



23 | March | 2020

Dear all,

Members of the jewellery and watch industry are going through challenging times as a result of the current health and economic climate. Our thoughts are with all stakeholders and their families around the world.

From the health and livelihoods of employees and their families, to the impact on the operations of businesses of all sizes, resilience is being tested at all levels. Everyone's health, safety and well-being during this global health emergency is paramount. We strongly believe that its only by working together in partnership, that we will all find a way through this difficult time. We want to reiterate the sentiments of our email last week: we are here to support you.

We recognise that some members will find audit planning more difficult during these exceptional circumstances. Now more than ever, our team is on hand to guide you. As of today, three new ways include:

1. **Six-month extension to audit deadlines.** For members with an in-person or 'onsite' audit scheduled for the period March 1 – June 30 2020, we are offering a six-month extension to the RJC audit deadline. This applies to all audit types including first certification, recertification audits, mid-term reviews, and surveillance audits. Members that have already scheduled a remote audit till end of June should contact their auditors to confirm this audit can proceed as planned. Your auditor will discuss your individual circumstances further with you and make new arrangements, as needed. Where this change has implications for your RJC membership, our Membership team will be in touch with you.

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2. **Additional auditing guidance.** Our auditors have agreed to offer additional guidance to support you through the process. We are hosting a virtual roundtable with auditors this week to ensure alignment behind optimizing the audit process for you, whilst ensuring it remains robust and credible across the membership throughout these exceptional times.
3. **Dedicated support.** Our team is on hand to support you as you start your risk assessment and implement the Code of Practices. Please email Daylia Brown [daylia.brown@responsiblejewellery.com](mailto:daylia.brown@responsiblejewellery.com) who will help you through your journey towards certification.

We will continue to update you and monitor the situation on a regular basis.

Thank you for your continued commitment. Stay safe.

Kindest regards

**Iris Van Der Veken, Executive Director**

**David Bouffard, Chairman**



Iris Van der Veken,  
Executive Director



David Bouffard,  
Chair

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