

NEWS RELEASE

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FRED MEYER JEWELERS – RE-CERTIFIED BY THE RJC

LONDON - RJC announced today that Fred Meyer Jewelers, the US based jewellery retailer has achieved Re-Certification by meeting the highest ethical, social and environmental standards established by the RJC.

"RJC congratulates Fred Meyer Jewelers on achieving Re-Certification. After a Member has become RJC Certified for the first time, independent verification is required at the end of each certification period to ensure continued conformance and to maintain Certified Member status. The successful verification assessment was conducted by UL Responsible Sourcing, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited by the RJC," says Catherine Sproule, RJC's Chief Executive Officer - Interim.

"We know our customers demand the best from us, and ensuring that their new treasures were produced in safe, humane and environmentally sound ways is critical. Safeguarding consumer confidence in jewelry products in the United States and worldwide ensures the continued success of our entire industry. We are pleased to achieve Re-Certification with the Responsible Jewellery Council and to continue supporting its worthy efforts," says Peter Engel, President, Fred Meyer Jewelers and Littman Jewelers.

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 480 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>

About Fred Meyer Jewelers

Founded in 1973, Fred Meyer Jewelers is the nation's second largest fine jewelry retailer operating over 300 fine jewelry stores in 31 states under the Fred Meyer Jewelers and Littman Jewelers brand names. Their stores carry a broad assortment of engagement and wedding rings, fine jewelry for women and men, and brand-name watches. Fred Meyer Jewelers, Inc. is a division of The Kroger Co. (NYSE: KR), the nation's second largest retailer. More information can be found at <u>www.fredmeyerjewelers.com</u>

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. **RJC Certification Information – Fred Meyer Jewelers**

RJC Certified Members

www.responsiblejewellery.com

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