

NEWS RELEASE

Embargoed until 27 August 2013

ALLGEMEINE GOLD- UND SILBERSCHEIDEANSTALT AG ACHIEVES RJC CHAIN OF CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

LONDON - The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced that Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt AG, the Germany-based gold refiner, has achieved certification against the new RJC Chain of Custody (CoC) Standard.

"RJC is delighted to congratulate Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt AG on achieving the 6th CoC Certification granted by RJC. CoC Certification provides a mechanism for refiners to demonstrate how they are implementing the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains. Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt AG's CoC Certification results from a successful verification assessment conducted by UL, an international auditing company accredited by RJC," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"This is another milestone for us. Agosi is the first German refinery to have been granted both the RJC certified membership and, as a next step, the highly regarded Chain of Custody-certification. The RJC and CoC principles correspond perfectly with our ambition to combine commercial success with social responsibility and a commitment to environmental protection. We are proud to set an example as a German supplier on the precious metals markets that offers fine gold of certified origin from conflict-free and ethically responsible sources. This is documented in corresponding paperwork that accompanies each delivery of Agosi CoC conforming material, be it fine gold or semi-finished products made of gold alloys," says Dietmar Becker, CEO Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt AG.

For further information please contact:

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 440 member companies. RJC and its Members are committed to promoting responsible ethical, human rights, social and environmental practices in a transparent and accountable manner throughout the jewellery industry from mine to retail. This commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery products. The RJC has developed the RJC Member Certification system which applies to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery supply chain. All Certified Members of the RJC are audited by accredited, third party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices. A voluntary Chain-of-Custody Standard has also been developed for gold and platinum group metals.

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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About Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt AG

Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt (Agosi) is part of the Umicore Group, Brussels, which focuses on application areas where its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy makes a real difference. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on an ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials in a way that fulfils its mission: materials for a better life. Its social commitment and innovative environmental approach have made Umicore one of "World's Most Ethical Companies" (Etisphere 2012). For more details: www.umicore.com

With its affiliated companies in Austria, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Thailand and the Americas, Agosi is the core organization of the Umicore business unit Jewellery and Industrial Metals serving the precious metals industries as a closed loop provider of precious metals services, products and refining. Its Pforzheim and Thailand locations both have the RJC CoC-status and offer CoC-conform, responsibly produced fine gold. For more details: www.allgemeine-gold.de

RJC Certification Information - Allgemeine Gold- und Silberscheideanstalt AG

Chain of Custody Certified Members