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RESPONSIBLE METALS VALUE CHAIN PLATFORM (VC PLATFORM) OVERVIEW

December 2025

The Copper Mark is launching the Responsible Metals Value Chain Platform (VC Platform), recognising that a world where mineral and metal products are made responsibly requires commitment and cooperation from mine site to end user.

Our VC Platform is designed to foster value-chain-wide transparency to strengthen vertical links and connect responsible actors who mine, fabricate, transform and recycle metals.

The VC Platform will provide initiatives, tools, events and knowledge to support companies and stakeholders pursuing greater transparency and assured responsible production across the value chain.

Through the VC Platform companies and stakeholders can:

- Access and engage with a broad network of value chain actors
- Publicly claim to be a Copper Mark VC Partner supporting responsible production
- Help develop value chain standards and practical tools
- Join leadership initiatives and pilot projects for priority sectors and issues
- Participate in all activities related to the VC Forum, VC Groups and VC Online Hub

VC Platform Partners (VC Partners)

Companies and stakeholders are invited to join as VC Platform Partners (VC Partners). Existing Copper Mark Partners will be required to transition to this new structure by 1 July 2026 to retain their status with the organisation.

By joining, VC Partners commit to the Responsible Value Chain principles, pledging to:

- Support responsible metals and minerals value chains and express a preference for sourcing and promoting responsibly produced metals
- Actively engage in, drive and deliver VC Platform activities

Who can join the VC Platform?

- Companies, financial organisations and investment actors involved in the mining, transformation, fabrication, trading and recycling of metals and minerals.
- Downstream manufacturers or end-users using metals in their products.
- Stakeholders and rights-holders affected by the activities of companies involved in the metals value chain, such as Indigenous Peoples, social and environmental CSOs and labour representatives.

The VC Platform activities will also collaborate industry bodies and associations, consultants and experts, who are not eligible to become VC Partners.

VC Platform

A platform for engagement across the metals value chain for information exchange, addressing shared issues and developing sector initiatives

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Value Chain Forum

- Main engagement point for all VC Platform Partners
- Meet twice per year, once online and once in-person
- Unique setting to learn, share and discuss the latest developments and issues affecting responsible production in metals value chains

BENEFITS
- Grow network and knowledge
- Stay ahead of evolving regulatory requirements and customer expectations on responsible production and sourcing

Value Chain Groups & Initiatives

- The home of initiatives and projects on specific themes and topics
- Transparency and Traceability Group
- VC Standards and Tools Group
- GHG Emissions and Recycled Content Group

BENEFITS
- Help develop standards and tools for enhanced responsible production
- Engage in leadership initiatives for your sector, including chain of custody pilots and transparency projects

Value Chain Online Hub

An online hub of information including:

1) Presentations and information from VC Platform events
2) Tools such as the Environmental Due Diligence Risk Assessment Tools and Scrap Supplier Due Diligence Risk Assessment Tools
3) Directory of contacts at Partner and Participant companies and sites
4) Data provided by a third-party agency covering value chain aggregated supply, demand and production data, market trends and aggregated ESG data

BENEFITS
- Access exclusive content and tools
- Gain fresh insights into responsible value chains

VC Platform Structure

The VC Platform will consist of three core elements: the VC Forum, VC Groups, VC Online Hub:

1 VC Forum

The VC Forum will be the central engagement point for VC Partners. Forum meetings will be held twice a year—once virtually and once in person—and open to all VC Partners.

2 VC Groups

VC Groups will have focused discussions on key topics to develop initiatives and projects in specific sectors or themes. The VC Platform will launch with the following VC Groups:

Transparency and Traceability Group

Chain of custody and traceability pilots and projects for specific sectors. For example, the Initiative for Responsible Renewable Energy Value Chains

Value Chain Standards and Tools Group

A group focused on the development of standards and tools for production sites and providing traceability along the value chain. For example, the New Mid-stream Standard.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Recycled Content Group

Product carbon footprint transparency, GHG and recycled content methodologies and mapping, and enhanced recycled content due diligence approaches.

3 VC Online Hub

The VC Online Hub is an exclusive space for VC Partners and serve as a repository for VC Platform materials, some of which will be available publicly, while some will be exclusively for the VC Partners. In the future, the VC Online Hub will provide data on copper value chains and material flows between.

"By joining the VC Platform, companies and stakeholders can demonstrate their commitment to responsible sourcing and production and make public claims as a Copper Mark VC Partner — showcasing leadership to customers, regulators and peers."

VC Partner Fees

The VC Platform will be funded through annual VC Partner fees, determined in relation to annual turnover for the previous financial year.

Turnover (USD previous financial year)	Annual fee (USD)
Over 50bn	20,000
10 – 50bn	15,000
1 – 10bn	10,000
500mn – 1bn	5,000
Under 500mn	2,000

- Existing Copper Mark Partners will receive 50% discount for the first year of participation. The deadline for current Copper Mark Partners to move to join the VC Platform will be 1 July 2026.
- Copper Mark Partners which do not transition to VC Partners will no longer be able to make claims related to their partnership with the Copper Mark once the VC Platform is launched.
- VC Partner applications require a one-time processing fee of USD 500. (Existing Partners are exempt from this fee.)
- No fee will be charged for companies with Copper Mark Participant sites (Except those participating in only the Chain of Custody Standard.)
- To support the involvement of CSOs and value chain stakeholders and rights-holders, no fee will be charged to these groups.

Benefits of Becoming a VC Partner

Demonstrate and highlight your commitment

Demonstrate commitment to responsible sourcing and production by signing the Responsible Value Chain Platform principles.

Make public claims as a VC Partner, showcasing leadership to customers, regulators and peers.

VC Forum: Grow your network and knowledge

Convening twice per here to help you build relationships across the metals value chain and meet fellow VC Partners and the Copper Mark team.

Exchange information and improve your supply-chain mapping capabilities by understanding each production stage and associated ESG issues, impacts and risks for companies working in the copper, molybdenum, nickel and zinc value chains

Stay ahead of evolving regulatory requirements and customer expectations on responsible production and sourcing.

VC Groups: Take initiative to demonstrate industry leadership

Contribute directly to the development of standards and tools that enhance responsible production and sustainable value chains.

Engage in leadership initiatives for your sector, including chain of custody pilots, transparency projects, and other collaborative programs.

VC Online Hub

Access exclusive content and tools, e.g. the Environmental Due Diligence Risk Assessment Tool and materials related to broader VC Platform activities

Benefit from insights on metal flows across the value chain to support transparency and understanding of responsible value chains for copper and the other metals.

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