

# MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS

## **Description:**

Motorola is a global company that provides communication infrastructure, devices, accessories, software, and services to government, public safety, and consumer customers. The devices they provide include two-way portable and vehicle-mounted radios, microphones, batteries, cables, earpieces, headphones, and software feature upgrades. The systems they provide include radio network core and central processing software, base stations, repeaters, consoles, and software applications. Some of the services they provide include software and hardware maintenance, call center support, integration services, and management services. They are based in the state of Delaware.

Source: Motorola Solutions Inc., 2014 Annual Report to Stockholders

[http://www.sn1.com/interactive/lookandfeel/4280272/Motorola\\_Solutions\\_Inc\\_2014\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](http://www.sn1.com/interactive/lookandfeel/4280272/Motorola_Solutions_Inc_2014_Annual_Report.pdf)

## **Human Right Concerns:**

Motorola Solutions profits off the illegal occupation of Palestinian land by providing virtual fences called MotoEagle Surveillance to Israeli settlements. Some of these virtual fences were installed on private Palestinian land, as well as the wall surrounding Gaza, the West Bank separation wall complex, and military bases. MotoEagle aids in the restriction of Palestinian movement. Freedom of movement is a human right according to The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. In January 2014, Motorola signed a 15-year contract to provide the Israeli army with an encrypted smartphone. This will replace the current "Mount Rose" communication system, which is also supplied by Motorola. "Mountain Rose" is used by soldiers in the West Bank. The new smartphone system is partially funded by U.S. military aid. Motorola has also provided the Israeli Police with the Astro25 communications system, which is used by the police in the occupied Palestinian territories. Motorola is also profiting off the A1 fast train line from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem by being awarded a tender by Israeli Railways to install internet access in 630 carriages and all of the train stations. The A1 route passes through privately owned Palestinian land in the West Bank, but the train is for Israeli use only. The usage of private Palestinian land for Israeli-only transportation is illegal according to international law. Along with providing the Israeli Army with products and services that strengthen the occupation, it also "has a 9% stake in Israeli company Afcon Industries which supplies the metal detector security systems used at illegal Israeli military checkpoints in the occupied West Bank and crossings to Gaza" (<http://www.inminds.com/boycott-motorola.php>)

Sources:

<http://www.whoprofits.org/company/motorola-solutions>

<http://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/ccpr.aspx>

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/> (article 13)

<http://www.inminds.com/boycott-motorola.php>

<http://investigate.afsc.org/company/motorola-solutions-inc>

Motorola does not have a great history when it comes to working with oppressive governments. Motorola sold two-way radios to the South African police during the apartheid era in South Africa. They stopped selling their products to the South African police in 1985, only after New York City passed an "ordinance prohibiting US companies from bidding on city contracts if they sell equipment to South African agencies that enforce the apartheid system". (<http://www.inminds.com/boycott-motorola.php>)

Source: <http://www.inminds.com/boycott-motorola.php>

## **Abusive Labor Practice Concerns:**

Motorola profits off of the growing prison industry by contracting with prisons to use a prison labor force. Private prisons average a rate of \$.93 to \$4.73 a day, while federal prisons average \$.23 to \$1.25 an hour, wages which are considered the equivalent of slave labor. Most prison laborers are either black or Hispanic, and the work that they are required to do is usually unskilled and does not prepare them for a future outside of prison. America already has the highest incarceration rate in the world. A larger prison labor force and longer sentences benefit companies who use prison labor, which encourages lobbying for harsher sentences.

Motorola uses coltan and cassiterite in their products, natural resources that are found in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The profits from these minerals often finance armed groups and contribute to the violence in the area. The working conditions are inhumane and dangerous. As of 2012, 65% of Motorola's raw materials come from conflict areas.

Sources: <http://www.collective-evolution.com/2015/12/20/the-massive-prison-industry-in-the-united-states-big-business-slavery/>

<http://www.prb.org/Publications/Articles/2012/us-incarceration.aspx>

[http://www.alternet.org/story/151732/21st-century\\_slaves%3A\\_how\\_corporations\\_exploit\\_prison\\_labor](http://www.alternet.org/story/151732/21st-century_slaves%3A_how_corporations_exploit_prison_labor)

<http://komornlaw.com/the-prison-industry-in-the-united-states-big-business/>

<http://www.raisehopeforcongo.org/content/conflict-minerals-company-rankings-0>

<http://www.criminaljusticedegreesguide.com/features/10-huge-u-s-brands-who-profit-from-what-americans-would-call-slave-labor.html>

**Environmental Concerns:**

In July 2013, Motorola confessed to using tin from Bangka, Indonesia. The mining operations on Bangka destroys forests, acidifies the soil, threatens coral reefs and sea life, and is dangerous for workers. Motorola released a statement claiming that the company will work to confirm that the tin they are receiving in the future from their suppliers does not come from Bangka.

Sources: [http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/press\\_releases/mobile\\_industry\\_bangka\\_31072013](http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/press_releases/mobile_industry_bangka_31072013)

<http://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/major-mobile-manufacturers-admit-to-using-environmentally-disastrous-tin-8740468.html>

**Market Dominance Concerns:**

Motorola uses proprietary features in the radio systems it sells to security forces. This requires that all updates and additional equipment be bought through Motorola in order to work with the current system, even if there are cheaper alternatives in the market. Motorola maintains close relationships with police and fire chiefs, county sheriffs, and local contracting officials, possibly influencing their decisions on communication purchases even when Motorola is more expensive than other companies.

Source: <http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-world/national/national-security/article24770491.html>

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-world/national/economy/article24765652.html>

**Actions and Attempts to Change Bad Behavior:**

2015

- San Jose State University student government votes to divest from companies complicit in the illegal occupation of Palestine, Motorola included.
- Student Senate of Earham College passes resolution supporting divestment from companies complicit in illegal occupation of Palestine, Motorola included.

2014

- Luxembourg's national pension fund divests from Motorola because of its role in occupied Palestine
- Presbyterian Church's General Assembly votes to divest from Motorola after 10 years of attempting to engage with the company
- Wesleyan University student senate votes to divest student endowment from Motorola because of its complicity in the occupation of Palestine

2012

- Swedish pension funds AP 1-4 engages with Motorola, claiming that its surveillance systems used by West Bank settlements are contrary to international humanitarian law.
- Canada's Carleton University graduate students vote on a referendum to divest the university's pension from Motorola
- Arizona State University students vote to divest from and blacklist Motorola
- Hampshire College Board of Trustees approve divestment from Motorola

<http://investigate.afsc.org/company/motorola-solutions-inc>