

NEWS RELEASE

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ASPECO NV CERTIFIED BY THE RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced that Aspeco NV, the Antwerpbased diamond cutting and polishing manufacturer, has achieved certification meeting the ethical, human rights, social and environmental standards as established by the RJC's Member Certification System.

"RJC is delighted to congratulate Aspeco NV on its certification. The successful verification assessment of Aspeco NV was conducted by Peter Warbrick from SGS, one of the independent thirdparty auditing firms accredited to the RJC's Member Certification System," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"It gives us great pleasure to have achieved RJC certification. It shows the high standards that all of us are living up to and it is for us an interesting challenge to share these values with all of our stakeholders. Being RJC certified is beneficial to the entire diamond industry and is for us an essential cornerstone in our future development plans," says Nitin Shah, Director of Aspeco N.V.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 350 member companies 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. Their commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond, gold and platinum group metals jewellery products. The Council has developed the RJC Member Certification System, a certification system, which will apply to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond, gold and platinum group metals jewellery supply chain. All Commercial Members of the RJC are required to be audited by accredited, third-party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices and become certified under the RJC Member Certification System. A full list of its Members can be found on the web at www.responsiblejewellery.com

About Aspeco NV

Aspeco N.V. was established in 1999 and is a rough and polished buying and selling operation. They are part of the K.Girdharlal Group of companies who have an important manufacturing base in Surat (India) and have sales offices around the globe. Aspeco NV has been certified by RJC.

As a polished seller, Aspeco N.V. is specialised in GIA certified stones, ranging mainly from 0.30 cts to 6.00cts. In loose diamonds they focus on polished in the 0.01 ct to 2.00ct bracket.

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 Certified Members Gay Frères Cartier Raymond Bloch SA Metalor Technologies SA Rubel & Ménasché Fred Meyer Jewelers and Littman Jewelers CHANEL AV10 Signet Jewelers <u>Chaumet</u> Aurum Holdings Ltd Venus Jewel Charles Perroud Regal Imports Ltd Crossworks Manufacturing Ltd R Steinmetz & Sons Oteline Argor-Heraeus Kiran Exports BVBA F.Hinds Limited Baume & Mercier <u>Piaget</u> Star Diamond Group NV, Antwerp AMC NV, Antwerp Dalumi Europe BVBA Lazare Kaplan International Inc. Julius Klein Group FRED Yaelstar Bvba Abhidimon BVBA Suashish Diamonds (HK) Limited L&N Diamonds Tiffany & Co. KP Sanghvi HK Limited Taché Ben Bridge Jeweler Inc Interjewel Europe NV Jaeger-LeCoultre Eurostar Diamond Traders NV (Belgium) Boucheron Supergems NV Van Cleef & Arpels Shrenuj NV Munic Gems NV S.V Gems NV D. Goldi BVBA **Diajewel NV** Leo Schachter Diamonds LLC Kama Schachter Jewelry, Inc. Super Diam BVBA Harriet Kelsall Jewellery Design Ltd TAG Heuer Arjav Associates NV E. Schreiber Inc. D. Navinchandra Gems BVBA Glorious Gems BVBA Sauraj Diamonds NV Shainydiam BVBA

Aspeco NV

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