

NEWS RELEASE

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RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL CERTIFIES THE ANTWERP BASED STAR DIAMOND GROUP NV

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced that Star Diamond Group NV, the Antwerp-based 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 warmly congratulates Star Diamond Group NV, Antwerp, on its certification. The successful verification assessment of Star Diamond Group NV in Antwerp was conducted by Peter Warbrick from SGS, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited to the RJC's Member Certification System," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"We are proud to have achieved this important certification. We believe that it is our duty as an industry to be united and provide the consumer with the necessary level of comfort and contribute to sustainable business development," says Marc Roth, Group Director.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 320 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 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 System. A full list of its Members can be found on the web at <u>www.responsiblejewellery.com</u>

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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.

About Star Diamond Group NV

Star Diamond Group NV is a subsidiary of the Star Diamond Group (SDG) BV companies. Established in 1948, Star Diamond Group NV has over 60 years of rough diamond expertise and operates distribution offices for rough in two main trading centres: Antwerp and Tel Aviv.

The Antwerp subsidiary has been certified by the Responsible Jewellery Council.

Since 2004, the Star Diamond Group also runs a modern manufacturing unit in Botswana, employing over 200 skilled craftsmen. Diamond manufacturers globally benefit from the relationships that the Star Diamond Group have built with various primary producers and traders globally that gives them access to a wide range of rough, precisely assorted and consistently available diamonds.

RJC Certified Members

Gay Frères Cartier **Raymond Bloch SA** Metalor Technologies SA Rubel & Ménasché Fred Meyer Jewelers and Littman Jewelers CHANEL AV10 Signet Jewelers Chaumet 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 Piaget Star Diamond Group NV, Antwerp

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