THE COPPER MARK
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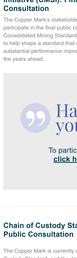
Newsflash

October 2025

Applications open for Independent Chair of the Board of Directors

The Copper Mark is accepting applications for the Independent Chair of the Board of Directors, marking a critical point in the organisation's evolution, as we prepare to take on ownership of the Consolidated Mining Standard, Assurance Process and Claims Policy – along with a growing portfolio of activities in the broader mineral and metals value chain.



This is a significant milestone for the Consolidated Mining Standard Initiative (CMSI) being advanced by the four CMSI partners: the Copper Mark, International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), Mining Association of Canada (MAC) and World Gold Council.

It represents the first step towards adopting the CMSI Governance Model published on 8 September 2025 (**available here**). Accordingly, the Independent Chair's selection will be led by the CMSI's Stakeholder Advisory Group and Industry Advisory Group (**listed here**). The Independent Chair appointment will be followed by non-executive Board members, balancing commercial and non-commercial interests from both mining (upstream) and value chain (downstream) participants.

We are pleased to share that the call for applications for the position of Independent Chair has opened and candidates can make direct applications, or nominations can be made of potential candidates, with the current term, until 3 November, 2025. Follow **this link** for the full description of the position and the application / nomination process.

Since its inception, our existing Board of Directors and multi-stakeholder Advisory Council has embodied our principles of transparency, inclusiveness, collaboration, simplicity and continuous improvement as we shaped the environment and policies that have built our reputation for credible standards and robust assurance, and positions us well as our organisation evolves.

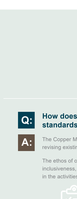
We look forward to the outcome of the search and the appointment of the person to spearhead our governance as we enter a new era of growth.

We invite our stakeholders to consider the requirements of this position and share details of the opportunity within their networks.

Have your say and help shape the future of mining

Consolidated Mining Standard Initiative (CMSI): Final Public Consultation

The Copper Mark's stakeholders are invited to participate in the final public consultation for the Consolidated Mining Standard Initiative (CMSI) – to help shape a standard that is designed to drive substantial performance improvements in the sector in the years ahead.



To participate, **click here.**

The CMSI is bringing together the best aspects of four well-established standards – the Copper Mark, Mining Association of Canada's Towards Sustainable Mining, World Gold Council's Responsible Gold Mining Principles and ICMM's Mining Principles – into one, global standard that reduces complexity and clarifies responsible practices for all mining companies, in all locations.

The comment period for the final public consultation opened on 8 October 2025 and closes on 17 November 2025. This follows the first public consultation in 2024 during which detailed feedback was received from 192 stakeholders in 25 countries, totalling around 4,700 individual comments.

This feedback resulted in substantive updates to the Consolidated Standard, Assurance Process and Claims Policy. The consultation submissions, results and responses are detailed on the **CMSI website here**.

This is the last opportunity to provide feedback before the Consolidated Standard, Assurance Process and Claims Policy are finalised. We look forward to your participation in this important development.

Chain of Custody Standard Revision: Public Consultation

The Copper Mark is currently revising the Chain of Custody Standard, and the draft revised standard is now open for public consultation, available to view **here**. The draft includes line numbers to facilitate consultation input.

The standard has been revised with the following key objectives:

- To facilitate a dialogue and updates to the standard based on initial learnings and address barriers to uptake.
- To increase the standard's scope beyond copper, to cover molybdenum, nickel, and zinc.

The public consultation will close on 17 November, 2025. The revised text, feedback form and more information about the consultation are available **here**.

Your questions answered

Q: How does the Copper Mark ensure the integrity of its standards development?

A: The Copper Mark has a comprehensive procedure for developing new standards and revising existing standards, with the latter taking place every three years.

The ethos of our Standard Setting Procedure draws from our principles of transparency, inclusiveness, collaboration, simplicity and continuous improvement, which are evident in the activities of the three distinct development pillars.

Planning	Standard Development	Consultations
Research to identify stakeholders, similar standards and explore the opportunity for collaboration. Subject matter experts are consulted and terms of reference defined, intended outcomes clarified and risks identified. The intent is then communicated publicly, with the terms of reference (ToR).	A representative technical body conducts the development work, managed by a working group overseen by our Advisory Council according to the ToR. Ongoing consultation takes place with subject matter experts and interested consultants and stakeholders. Feasibility is considered and a legal and oversight perspective offered to ensure the standard's alignment with intended outcomes.	Beyond the broad consultation during development, provision is also made for two public consultations when the standard's development has reached appropriate stages. This could be facilitated through explanatory webinars and other channels for meaningful engagement. Issues raised, and how they were addressed are documented on the Copper Mark website.

Q: Can a standard be revised before its three-year revision date comes up?

A: Yes – the procedure provides for revising a standard when a proposal is received for substantive changes, from someone with a vested interest, even if it's between the three-year revision cycles. Our Standard Setting Procedure explains how such a proposal can be made. [View the Standard Setting Procedure **here**]

The Copper Mark represented

Chief Operating Officer, **Hillary Amster**, attended the International Molybdenum Association AGM in Chile where she presented an overview of the Molybdenum Mark, including its origins, current uptake, and the future with CMSI. The Copper Mark also held a clinic with several one-on-one meetings with different entities. In the spirit of inclusiveness, this was an opportunity for interaction between molybdenum producers from across the globe and throughout the value chain, ranging from emerging mining operations in the US and existing mining and roasting operations in China to ferromolybdenum converters in India.

"We saw a lot of interest in the Molybdenum Mark even though we are in the early stages of raising awareness in a sector that is relatively new to the sustainability space," said Hillary. "What struck me most was the interoperability and international nature of the molybdenum value chain – the need to engage with a global value chain and the challenges of the current geopolitical climate in achieving that reality."

Alicia Polo y La Borda, Director of Strategic Engagements and Policy, represented the Copper Mark at the Perumin convention in Arequipa, Peru, hosted by the Peruvian Institute of Mining Engineers, where she participated in a panel discussing the CMSI on the event's main stage.

Alicia highlighted how the Copper Mark is advancing the CMSI process with partners which involves engaging with NGOs, consultants, miners, investors, authorities in the final public consultation period (now underway) for the Consolidated Mining Standard.

"We are encouraging participation from stakeholders in Peru, a significant mining country," Alicia said. "We want to hear from them to inform our work on responsible production through CMSI and other Copper Mark activities."

Director of Value Chain, **Mike Smith**, attended the International Forum on Sustainable Mineral Supply Chains in Xiamen, China, where the Copper Mark signed **an MoU** with the China Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals and Chemical (CCCMC) to strengthen collaboration. He also had the opportunity to meet with Copper Mark participants and companies interested in future participation. Mike also spoke at a side event on the role of the Copper Mark, and chaired a panel debate on traceability, chain of custody, and changing downstream requirements for responsible sourcing with CCCMC, Aluminium Stewardship Initiative, CMOC, Xiamen Xiashun and Schneider Electric.

"Participation in the MOU and the full value chain panel supported our work on collaboration," said Mike. "Our principle of continuous improvement was certainly at play, as attending the Copper Mark becomes a consideration as the conversation around responsible production and sourcing in the region grows and actors seek to understand how voluntary standards like ours can help them achieve it. Notable themes were the requirements of downstream customers and regulators, value chain transparency, avoiding duplication in standards and responsible sourcing requirements."

How the Copper Mark is growing

Our valued group of Partners has grown to 59! Since 1 September 2025, we've welcomed:

- High-volume custom moulding company, **Lettergold**
- Abrasion resistant piping systems provider, **Ultra Tech**
- Providers of abrasion and impact resistant steel, **Tricon Wear Solutions**
- Copper and copper alloy products manufacturer, **KME**

59 Partners to the Copper Mark support our vision for a sustainable society, enabled by the responsible production, sourcing, and recycling of metals.

Upcoming events

Mining Assurance: From Compliance Burden to Competitive Advantage, webinar | 28 October 2025.

The Copper Mark's Hillary Amster, Chief Operating Officer, and Emily Falconer, Assurance Programme Coordinator, will participate in a webinar, co-organised with Kumi. **Click here to register and attend**.

Launch Event: Initiative for Responsible Renewable Energy Value Chains, The Hague, Netherlands | 30 October 2025.

Organised in collaboration with the RBC Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector, this will be an in-person event, with online participation also available. Attendance is open to the **Copper Mark's Partners** and **Participants**, as well as partners to RBC Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector. A draft Agenda is available **here**.

To find out more or to express an interest in registering, please email info@coppermark.org.

Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF) Annual General Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland | 3-5 November 2025.

The Copper Mark is organising a session exploring responsible renewable energy value chains and will be represented by Director of Value Chain, Mike Smith at **the event Participants**.

Email: info@coppermark.org
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