

# **NEWS RELEASE**

## Embargoed until Thursday 17 September 2015

## **RJC RE-CERTIFIES GEM CERTIFICATION & ASSURANCE LAB, INC.**

LONDON - RJC announced today that Gem Certification & Assurance Lab, Inc. (GCAL) has achieved Certification against the 2013 Code of Practices (COP) at its laboratory facility in New York, USA. The 2013 COP was released in November 2013.

"It is a pleasure to announce GCAL has been certified against the 2013 COP. The new provisions under the 2013 COP address important issues for our Members and their supply chain. We are thrilled to see Members achieving Certification against the standard and warmly congratulate GCAL," says Andrew Bone, RJC's Executive Director.

The successful verification assessment was led by Alfonso J Orellana from SGS United Kingdom, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited by the RJC.

"We are pleased to have achieved Re-Certification against the RJC Code of Practices. Our dedication to improve the reporting standards of identification and quality grading of diamonds is a perfect fit with the mission of the RJC to advance responsible ethical, social, and environmental practices throughout the supply chain. We look forward to our continued RJC Certification and hope for increasingly stricter standards for certification, particularly amongst diamond grading laboratories," said Angelo Palmieri, Chief Operating Officer of GCAL.

### 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 600 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>

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

#### About GCAL

Gem Certification & Assurance Lab, Inc. (GCAL) is an independent diamond, gemstone, and jewelry certification laboratory, headquartered in the World Diamond Tower in New York City. GCAL was founded by Donald A. Palmieri, a world renowned gem and jewelry appraiser and forensic expert, to raise the level of consumer confidence in diamond certification. GCAL's unique suite of certification, identification, valuation, and forensic services is regularly sought after by international banks, government and law enforcement agencies, insurance underwriters and companies, law and accounting firms, public and private institutions, and the news media for identification, quality rating, valuation and auditing of fine gems and jewelry

In 2008, GCAL was recognized as the first diamond and gemstone grading laboratory in North America to earn ISO 17025 accreditation. In 2012, GCAL became the world's only ISO 17025 Accredited Forensic Laboratory in the field of diamond, gemstone, and jewelry testing. Exclusive features of the Certificates are GCAL's 4C's Zero Tolerance Grading Guarantee, Direct Assessment Optical Light Performance Analysis, Gemprint<sup>®</sup> Security Registration for positive identification, and Multiple Actual Hi-Res Diamond Images. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.DiamondlD.com">www.DiamondlD.com</a>

RJC Certification Information – Gem Certification & Assurance Lab, Inc. (GCAL)

**RJC Certified Members** 

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