

Newsflash

DECEMBER 2025

Responsible Metals Value Chain Platform

As the year comes to a close, we are happy to share that next year 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.

The VC Platform is designed to foster value-chain-wide transparency that strengthens vertical links and connects responsible actors who mine, fabricate, transform and recycle metals. It will provide initiatives, tools, events and knowledge to support companies and stakeholders pursuing greater transparency and assured responsible production across the value chain.

To find out more and to learn about how to become a VC Partner [follow this link](#)

VC Platform

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

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



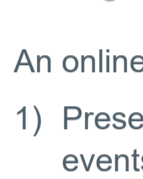
VC Standards and Tools Group



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

Collaborating to support responsible production of renewables

Copper is a major component in renewable energy generation and transmission and as the demand for renewables increases so does the need for cooperation with producers and stakeholders across the value chain. Towards that end, we have signed two new agreements.



Global Wind Energy Council

We signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC), an organisation representing the entire wind energy sector with members representing more than 1,500 companies, organisations and institutions in more than 80 countries.

The MoU sets the stage for collaboration to share expertise, deepen engagement across our respective networks, and explore opportunities to support responsible value chains for wind energy.

[Read more here.](#)



Solar Stewardship Initiative

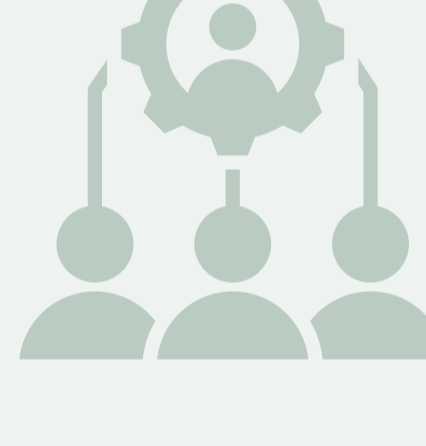
We also signed an MoU with the Solar Stewardship Initiative (SSI) which provides a framework for collaboration promoting responsible production and sourcing of copper across the solar energy value chain.

SSI is a solar-specific supply chain sustainability assurance scheme supported by more than 50 companies. The agreement will help connect SSI members with Copper Mark Participants and Partners to, amongst other things, jointly deliver chain of custody pilots for responsible copper—from mine site to end user—to promote transparency and make the business case for responsible production up and down the value chain.

[Read more here.](#)

Reminder: Call for Directors closes 7 January

Our call for Directors for the evolved Copper Mark Board is still open. We are seeking applications for Directors to help lead us through the next phase of growth.



Our organisation is evolving its governance structure and identity to advance a full value chain approach to support responsible production from mine to the end user.

Once appointed, Directors will have a seat at the decision-making table as we expand our work to boost responsible production at more sites around the globe. To fit the Copper Mark's evolving governance structure, this recruitment is for Board of Directors seats for the following categories.

Mining Stakeholders

Directors from mining affected stakeholders and rights-holders. This will include one Director from each of the following: Indigenous Peoples, labour, social/human rights and environment, with a blend of local/regional and global perspectives.

Value Chain Companies

Directors from value chain companies including: two consumer facing companies, one standalone recycler, smelter or refiner; and a component manufacturer.

Value Chain Stakeholders

Directors from non-commercial value chain stakeholders committed to responsible minerals and metals value chains. To be drawn from the following two categories: (i) international NGOs, multi-lateral organisations, multistakeholder initiatives and academics; and (ii) directly affected stakeholders who reflect social, community, environmental or labour concerns.

The Copper Mark's [evolved governance structure](#) was developed through the Consolidated Mining Standard Initiative, with extensive input obtained through consultation with the public and stakeholders. It features an independent Board, comprising 17 persons, including one Independent Chair and 16 non-executive Directors equally balancing commercial and non-commercial interests from both mining (upstream) and value chain (downstream) participants.

We invite interested candidates to view the criteria, roles and responsibilities and [apply now or nominate potential candidates here](#). The closing date for applications and nominations is 7 January 2026.

Featured!



Our Executive Director, Michèle Brühlhart, recently penned an article in South Africa's Business Day reflecting on the Consolidated Mining Standard Initiative and looking forward to next year.

"The road ahead is sure to have twists, turns and steep climbs. But through it all I am confident our work will bring a great opportunity to make meaningful progress towards a world where mineral and metal products are made responsibly as the foundation of a sustainable future."

[Read the full article here.](#)

Out and about with the Copper Mark



Caption: Meeting in Ningbo, China. From left: Simon Wan, consultant, the Copper Mark; Guangxin Wang, consultant, the Copper Mark; Mike Smith, Value Chain Director, the Copper Mark; Miao Zhang, Sustainability Officer, Ningbo Oriental Cable; Zapping Tang, Head of Strategy and Marketing Centre, Ningbo Jintian Copper (Group); and Chao Guo, Executive Deputy Director, Strategy and Marketing Centre, Ningbo Jintian Copper (Group).

It was a busy period for our Director of Value Chain Mike Smith who attended Asia Copper Week in Shanghai in late November. While in China he met with some significant producers and manufacturers, including Tsingshan Group, Orient Cable (a Copper Mark Partner) and Jintian Copper. While in the region, he also shadowed a Copper Mark re-assessment of JX Advanced Metals Corporation's Hitachi Refinery site in Japan.



In early December, Mike also attended the Resourcing Tomorrow conference in London where he joined a leadership roundtable discussion on the potential for responsible production standards to create transparency and trust and a keynote panel on responsible sourcing for the energy transition.

How the Copper Mark is growing

We are delighted to share that our collective of Participants has reached 125!

Most recently we welcomed the following sites into the assurance process:

- Molymet's MolymetNos roasting and conversion plant in Chile
- CMOC Group's Kisanfu mine, solvent and electrowinning plant in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- Freeport-McMoRan's PT Freeport Indonesia smelter and refinery

New Partner

Welcome to our newest Partner, La Farga, a producer of semi-finished copper products based in Spain.

Season's Greetings

And that's a wrap!

Thank you to all our Participants, Partners, and colleagues on a productive year marked by many milestones. We extend our warmest wishes to you and yours for a joyful, peaceful and restorative festive season. May this time bring relaxation, reflection and inspiration as we prepare for a successful new beginning in 2026.