

NEWS RELEASE

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RJC's 2014 AGM presented an inaugural CSR Conference, elected 10 new directors and announced Mumbai as the 2015 AGM venue

LONDON – RJC hosted its AGM and inaugural CSR Conference at the Arundel House, London, yesterday. The Conference attracted representatives from over 100 companies from across the jewellery and watch supply chains and was open to all interested stakeholders.

At the AGM prior to the Conference, RJC announced the elections of Charles Chaussepied, Piaget, as RJC's Vice Chairman, succeeding Chikashi Miyamoto, Rosy Blue. Mark Jenkins, Signet Jewelers Ltd., was reelected as Honorary Secretary.

RJC's Membership elected Jackie Morsel (Dali Diamond), Charles Chaussepied (Piaget), Simon Rainer (British Jewellers' Association), Bev Hori (Gemological Institute of America), Boaz Lev (Gem Lab Services), Stella Layton (The Birmingham Assay Office), Philippe Neu (Charles Perroud SAS), Wilfried Hoerner (Argor-Heraeus), Daniela Colaiacovo (Eurocantera) and Luis Moran (Minera Yanaquihua) to its Board of Directors. A full list of RJC Directors is available <u>here</u>.

The RJC CSR Conference was divided into three sessions. The first panel on "Future imperatives" saw Rein Nieland of the EU DG Trade, Anoop Mehta of the Bharat Diamond Bourse and Professor Marylyn Carrigan of the Coventry University Business School, discuss the future of the industry and the drivers for building a more responsible supply chain from their different standpoints.

The second panel on "Human Rights and Responsible Supply Chains" featured Adam Greene of ILO, Philip Hunter of Verité, Estelle Levin of Estelle Levin Ltd and Claus Teilmann Petersen of Pandora who addressed the issues of identifying and managing human rights risks across the supply chain.

The third panel, "Creating Value" took views from Feriel Zerouki, De Beers Group; David Bouffard, Signet Jewelers Ltd; and Jennifer Horning, Solidaridad. The speakers touched upon the value of RJC Certification across the supply chain and the importance for the jewellery industry to engage on sustainability issues, creating value for businesses and the consumer.

The <u>presentations</u> and the <u>delegate list</u> are available on RJC's website.

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. "Today's panel presentations were a great success for RJC and its Members. It was a pleasure to hear industry experts passionately deliver thoughts and ideas on topical supply chain issues while shoring up the value of RJC Certification. RJC will continue this dialogue and engagement with the industry at the JCK Las Vegas show at its session on 30 May later this month, " says Catherine Sproule, CEO Interim.

The conference concluded with RJC Chairman James Courage's announcement that the 2015 AGM will be held at the Bharat Diamond Bourse (BDB). Anoop Mehta, thanked Mr Courage and welcomed the industry to India in 2015. "I promise everyone who attends they will have a truly unique experience as we show you the Indian diamond industry, "says Anoop Mehta.

"Looking toward RJC's future, the strategic engagement with the Indian market undertaken by RJC through 2014 has allowed us the very special and unique opportunity to host RJC's first-ever AGM outside of the European market, "says James Courage.

RJC's 2014 Annual Progress Report was released at the conference and the e-version is downloadable on the RJC website.

For further information please contact:

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 470 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 <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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