

NEWS RELEASE

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RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL CERTIFIES SMOLENSK DIAMONDS NV

LONDON - The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) announced today that Smolensk Diamonds NV, the Antwerp - based diamond trader, has achieved certification by meeting the highest ethical, social and environmental standards established by the RJC's Member Certification system.

"RJC warmly congratulates Smolensk Diamonds NV on its certification. The successful verification assessment was conducted by Stefaan Beirens from Figurad Bedrijfsrevisoren, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited to the RJC's Member Certification system," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"Since its foundation, Smolensk Diamonds has been a branch of Kristall playing the leading part in our diamond exports and representing our interests in the world diamond community. Throughout our 50 years' history we have been a responsible, transparent and socially oriented business. RJC certification of Smolensk Diamonds confirms that our approach is in line with the global standards. We hope this will be an example set for Russian companies trading abroad," says Maxim Shkadov, Director General of Kristall/Smolensk Diamonds.

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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>

Smolensk Diamonds NV

Founded in 1992 in Antwerp, Smolensk Diamonds is the first and the most successful branch of Kristall Production Corporation abroad. Smolensk Diamonds NV has been certified by the Responsible Jewellery Council.

www.responsiblejewellery.com

Kristall has built an international network of its representative offices in the world centres of the diamond industry using their experience in business and trade in Belgium.

Kristall Production Corporation, the largest polished diamonds manufacturer in Russia and in the whole Europe, was established more than 50 years ago. It is the first and sole DTC sight holder in the country. The company is the premier source of premium-class diamonds with access to the world's major rough producers. The mission of Kristall Production Corporation is to reveal the beauty of a natural diamond, turning it into a polished stone of the ideal Russian Make, a symbol of perfection, love and prosperity. The company's high-skilled craftsmen produce perfectly cut traditional and fancy-cut top-quality polished diamonds. More information on www.kristallsmolensk.com

RJC Certification Information Smolensk Diamonds NV

RJC Certified Members