



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **RJC Concludes Successful Week of Industry Engagement in India and Accredits Two Indian Audit Firms**

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) completed a key round of engagement with the Indian industry during a weeklong series of outreach sessions, one-on-one meetings with RJC Members, key industry stakeholders and prospective members. The information sessions, held in Mumbai and Surat, focused on RJC's ongoing engagement plans in India, as well as the new 2013 Code of Practices (COP) and how it can assist the Indian industry with its new provenance claims and human rights provisions. Combined, over 130 participants attended.

Presented by RJC's Interim CEO, Catherine Sproule, and Director – Standards Development, Fiona Solomon, the week provided RJC with valuable insight into how it can further contribute to India's dynamic manufacturing and jewellery sector via the RJC certification program. The RJC seeks to enhance local engagement and Member support, and India is a top priority region for 2014. RJC returns to India in April with an emphasis on additional training on the new COP and further one-on-one meetings. Plans are underway to attend the July IJS trade fair in Mumbai.

"There were key outcomes from the week spent in Mumbai and Surat. RJC has crystallised plans for an India-RJC engagement Forum, building from a key committee that contributed valuable feedback to the development of the new COP. Also, the information sessions on the new COP allowed RJC to listen and respond to viewpoints from this very key market," says Sproule.

Representatives from RJC Members Rio Tinto, Rosy Blue, D. Navinchandra, Venus Jewel and C. Dinesh & Co. presented at the seminars and talked about their commitment to RJC and the benefits of RJC certification.

In further welcome news, RJC has accredited two additional India-based audit firms, ISOQAR (India) Pvt. Ltd and Intertek through its India operations. These two firms will be added to the list of RJC Accredited Auditors on the RJC website. RJC continues to work to expand the pool of auditors to service RJC's growing membership and the demand for certification.

"Intertek India is proud to be accredited by the Responsible Jewellery Council. The audit services we can now provide to RJC members will help them maximize the value of their business and also create a more

[www.responsiblejewellery.com](http://www.responsiblejewellery.com)

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.

effective management environment that aids in minimising risk,” says Christophe Liebon, Vice President of Intertek’s Supplier Management group.

“We are delighted to become RJC Accredited Auditors. India has a dominant position in the jewellery industry and as such is an important region for us. ISOQAR India can now provide audit services against the RJC Code of Practices to its Members. The RJC certification reinforces ISOQAR India’s commitment to provide its customers a superior service experience based on trust, reliability and transparency. We hope to enable businesses of all sizes minimise risk and control environmental impacts,” says Suhas Risbood, Managing Director, ISOQAR (India) Pvt. Ltd.

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#### **About RJC**

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 460 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](http://www.responsiblejewellery.com)

#### **About Intertek**

Intertek is the industry leader with over 36,000 people in 1,000 locations in over 100 countries. Whether your business is local or global, we can ensure your products meet quality, health, environmental, safety, and social accountability standards for virtually any market around the world. We hold extensive global accreditations, recognitions, and agreements, and our knowledge of and expertise in overcoming regulatory, market, and supply chain hurdles is unrivalled.

#### **About ISOQAR**

Part of ISOQAR, ISOQAR India was conceived in the year 2006 by Ex. KPMGians and today provides certification services to large Indian & Overseas corporate. In India ISOQAR is among the premium certification bodies with a focus on providing excellent quality service. All founder members of ISOQAR India have been in the certification business for the past 12 years and have more than 2,500 plus audit experience across industries and across the globe.

#### **[RJC Accredited Auditors](#)**

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