



NEWS RELEASE

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RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL CALLS FOR COMMENT ON PROPOSED REVISIONS TO RJC CODE OF PRACTICES

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) is calling for stakeholder feedback on proposed revisions to the RJC Code of Practices (COP). The RJC is currently undertaking a formal review of the COP, the standard against which all RJC Members, from mine to retail, must achieve certification within two years of joining the RJC.

The review process is taking place three years after the COP was first published in 2009. Since then, more than 230 RJC Members have been certified against the COP, following independent third party audits of conformance with the standard. To further build on the success of the program, the COP review aims to respond to new issues, improve guidance and interpretation in challenging areas and strengthen impact of the standard.

The proposed COP revisions being published for comment have been developed to take account of a wide range of submissions. These include stakeholder comments received on a proposed scope for the COP review in a prior comment period; review of parallel standards and initiatives; RJC's log of comments and questions from the past 3 years of implementation; and RJC Standards Committee discussions on a number of key topics.

The public comment period on draft revision 1 of the Code of Practices will be open until 01 March 2013. The RJC will also be organising COP Review Consultation workshops in London, Geneva, Antwerp and New York in January 2013 and in India in February 2013.

Please download the Consultation document at: <http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/standards-development/code-of-practices-review/>.

For more information, please contact:

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 420 member companies. RJC and its Members are 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. This commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery products. The RJC has developed the RJC Member Certification system which applies to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery supply chain. All Certified Members of the RJC are audited by accredited, third party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices. A voluntary Chain-of-Custody Standard has also been developed for gold and platinum group metals. 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

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