

NEWS RELEASE

Baselworld 2015: RJC brings together key stakeholders on conflict minerals

LONDON, 25 March 2015 – This month the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC), the 'Mine to Retail' standards initiative for the jewellery supply chain, returned to Baselworld to rub shoulders with the global watch and jewellery industry.

The RJC hosted a discussion at the Congress Centre addressing the very current topic of regulation of conflict minerals, chaired by Charles Chaussepied, the Vice Chair of RJC. The 45 attendees were drawn from a diverse set of industry related organisations - Senior leaders from watch & jewellery businesses like Cartier and Signet, leaders of leading trade associations such as CIBJO and BJOP, institutions like the GIA, as well as representatives of some banks and NGOs.

This session brought together different expert perspectives from Louis Marechal (Policy Advisor - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)), Rein Nieland (Policy Officer - EU Director General of Trade), and Mehdi Barkhordar (CEO of Produits Artistiques Métaux Précieux (PAMP), a leading refiner). The RJC CEO, Ashish Deo, also shared an update highlighting the impressive and continued membership growth as well as better support for members as they get certified.

Copies of their presentations are available from our website. Please click here to download.

"As the leading standards setting and certification organisation in the jewellery industry, RJC strives to provide such open and transparent discussion platforms" said Charles Chaussepied, RJC Vice Chair. "This enables the industry to be proactive and be part of creating the right solutions that are effective and implementable" added Ashish Deo, RJC CEO.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 500 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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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, SW1A 2DD, London, UK. The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042.