RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

LEAD WITH PURPOSE . INSPIRE WITH TRUST
CONTRIBUTE TO DEVELOPMENT

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL

HOOVER & STRONG INC.

IS A CERTIFIED MEMBER OF
THE RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

NUMBER: 0000 1675

DURATION: 3 Year

PERIOD: 01 August 2019 - 01 August 2022
Transitioned from 1 to 3 year
certification on 16 October 2019

STANDARD: Code of Practices 2013

DAVID BOUFFARD
CHAIRMAN

IRIS VAN DER VEKEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CODE
OF
PRACTICES

RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

CERTIFICATION OVERVIEW

MEMBERSHIP FORUM	Gold and/or Platinum Group Metals Trader and/or Refiner and/or Hedger
AUDIT DATE	25 - 29 March 2019
AUDIT TYPE	First Certification
APPLICABLE STANDARD	Code of Practices 2013
ACCREDITED AUDIT FIRM	SCS Global Services
CERTIFICATION SCOPE	Hoover & Strong, Inc, Virginia, USA - Jewellery Manufacturing
APPLICABLE PROVISIONS	1. **General requirements**: 1-4, except 3.2 2. **Responsible supply chains and human rights**: 5-12, except 11.3-4 3. **Labour rights and working conditions**: 13-20, except 19.3 4. **Health, safety and environment**: 21-25, except 21.10 5. **Diamonds, gold and platinum group metal products**: 26-28, except 27.2 & 28 6. **Responsible mining sector**: Not applicable

PROVENANCE CLAIMS

The Seller warrants that the gold has been supplied in compliance with the Signet Responsible Sourcing Protocol ("SRSP"). Hoover & Strong provides recycled gold, platinum & palladium under the trade name Harmony Metals™. The sources of these metals are from responsible source suppliers. Hoover & Strong provides Fairmined and Fairtrade certified gold sourced from small-scale and artisanal miners. Hoover & Strong supplies gold sourced from artisanal miners in the DRC. These are fully traceable and conflict-free based upon a series of chain of custody documentation using the Consensas traceability and due diligence technology platform, and to OECD guidelines using the Better Sourcing Program. Hoover & Strong sources Harmony Recycled Diamonds from our in-house refinery. A recycled diamond is a naturally occurring diamond from mined rough, previously set in jewelry and then removed for re-sale. Hoover & Strong sources diamonds from Canada based on written assurances from our suppliers. Hoover & Strong sources diamonds that are conflict-free based on written assurances from our suppliers.

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

○ <25 full time equivalent personnel

○ Low risk of non-conformances due to management controls

○ Existence of parallel audits for schemes recognised by RJC

○ Existence of rigorous internal audit programs

○ 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

○ 2 or less minor non-conformances with critical provisions or 4 or less minor non-conformances 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 recognised by RJC

◉ 3 or more minor non-conformances with critical provisions or 5 or more minor non-conformances not covered by parallel audits for schemes identified as equivalent to RJC's for any non-mining sector member or individual mining facility, if the member is in the mining sector

○ 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

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