

Umicore human rights guidelines for mining operations

For a number of years Umicore has been moving away from mining activities and production of commodity metals. Today the Group is focused on materials technology and providing value added materials and chemicals for a wide range of different application. Umicore's only remaining mining interest comes through its holding of a 47% stake in South East Asia's only zinc producer – Padaeng Industries in Thailand. Padaeng Industries operates a zinc mine in the Mae Sot district of Northern Thailand.

In line with industry best practice, Padaeng Industries has published a formal statement outlining its commitment to respect the rights of indigenous populations in its current mining operation (in Thailand) and in any future operations it might undertake. The company has also introduced a policy regarding the use of armed guards at the Mae Sot mine which is in line with UN recommendations.

Umicore applauds this stance by Padaeng Industries. If Umicore should enter into any future mining investments it will undertake to ensure that similar standards and guidelines are implemented.

For further information please visit:

<http://www.padaeng.co.th/eng/socialContribution.htm>

Umicore also purchases cobalt-bearing raw materials from the Democratic Republic of Congo. For further information on Umicore's stance regarding sourcing in this sector please visit:

<http://www.communityrelations.umicore.com/en/group/CobaltPositionPaper.pdf>