NEWS RELEASE

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RJC ANNOUNCES F.D. WORLDWIDE MERCHANDISE GROUP AS FIRST MEMBER TO ACHIEVE CERTIFICATION WITH PROVENANCE CLAIMS

LONDON - The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) announced today that F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group, the New York - based jewellery manufacturer, has achieved certification by meeting the highest ethical, social and environmental standards established by the RJC. F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group is also the first Member to use their RJC audit to verify their Provenance Claims, in this case to provide assurance to their customers on the source of their gold.

The RJC's updated 2013 Code of Practices includes a new provision that enables Members to have Provenance Claims audited as part of their RJC Certification. A Provenance Claims Bolt-on module has been developed for Members who wish to implement the Provenance Claims provision in conjunction with the 2009 COP. F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group's audited claim states that they will only accept gold traceable to refiners on the current LBMA good delivery list. This is in compliance with the Signet Responsible Sourcing Protocol (SRSP) for gold.

 "RJC warmly congratulates F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group on its certification. The successful verification assessment was led by UL, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited by the RJC. RJC is also delighted to see the first implementation of the Provenance Claims provision, as it provides a means for increasing the value and efficiency of RJC's audit program for Members," says Catherine Sproule, RJC's Chief Executive Officer - Interim.

"F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group is proud to have achieved the full 3 year certification awarded to members with verifiable practices in accordance to the principles set out by the RJC. This achievement validates and strengthens our commitment towards our continued efforts in operating to the highest social, ethical and environmental standards," says Corinna Bhasin, General Manager of F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group, INC.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 460 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 Full Member of the ISEAL Alliance – the global association for sustainability standards. For more information on RJC Members, Certification, and Standards please visit www.responsiblejewellery.com

About RJC Provenance Claims

For more information about Provenance Claims please visit http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/provenance-claims-cop-2013/

About F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group

F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group is a privately owned company with offices in New York, Hong Kong and Panyu, China. Their fine jewelry wholesale distribution office, was incorporated in 1994 in New York, when the name was changed from Sean's Jewelry USA. The company works closely with its jewelry supplier to design and supply fine jewelry to retail stores in USA, Canada, Australia, and Europe. For more information please visit www.fdworldwide.com

RJC Certification Information F.D. Worldwide Merchandise Group

RJC Certified Members