

Responsible Jewellery Council

NEWS RELEASE

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RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP REACHES 250 COMPANIES AND TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced that its membership has exceeded 250 companies and trade associations, large and small, throughout the diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery supply chain from around the world.

"We are very pleased with the growth of RJC's membership, witnessing a rapid rise in the first half of 2010, to now exceeding a total of over 250 Members. Amongst these new members are Bottega Veneta, Christian Dior Couture, Gemological Science International (GSI), Girard-Perregaux, GCAL: Gem Certification & Assurance Lab, Inc, H.K. Designs (India), Vacheron Constantin and many other notable companies who all strongly believe in RJC's mission," says Michael Rae, the RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"RJC's healthy membership reflects the growing awareness of the importance of ethical, human rights, social and environmental performance in the jewellery industry. RJC's members are vital to cultivate future business ethical generations," says Michael Rae.

Under the RJC system, all commercial members of the RJC have committed to be audited by accredited, third party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices and become certified. The RJC Certification System is unmatched in any other industry for the quality and breadth of its scope and standards and the integrity and transparency of its developmental process.

A full list of RJC Members can be found at <u>http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/members/overview.html</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 RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 250 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 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 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. For more information please visit <u>www.responsiblejewellery.com</u>

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