

NEWS RELEASE

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RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL CERTIFIES GYR EDELMETALLE AG

LONDON - The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) announced today that Gyr Edelmetalle AG, the Baar - based refiner, has achieved certification by meeting the highest ethical, social and environmental standards established by the RJC's Member Certification system.

"RJC warmly congratulates Gyr Edelmetalle AG on its certification. The successful verification assessment was conducted by Maaike Wycisk-Timpert from Bureau Veritas, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited to the RJC's Member Certification system," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"Transparency, openness and fairness are important for us. Media reports highlighting grievances regarding violations of human rights, exploitation and degradation of the environment are unsettling consumers. With the RJC certification we have a reliable confirmation, that our business practices respect high ethical, social and environmental standards along the jewellery supply chain," says Markus Eicher, CEO of Gyr Edelmetalle AG.

For further information please contact:

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 440 member companies. RJC and its Members are committed to promoting responsible ethical, human rights, social and environmental practices in a transparent and accountable manner throughout the jewellery industry from mine to retail. This commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery products. The RJC has developed the RJC Member Certification system which applies to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery supply chain. All Certified Members of the RJC are audited by accredited, third party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices. A voluntary Chain-of-Custody Standard has also been developed for gold and platinum group metals. The RJC is a <u>Full Member of the ISEAL Alliance</u> – the global association for sustainability standards. For more information on RJC Members, Certification, and Standards please visit <u>www.responsiblejewellery.com</u>

About Gyr Edelmetalle AG

Gyr Edelmetalle AG is a reliable, forward-looking company that specializes in selling small quantities of semi-finished products and in recycling old gold for the goldsmith- and jewellery segment. Furthermore, the company provides with GYRSTONES.COM a revolutionary worldwide acting B2B internet gemstone marketplace.

Gyr Edelmetalle AG operates with Swiss transparency according to the strictest and most up-to-date environmental standards. The company dates back to 1993 when Jean-Christophe Gyr founded the GYR EDELMETALLE AG. In 2009, in cooperation with its German partner Dr. Bernhard Burger AG, the company built its own state-of-the-art small-batch

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, First Floor, Dudley House, 34-38 Southampton Street, London, UK, WC2E 7HF. The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042. separation facility in Germany (Burger & Gyr Recycling AG). Dr. Bernhard Burger AG has also achieved RJC certification, their certification scope included Burger & Gyr Edelmetalle AG.

The company only deals with selective, qualified partners and its goods and services address professional customers. Gyr Edelmetalle AG trades according to the B2B principles, which reduces the risk of hazardous business relationships. The company has no involvement with mining operations but operates within the close recycling circuit of precious metals.

More information on www.gyr.ch

RJC Certification Information Gyr Edelmetalle AG

RJC Certified Members

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