

NEWS RELEASE

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COOKSON MÉTAUX PRÉCIEUX – COOKSON CLAL ACHIEVES RJC CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

LONDON - RJC today announced that Cookson Métaux Précieux – Cookson CLAL, an entity of RJC member Heimerle + Meule GmbH, has achieved certification against the RJC Chain-of-Custody (CoC) Standard.

"RJC is delighted to congratulate Cookson Métaux Précieux – Cookson CLAL on having achieved RJC CoC certification. CoC certification provides a mechanism for members to demonstrate how they are implementing the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains," says Andrew Bone, RJC's Executive Director.

Cookson Métaux Précieux – Cookson CLAL CoC certification results from a successful verification assessment conducted by Michel Mooser from SGS United Kingdom Limited, an international auditing company accredited by the RJC.

"We are proud to be the first French refiner to have achieved RJC Chain-of-Custody certification. I want to thank all our staff for helping us to achieve this status. RJC CoC is a new step in demonstrating the strong commitment in ethical practices, quality and continuous improvements Cookson-Clal has been developing for many years in France. It also underlines all our efforts in ensuring traceability and quality of metal flow throughout our business. We see RJC CoC certification as a huge positive in the right direction, not only for our business but also for all our customers," said Bruno Costet, Cookson-Clal Managing Director.

For further information please contact:

Gerhard Humphreys-de Meyer, Communications Coordinator, Responsible Jewellery Council Tel: +44 (0)207 321 0992, gerhard.humphreysdemeyer@responsiblejewellery.com

About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 900 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.

www.responsiblejewellery.com

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>

About Cookson Métaux Précieux - Cookson CLAL

Cookson-Clal is the France's largest one-stop shop for the jewellery maker with over 14 000 products including a huge stock of silver, gold, palladium and platinum bullion cut to customers' requirements (sheet, wire, tube, solder, grain), as well as huge ranges of findings, loose and finished chain, ring blanks, silver clay, jewellery making tools, consumables and machinery.

With over 200 years' experience in the precious metal scrap treatment business, Cookson-Clal can offer collection of scrap, treatment, refining, control, melting, storage, purchase and sales of precious metal for the jewellery, dental and industrial markets.

Cookson-Clal offers an unparalleled service with its 24 hours transactional website, its branches and counters across France (Paris - Lyon – Marseille) and export service center despatching thousands of parcels every week to designer jewellers, retailers, manufacturers, independent craftsmen, goldsmiths and silversmiths, jewellery students, artisans and crafters.

Cookson-Clal is part of the Heimerle + Meule Group, one of Europe's largest refiners and processors of precious metals. The Heimerle + Meule Group employs over 750 people at locations in seven countries and provides high quality materials and semi-finished products for jewellery, wedding rings, dentistry, and the electrical and electronics industries. Our website is: http://www.cookson-clal.com

RJC Certification Information - Cookson Métaux Précieux - Cookson CLAL

Chain of Custody Certified Members