

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

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FORM SD

Specialized Disclosure Report

**KADANT INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

1-11406

(Commission File Number)

52-1762325

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

One Technology Park Drive

Westford, Massachusetts

(Address of principal executive offices)

01886

(Zip Code)

Wes Martz (269) 278-1715

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(Name and telephone number, including area code, of the person to contact in connection with this report)

Check the appropriate box to indicate the rule pursuant to which this form is being filed, and provide the period to which the information in this form applies:



Rule 13p-1 under the Securities Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13p-1) for the reporting period from January 1 to December 31, 2014.

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## KADANT INC.

### Section 1 - Conflict Minerals Disclosure

#### Items 1.01 and 1.02 Conflict Minerals Disclosure and Report, and Exhibit

Kadant Inc. (“Kadant,” “we,” or the “Company”) submits this Specialized Disclosure Report on Form SD for the calendar year ended December 31, 2014.

We design and manufacture equipment used in process industries, including papermaking, paper recycling and in the production of oriented strand board. We have determined that conflict minerals, as defined in Rule 13p-1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, are used in certain materials or components necessary to the functionality of certain products manufactured or contracted to be manufactured by the Company. We do not engage in mining of conflict minerals nor do we make purchases of raw ore or refined minerals and we rely on our suppliers to determine the source and origin of the conflict minerals used in our products.

For the 2014 reporting year, we conducted a reasonable country of origin inquiry (RCOI) on the source and chain of custody of the conflict minerals contained in products we manufacture or contract to manufacture. Our RCOI process was conducted for the conflict minerals we identified in our products and we believe this process was reasonably designed to determine whether any of the conflict minerals originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or an adjoining country, or were from recycled or scrap sources. Based on this inquiry and the representations we received from our suppliers, we were unable to determine that all the conflict minerals present in the materials or components supplied to us either originated outside the Democratic Republic of the Congo or an adjoining country, or were from recycled or scrap sources. Accordingly, we have prepared and filed our 2014 Conflict Minerals Report as an exhibit to this filing.

#### Conflict Minerals Disclosure

A copy of the Company’s Conflict Minerals Report for the calendar year ended December 31, 2014, is included as an exhibit to this Form SD, and is also available on our website at [www.kadant.com](http://www.kadant.com). The content of any website referred to in this report is included for general information only and is not incorporated by reference in this report.

### Section 2 - Exhibits

#### Item 2.01 Exhibits

The following exhibit is filed as part of this report.

Exhibit 1.01 - Conflict Minerals Report of Kadant Inc. for the calendar year ended December 31, 2014.

**KADANT INC.**

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

KADANT INC.

Date: June 1, 2015

By: /s/ Thomas M. O'Brien  
Thomas M. O'Brien  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

**Kadant Inc.**  
**Conflict Minerals Report**  
**For the Year Ended December 31, 2014**

Kadant Inc. (“Kadant,” “we,” or the “Company”) submits this Conflict Minerals Report for the calendar year ended December 31, 2014 pursuant to Section 13(p) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 13p-1 (the Rule) and Form SD thereunder. The Rule imposes certain reporting obligations on SEC reporting companies whose manufactured products contain conflict minerals which are necessary to the functionality or production of their products. Conflict minerals are defined as cassiterite, columbite-tantalite, gold, wolframite, and their derivatives, tin, tantalum and tungsten. This Conflict Minerals Report has not been audited by an independent private sector auditor.

**Company Overview and Products**

We design and manufacture equipment used in process industries, including papermaking, paper recycling and in the production of oriented strand board. We have determined that certain conflict minerals are used in materials and components necessary to the functionality of certain products manufactured or contracted to be manufactured by the Company. We do not engage in mining of conflict minerals nor do we make purchases of raw ore or refined minerals and we rely on our suppliers to determine the source and origin of the conflict minerals used in our products.

The substantial majority of our products are manufactured from metals and other materials that do not contain conflict minerals or their derivatives, such as ductile iron castings, stainless steel and steel raw materials. However, certain of the materials and components in our equipment may contain derivatives of conflict minerals, including tungsten or certain alloys, such as red brass and bearing bronze, which contain tin.

**Reasonable Country of Origin Inquiry and Due Diligence Process**

For the 2014 reporting year, we conducted a reasonable country of origin inquiry (RCOI) on the source and chain of custody of the conflict minerals contained in products we manufacture or contract to manufacture. Our RCOI process was conducted for the conflict minerals we identified in our products and we believe this process was reasonably designed to determine whether any of the conflict minerals originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo or an adjoining country (the Covered Countries), or were from recycled or scrap sources. Based on this inquiry and the representations we received from our suppliers, we were unable to determine that all the conflict minerals present in the material or components supplied to us either originated outside the Covered Countries or were from recycled or scrap sources.

We designed our due diligence measures to conform, in all material respects, to the criteria set forth in the “OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas” (Second Edition). Our due diligence efforts in 2014 included the following:

- We previously adopted a conflict mineral policy regarding sourcing of conflict minerals contained in materials and components supplied to us. Our policy supports the goal of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010, which seeks to prevent armed groups engaged in human rights abuses in the Covered Countries from benefiting from the sourcing of conflict minerals from that region. To further that goal, we request information from our suppliers regarding the source and chain of custody of conflict minerals contained in the materials and components supplied to us. Our objective is to use suppliers whose conflict minerals are from recycled or scrap sources or do not originate in the Covered Countries.
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- Our manufacturing operations identified the materials and components in products that we manufacture or contract to manufacture that may contain conflict minerals necessary to the products, by reviewing the bill of materials or material database for such materials and components.
- Our manufacturing operations then identified the first tier suppliers from whom these materials and components are purchased, advised these suppliers of our conflict minerals policy and requested that these suppliers complete a declaration designed to determine if the materials and components we purchase contain conflict minerals that originated from any of the Covered Countries. These suppliers were also requested to complete the Conflict Mineral Reporting Template developed by the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition and Global e-Sustainability Initiative (EICC/GeSI), a standardized reporting template to facilitate the transfer of information through the supply chain regarding mineral country of origin and identity of the smelters and refiners which processed the necessary conflict minerals contained in a manufacturer's products.
- Our internal management team reviewed the results of our supply chain due diligence. This team consists of members of our senior management, and includes our executive vice president and chief operating officer, our vice president, marketing and representatives of our legal and financial reporting groups. Our internal team oversees our conflict minerals policy and advises our manufacturing operations regarding the procedures for performing our reasonable country of origin inquiry.

### **Due Diligence Results**

We expanded the number of suppliers included in our RCOI from 94 to 101, of which 81 responded. None of the suppliers that responded to our inquiries reported that the conflict minerals contained in their materials and components originated from the Covered Countries. Seven of the suppliers responded that they did not know the source of the conflict minerals contained in their materials and components. As a consequence, we could not determine that all of the conflict minerals present in the materials or components supplied to us either originated outside the Covered Countries or were from recycled or scrap sources. We were also unable to identify the facilities used to process, or countries of origins of, the conflict minerals contained in the materials and components supplied to us.

### **Future Steps to Mitigate Risk and Improve Due Diligence**

Our efforts for the 2014 reporting year continued to focus on the identification of materials and components, the identification of direct suppliers, and the distribution and collection of the supplier declarations. We intend to continue the following steps to improve our due diligence and to further mitigate any risk that the necessary conflict minerals in our products could benefit armed groups in the Covered Countries:

- Enhance our management systems internally to support our supply chain due diligence efforts;
- Enhance the supplier management systems of our manufacturing operations to include statements related to conflict minerals sourcing, data collection and reporting requirements;
- Continue to communicate our expectations to our suppliers that they provide adequate sourcing information to us;
- Engage with those suppliers who were unable to determine the conflict status of the conflict minerals supplied to us to improve the transparency of our supply chain; and
- Conduct additional due diligence with those suppliers who do not respond to our requests for supply chain information regarding their use of conflict minerals, including follow-on requests and request for meetings.

## **Forward-Looking Statements**

The following constitutes a “Safe Harbor” statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: this Conflict Minerals Report contains forward-looking statements that involve a number of risks and uncertainties, including forward-looking statements about our due diligence, supplier inquiries and our future intentions involving conflict minerals. A number of factors may affect our due diligence and inquiries, including gaps in product identification or product content information, errors or omissions of or by our suppliers, failures to provide smelter data or country of origin, and confusion or lack of knowledge concerning the requirements of the SEC’s final conflict minerals rule. These statements are based on the current expectations of our management and are neither promises nor guarantees of future performance of these actions. Subsequent events and developments may cause management’s views to change. While we may elect to update these forward-looking statements at some point in the future, we specifically disclaim any obligation to do so. These forward-looking statements should not be relied upon as representing our views as of any date subsequent to the date of this report.