

NEWS RELEASE

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THE RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL (RJC) HELD A KEY INDUSTRY BRIEFING AT THE HONG KONG JEWELLERY & GEM FAIR

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) held a key Industry Briefing for important representatives from the Asian market on Saturday, 14 September at the Hong Kong Jewellery & Gem Fair.

The Briefing was focused on "The new legislative impacts for Hong Kong and Chinese Suppliers exporting to the United States and Europe and the role of the RJC".

Mr. James Courage, RJC Chairman, thanked Mr. Benedict Sin, Chairman of the HKJJMA for inviting key members of the Hong Kong and Chinese jewellery industries and other leading representatives for attending. Mr. Courage was joined by Mr. David Bouffard, VP Corporate Affairs, Signet Jewelers Limited, and Mr. Charles Chaussepied, Piaget Director of Corporate Affairs and Richemont CSR Committee member.

Mr. Bouffard and Mr. Chaussepied focused on the relevance of current and potential conflict minerals legislation in the US and EC on the future growth of Hong Kong and Chinese exporters. The speakers expressed their views on the future of the luxury segment and how it is strongly connected to ethics and sustainability. Specific impacts around the US Dodd Frank Consumer Protection Act to Hong Kong and Chinese exporters were raised and discussed.

"It was very positive to see such a strong turnout of major associations and companies involved in the China and Hong Kong jewellery industries and to have the opportunity to communicate RJC's value proposition and the importance of responsible sourcing to those operating in these very important domestic and export markets," said Mr. Courage.

For further information please contact:

Madalina Grigorie, Communications Coordinator, Responsible Jewellery Council Telephone + 44 (0)20 7836 6376, <u>madalina.grigorie@responsiblejewellery.com</u>

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>

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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.