

## **Company Responses to CBS News re: allegations of children mining cobalt in Congo**

### **APPLE**

"Apple is deeply committed to the responsible sourcing of materials for our products and we've led the industry by establishing the strictest standards for our suppliers. We've identified every smelter providing cobalt to our supply chain and each is audited by an independent third party.

"Last year we stopped accepting artisanal cobalt from Huayou, and we will not purchase it from them until independent validators can assure us it's being mined responsibly. We're working with governments, non-government organizations and other manufacturers to educate mining communities through health and safety training, as well as vocational programs designed to help diversify local economies and reduce dependency on artisanal mining.

"There are real challenges with artisanal mining of cobalt in the Democratic Republic of Congo but walking away would do nothing to improve conditions for the people or the environment. We thoroughly investigate any allegation made about our supply chain, and only if our suppliers are unable or unwilling to meet our standards do we suspend or terminate business with them."