



## DESIGNER BRANDS

### **Designer Brands Inc.**

### **Conflict Minerals Policy**

Designer Brands Inc. and its subsidiaries (the “Company,” “we” and “us”) are committed to ethical practices and compliance with applicable laws and regulations wherever we do business. We strive to be a good corporate citizen, and are committed to sourcing from suppliers that share our values regarding respect for human rights. We view managing our obligations relative to the use of conflict minerals (tantalum, tungsten, tin and gold) as part of this corporate responsibility.

We are committed to complying with the “conflict minerals” provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act, which requires companies to disclose annually whether any conflict minerals that are necessary to the functionality or production of a product, as defined in the provision, originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or an adjoining country (the “covered region”), and aims to prevent the use of conflict minerals that directly or indirectly finance or benefit armed groups in the covered region.

To this end, we are dedicated to working with our suppliers to increase transparency regarding the origin of any conflict minerals contained in our brands’ products. We expect that each of our suppliers will:

- source only from facilities outside of the covered region or that have been certified by an independent third party as “conflict free,” meaning from recycled or scrap sources or that do not directly or indirectly finance armed groups in the covered region;
- provide information to us on an annual basis regarding the origin of any conflict minerals in their products and data on the smelters and refiners in their respective supply chains, consistent with the industry standard for Supply Chain Transparency provided in the Conflict Mineral Reporting Template developed by the Responsible Minerals Initiative; and
- adopt policies and due diligence management systems consistent with OECD Guidance to identify, prevent, mitigate and, where appropriate, remediate risks associated with conflict minerals.

Please refer to the Company’s latest Form SD filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for our most updated conflict minerals disclosure provided pursuant to Section 1502.

The Company will survey direct suppliers as a part of our conflict minerals due diligence program. Suppliers are expected to respond in to survey requests in a timely manner, and with full disclosure, following the specific instructions provided.