



Responsible Jewellery Council

NEWS RELEASE

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RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL REACHES 130 MEMBERS

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC), the international product stewardship organization, is delighted to announce that its membership today has reached 130 companies and trade associations, large and small, throughout the diamond and gold jewellery supply chain.

“Reaching 130 Members in these difficult economic conditions is a strong endorsement of the value of the RJC and its Members’ commitment to promoting responsible ethical, human rights, social and environmental practices throughout the industry from mine to retail,” says Michael Rae, the RJC’s Chief Executive Officer.

“52 new Members have joined RJC in the first six months of 2009. These Member companies include Fred Meyer Jewelers, Gemological Institute of America (GIA), Venus Jewel, Accurist Watches Limited and the mining company Eurocantera. The biggest proportion of the RJC membership is now made up of small and medium sized companies, such as independent retailers and single-location diamond cutting operations,” says Michael Rae.

The increasing membership base of the RJC reflects the growing awareness of the importance of ethical, human rights, social and environmental performance in the jewellery industry.

Under the RJC system, all commercial members of the RJC will be required to be audited by accredited, third party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC’s Code of Practices,” says John Hall, General Manager, External Relations of Rio Tinto Diamonds and Vice-Chairman of the RJC. “The RJC looks forward to welcoming more Members in coming months as we prepare for the RJC System’s launch later this year,” says John Hall.

The Responsible Jewellery Council and a full list of its Members can be found on the web at www.responsiblejewellery.com

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