codelco)
- División Gabriela Mistral (Chile, Codelco)
- División Ministro Hales (Chile, Codelco)
- División Radomiro Tomic (Chile, Codelco)
- División Salvador (Chile, Codelco)
- División Ventanas (Chile, Codelco)
- Quebrada Blanca (Chile, Teck Resources Limited)
- Refinería Electrolítica de Zinc (Mexico, Grupo Mexico)

**Fabrication sites**
- Bremen (USA, Southwire)
- Denton (USA, Southwire)
- Lafayette (USA, Southwire)

Read the summary reports [here](#).

The first two Chain of Custody awards are Codelco sites that were obtained along with The Copper Mark:
- División Gabriela Mistral (Chile, Codelco)
- División Radomiro Tomic (Chile, Codelco)

The number of participating molybdenum sites grew to 21, with the following additions of sites that have obtained in addition to The Copper Mark:
- División Andina (Chile, Codelco)
- División Chuquicamata (Chile, Codelco)
- División Salvador (Chile, Codelco)
- Quebrada Blanca (Chile, Teck Resources Limited)

Read the summary reports [here](#).

The number of participating zinc sites grew to 7, with the following additions:
- Refinería Electrolítica de Zinc (México, Grupo México)
- Red Dog Operation (USA, Teck Resources)

Read the Letters of Commitment [here](#).

The number of participating copper sites grew to 71, with the following additions:
- Onahama Smelter and Refinery (Japan, Onahama Smelting and Refinery Co, Ltd)
- Naoshima Smelter and Refinery (Japan, Mitsubishi Materials Corporation)

The Copper Mark also welcomed two new partners coming from the manufacturing space:
- Audi
- Kablan AG

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**TRAINING AND RESOURCES**

**Auditor Training**
Towards Sustainable Mining and the Copper Mark are hosting an auditor
training the end of January / early February. The registration link is open for free for existing and active Copper Mark assessors while other stakeholders may be charged.

WHERE TO MEET THE COPPER MARK

UPCOMING EVENTS
We look forward to seeing our stakeholders in early 2024. Staff will be attending the following upcoming events:

- Indaba, 5-8 February 2024, Cape Town - South Africa
- Cesco Week, 15-18 April 2024, Santiago - Chile

PAST EVENTS

- Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development, 7-9 November 2023, United Nations Geneva - Switzerland
- IEA Webinar on Critical Minerals, 21 November 2023, online

For an update of our events, please visit our website