

LEAD WITH PURPOSE . INSPIRE WITH TRUST CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL

Benchmark

IS A CERTIFIED MEMBER

NUMBER: 0000 4526 DURATION: 3 Year

PERIOD: January 24, 2023 - January 24, 2026

STANDARD: Code of Practices 2019

DAVID BOUFFARD

CHAIRMAN

MELANIE GRANT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR





CERTIFICATION OVERVIEW

MEMBERSHIP FORUM	Jewellery and Watch Manufacturer and/or Wholesaler
AUDIT DATE	November 01, 2022
AUDIT TYPE	First Certification
APPLICABLE STANDARD	Code of Practices 2019
ACCREDITED AUDIT FIRM	SCS Global Services
APPLICABLE PROVISIONS	 General requirements: 1-4, except 3.2 Responsible supply chains, human rights and due diligence: 5-14, except 7.3, 8, 9, 11.3, 13.3-4 Labor rights and working conditions: 15-22, except 19.3, 21.3 Health, Safety and Environment: 23-27, except 23.10, 27.4 Gold, Silver, PGM, diamond and coloured gemstone products: 28-30, except 28.2j, 29.2, 30 Responsible mining: Not applicable

PROVENANCE CLAIMS	Any Benchmark wedding band herein invoiced containing gold is made with 100% recycled gold, sourced directly from suppliers with SCS Recycled Content certification.	
AUDITOR STATEMENT OF CONFORMANCE	Based on the scope and findings of the certification audit, the member has demonstrated a conformance level consistent with a:	
	3 Year Certification	
NEXT AUDIT TYPE	MID-TERM REVIEW (within 12-24 months):	
	A. Mid-term review NOT required due to:	
	No anticipated changes to the certification scope during the certification period	
	3 or less minor non-conformances with critical provisions or in general identified by the audit (not covered by parallel audits for schemes identified as equivalent to RJC's) for an individual member in the mining sector or a non-mining sector member	
	<25 full time equivalent personnel	
	Low risk of non-conformances due to management controls	
	Existence of parallel audits for schemes recognized by RJC	
	Strong internal controls ensuring effective review and closure of corrective actions for non-conformances	
	B. Mid-term review (desktop only) required due to:	
	No impact on conformance levels from any changes to the certification scope	
	5 or less minor non-conformances with critical provisions or in general identified by the audit (not covered by parallel audits for schemes identified as equivalent to RJC's) for an individual member in the mining sector or a non-mining sector member	
	Possibility of remote verification of actions	
	No risk to critical provisions	

C. Mid-term review (with a site visit) required due to:
Known and anticipated changes to the certification scope during the certification period
Member no longer supporting external standards and initiatives recognized by RJC
6 or more minor non-conformances with critical provisions or in general identified by the audit (not covered by parallel audits for schemes identified as equivalent to RJC's) for an individual member in the mining sector or a non-mining sector member
New systems and controls for critical provisions that could not be tested at the certification audit
Need to test new systems and controls ensuring respect for critical provisions
Facilities with risk of non-conformances with critical provisions
Other reasons presented by the lead auditor necessitating an onsite verification

CERTIFICATION SCOPE

Business name of entity/facility Benchmark

Location (City and Country)
Tuscaloosa, USA

<u>Business Activity</u> Manufacturing and wholesale, minimal consumer-direct website sales

ABOUT THIS CERTIFICATION

This certification is issued by the Responsible Jewellery Council in accordance with its standards and supporting documentation, available on the RJC website.

This certificate can be authenticated on the RJC website. Please contact certification@responsiblejewellery.com with any questions.

The RJC aims to ensure the fair, timely and objective resolution of complaints relating to RJC certification. The complaints mechanism and contact details can be accessed on the RJC website.

DISCLAIMER

No guarantee, warranty or representation is made by the RJC as to the accuracy or completeness of the information in this COP certificate, and no advice or information, whether oral or written, obtained from the RJC or elsewhere, will create any warranty, guarantee or representation in respect of this COP certificate. Compliance with RJC's standards and procedures is neither intended to, nor does it create, establish, or recognize any legally enforceable obligations or rights of, or against, the RJC and/or its members or signatories. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the RJC does not accept or assume responsibility to anyone for the audit process, for the member, for the entity, for the auditor, for COP certification, or for the decision to grant COP certification.

The Responsible Jewellery Council is the trading name of the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd. The Council for Responsible