

NEWS RELEASE

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New metal added to Responsible Jewellery Council's Chain of Custody certification

The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) has released a revised version of their Chain of Custody (CoC) standard that will allow members to become certified for their silver supply chain, in addition to gold and platinum group metals.

The global standard-setting and certification organisation for the entire jewellery supply chain has announced the expansion of its CoC standard scope to include silver.

RJC's voluntary CoC standard was established in 2012, aiming to support claims for responsibly sourced jewellery materials, produced, processed and traded through the supply chain. It was relaunched in 2017 to incorporate changes including the due-diligence requirements that align with Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) five-step framework.

Companies in the jewellery and watch supply chain which trade in silver can now join the RJC and become certified against the mandatory Code of Practice standard as well as the voluntary Chain of Custody standard.

Around 150 certifications have been issued since the first CoC standard was launched. It's available to all members who have been certified against the RJC's Code of Practices.

An updated version of the Chain of Custody standard will be available to members from **30 January 2020**.

Chairman of The Responsible Jewellery Council, David Bouffard said: "We are proud to be welcoming silver into our precious metal range. Our standard offers a tool for member companies to provide third-party certified traceability for silver, and reliable evidence of the source of material used. We believe this new addition will open doors for existing and new members to become certified against the Chain of Custody standard - and we look forward to welcoming them as RJC members."

Executive Director of The Responsible Jewellery Council, Iris Van der Veken said: "Product integrity is at the heart of consumer confidence. Our standards are designed to support members, each step of the way. We have self-assessment toolkits, supportive documentation including standard guidance, contractor assessments, and a dedicated team to guide our members on their journey towards certification and continuous improvement."

If you wish to be audited against the CoC standard for your silver supply chain, please contact one of the [RJC accredited audit firms](#) and book your independent third party audit.

Members who would like to know how to incorporate silver into their current CoC certification, please contact: consultation@responsiblejewellery.com

More information about the Chain of Custody standard can be found [here](#).

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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, London, SW1A 2DD, United Kingdom.
The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 1,200 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. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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