



NEWS RELEASE

Embargoed until 22 September 2011

LAZARE KAPLAN INTERNATIONAL INC. CERTIFIED BY THE RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced that New York-based Lazare Kaplan International Inc. (LKI), a diamond manufacturing company specializing in ideal cut diamonds, has achieved certification meeting the ethical, human rights, social and environmental standards as established by the RJC's Member Certification System.

"RJC is very pleased to congratulate Lazare Kaplan International Inc. on its certification. The successful verification assessment of Lazare Kaplan International Inc. was conducted by Vidhi Aggarwal from SGS, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited to the RJC's Member Certification System," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

Lazare Kaplan's President, Leon Tempelman, says, "LKI has consistently set and adhered to the highest ethical and professional standards in the industry. We are proud of our record of leadership in promoting ethical, social, and environmental accountability in today's global diamond market place."

"The RJC's public confirmation of LKI's commitment to the highest standards of business, social, and environmental best practice is truly gratifying. I congratulate my colleagues at our facilities worldwide for their dedication and continued commitment to a transparent, accountable, and responsible approach to business," says Damian Gagnon, LKI's Corporate Compliance and Social Responsibility Officer.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 320 member companies 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. Their commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond, gold and platinum group metals jewellery products.

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.

The Council has developed the RJC Member Certification System, a certification system, which will apply to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond, gold and platinum group metals jewellery supply chain. All Commercial Members of the RJC are required to be audited by accredited, third-party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices and become certified under the RJC Member Certification System. A full list of its Members can be found on the web at www.responsiblejewellery.com

About LKI

Founded in 1903, LKI has always had a commitment to excellence and being a leader in industry innovation. It was the first to brand a diamond and is dedicated to cutting each and every Lazare Diamond as beautifully as possible while maintaining the highest standards in the diamond industry. Lazare Kaplan International Inc. sells its diamonds and jewellery products through a worldwide distribution network. The company is noted for its ideal-cut diamonds, which it markets internationally under the brand name, The Lazare Diamond®. More information on www.lazarediamonds.com

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