

NEWS RELEASE

Embargoed until 3 July 2014

ARGOR-HERAEUS SA – RE-CERTIFIED BY THE RJC

LONDON - RJC announced today that Argor-Heraeus SA, the Swiss gold refiner, has achieved Re-Certification by meeting the highest ethical, social and environmental standards established by the RJC.

“RJC congratulates Argor-Heraeus SA on achieving Re-Certification. After a Member has become RJC Certified for the first time, independent verification is required at the end of each certification period to ensure continued conformance and to maintain Certified Member status. The successful verification assessment was conducted by Simone Olmo from Bureau Veritas Italia, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited by the RJC,” says Catherine Sproule, RJC’s Chief Executive Officer - Interim.

“Argor-Heraeus SA is proud to have achieved the RJC Re-Certification after its first three year term. This accomplishment confirms our company’s commitment to responsible, transparent and ethical business behaviour. Ahead of the rise of industry efforts towards building a responsible supply chain for the fine jewellery and watch industry, Argor-Heraeus SA was striving for a transparent, ethical, responsible and sustainable way of conducting business, across its supply chain activities. At Argor-Heraeus, we believe that delivering the highest quality and customer service is key to maintain an exemplary reputation and to build a sustainable success,” says Dr. Wilfried H. Hörner, Co-CEO, Argor-Heraeus SA.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 480 Member companies that span the jewellery supply chain from mine to retail. RJC Members commit to and are independently audited against the RJC Code of Practices – an international standard on responsible business practices for diamonds, gold and platinum group metals. The Code of Practices addresses human rights, labour rights, environmental impact, mining practices, product disclosure and many more important topics in the jewellery supply chain. RJC also works with multi-stakeholder initiatives on responsible sourcing and supply chain due diligence. The RJC’s Chain-of-Custody Certification for precious metals supports these initiatives and can be used as a tool to deliver broader Member and stakeholder benefit.

The RJC is a [Full Member of the ISEAL Alliance](#) – the global association for sustainability standards. For more information on RJC Members, Certification, and Standards please visit www.responsiblejewellery.com

About Argor-Heraeus SA

The Argor (from the French “Argent et Or”, silver and gold) refinery was originally established in Chiasso, Switzerland in 1951 and was taken over by Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) in 1973. A partnership was agreed in 1986 with Heraeus Holding GmbH of Hanau. In 1999 UBS shares were taken over by Heraeus & Management. Later in 1999 Commerzbank International joined the shareholders, and in 2002, Austrian Mint also joined the shareholders. In 1988 the refinery moved from Chiasso to the new plant in Mendrisio. For more information please visit www.argor.com

[RJC Certification Information – Argor-Heraeus SA](#)

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