

NFWS RFLFASE

Embargoed until 23 October, 2012

RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL CERTIFIES HRD ANTWERP NV

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

"RJC warmly congratulates HRD Antwerp NV on its certification. The successful verification assessment was conducted by Ann Van Vlaenderen from WF&Co., one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited to the RJC's Member Certification system," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"We are pleased to be certified by the Responsible Jewellery Council. It shows HRD Antwerp's commitment to improving its quality standards not only on a technical level but also on an ethical level for one purpose only, to safeguard confidence in the diamond industry", says Georges Brys, General Manager of HRD Antwerp NV.

For further information please contact:

Madalina Grigorie, Communications and Membership Coordinator, Responsible Jewellery Council Telephone +44(0)207 8366376, madalina.grigorie@responsiblejewellery.com

About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 400 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 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

About HRD Antwerp NV

HRD Antwerp NV, the first ISO-certified diamond lab complying with the IDC rules, issues highly respected diamond certificates, gemstone and jewellery reports. HRD Antwerp NV has links to representatives in China, Hong Kong, Middle East, Turkey and India. HRD Antwerp NV offers world-renowned diamond grading, gemology and contemporary diamond jewellery design courses on an international platform. Its Graduates Club offers a worldwide platform for HRD Antwerp Alumni. HRD Antwerp NV conducts fundamental and applied research for the diamond industry that is translated into state-of-the-art technological instruments and equipment. For more information visit www.hrdantwerp.be

RJC Certification Information HRD Antwerp NV

RJC Certified Members