



## NEWS RELEASE

Embargoed until Friday 1 July 2016

### RJC CERTIFIES AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY LABORATORIES (AGS LABORATORIES)

LONDON - RJC announced today that American Gem Society Laboratories (AGS Laboratories) has achieved Certification against the 2013 Code of Practices (COP) at its Diamond grading and sorting facility in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"It is a pleasure to announce AGS Laboratories has been certified against the 2013 COP. The provisions under the 2013 COP address important issues for our Members and their supply chain. We are delighted to see Members achieving Certification against the standard and warmly congratulate AGS Laboratories," says Andrew Bone, RJC's Executive Director.

The successful verification assessment was led by UL Responsible Sourcing, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited by the RJC.

"AGS Laboratories is proud to be a certified member of the RJC. It is further validation of our commitment to excellence and our dedication to responsible and ethical business practices," says Ruth Batson, CEO of the American Gem Society and AGS Laboratories. "Both the RJC and the AGS Laboratories share many core values. Their Code of Practice and our code of ethics address similar issues critical to the health of our industry."

For further information please contact:

Gerhard Humphreys-de Meyer, Communications Coordinator, Responsible Jewellery Council  
Telephone +44 (0)207 321 0992, [gerhard.humphreysdemeyer@responsiblejewellery.com](mailto:gerhard.humphreysdemeyer@responsiblejewellery.com)

#### About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 700 Member companies that span the jewellery supply chain from mine to retail. RJC Members commit to and are independently audited against the RJC Code of Practices – an international standard on responsible business practices for diamonds, gold and platinum group metals. The Code of Practices addresses human rights, labour rights, environmental impact, mining practices, product disclosure and many more important topics in the jewellery supply chain. RJC also works with multi-stakeholder initiatives on responsible sourcing and supply chain due diligence. The RJC's Chain-of-Custody Certification for precious metals supports these initiatives and can be used as a tool to deliver broader Member and stakeholder benefit.

The RJC is a [Full Member of the ISEAL Alliance](#) – the global association for sustainability standards. For more information on RJC Members, Certification, and Standards please visit [www.responsiblejewellery.com](http://www.responsiblejewellery.com)

[www.responsiblejewellery.com](http://www.responsiblejewellery.com)

The Responsible Jewellery Council is the trading name of the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd.  
The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd, 9 Whitehall, First Floor Front, SW1A 2DD, London, UK.  
The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042.

**About American Gem Society Laboratories**

AGS Laboratories is the only non-profit diamond grading laboratory created with a mission of consumer protection. The American Gem Society saw a need in the jewelry industry for a diamond grading lab that shared their mission and values, and created AGS Laboratories in 1996 to fill that need. AGS Laboratories is the world's leading diamond grading laboratory for the Cut grade, and revolutionized the diamond industry when it released its ground breaking light performance grading system for diamond cut. The AGS Ideal™ means a diamond is superior to other diamonds.

**[RJC Certification Information – AGS Laboratories](#)****[RJC Certified Members](#)**

[www.responsiblejewellery.com](http://www.responsiblejewellery.com)

The Responsible Jewellery Council is the trading name of the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd.  
The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd, 9 Whitehall, First Floor Front, SW1A 2DD, London, UK.  
The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042.