

- ▶ **RJC KEY MILESTONES: Current Members: 351**
- ▶ **CERTIFIED MEMBERS: 82 as of December 6, 2011**

RJC Certified Members

Gay Frères	Yaelstar Bvba	Sauraj Diamonds NV
Cartier	Abhidimon BVBA	Shainydiam BVBA
Raymond Bloch SA	Suashish Diamonds (HK) Limited	Aspeco NV
Metalor Technologies SA	L&N Diamonds	Antwerp Star Diamonds NV
Rubel & Ménasché	Tiffany & Co.	Pluczenik Diamond Company NV
Fred Meyer Jewelers and Littman Jewelers	KP Sanghvi HK Limited	Excellent Facets Inc. / Amadena LLC
CHANEL	Taché	Dialink France SAS
AV10	Ben Bridge Jeweler Inc	Dianco BVBA,
Signet Jewelers	Interjewel Europe NV	Dianco HK Ltd
Chaumet	Jaeger-LeCoultre	Dianco DMCC
Aurum Holdings Ltd	Eurostar Diamond Traders NV (Belgium)	Dianco LLC
Venus Jewel	Boucheron	Interjewel (HK) Company Limited
Charles Perroud	Supergems NV	AMI Diamonds BVBA
Regal Imports Ltd	Van Cleef & Arpels	Rosy Blue NV
Crossworks Manufacturing Ltd	Shrenuj NV	Grospiron
R Steinmetz & Sons	Munic Gems NV	Rare Gems BVBA
Oteline	S.V Gems NV	Beaverbrooks the Jewellers Limited
Argor-Heraeus	D. Goldi BVBA	
Kiran Exports BVBA	Diajewel NV	
F.Hinds Limited	Leo Schachter Diamonds LLC	
Baume & Mercier	Kama Schachter Jewelry, Inc.	
Piaget	Super Diam BVBA	
Star Diamond Group NV, Antwerp	Harriet Kelsall Jewellery Design Ltd	
AMC NV, Antwerp	TAG Heuer	
Dalumi Europe BVBA	Arjav Associates NV	
Lazare Kaplan International Inc.	E. Schreiber Inc.	
Julius Klein Group	D. Navinchandra Gems BVBA	
FRED	Glorious Gems BVBA	

▶ To view the most updated list of RJC Certified Members please go to <http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/members/certified-members/>



Latest achievements: ARM & RJC announce their collaboration

The Alliance for Responsible Mining (ARM) and the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) have agreed on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work cooperatively to advance their shared objectives.

These objectives include: improving social, environmental and labour practices in artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), facilitating constructive dialogue and where appropriate, collaboration between large-scale mining operations and ASM to create sustainable and fair local opportunities for communities in mineral rich regions, and increasing market access for jewellery raw materials produced by ASM communities.



"ARM believes that strengthening its relationship with the RJC is a key step in building strong collaboration with the industry to jointly embrace the developmental opportunities of ASM. We hope to see more and more ASM communities realize their potential of becoming profitable, socially and environmentally responsible enterprises that participate in global markets and contribute to local development," said Lina Villa, ARMs Acting Executive Director.

"Working together with ARM towards common goals will strengthen our collective efforts towards responsible business practices throughout the jewellery supply chain. We are looking forward to the collaboration and the benefits it will bring to artisanal and small-scale miners and their communities, RJC Members and the jewellery industry as a whole," said Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

More information, please go to <http://www.communitymining.org>



Lina Villa



Michael Rae

DIAMOND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE INTERNATIONAL (DDII) AND RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL (RJC) ANNOUNCE WORKING RELATIONSHIP ON ARTISANAL DIAMOND PRODUCTION

DDI International and RJC will work cooperatively to advance their shared objectives: improving social, environmental, labour practices and good governance in the artisanal diamond mining sector; enhanced relationships between large-scale and artisanal diamond mining; and increasing market access for jewellery raw materials produced by artisanal diamond mining communities.

DDII's Executive Director, Dorothee Gizenga said, "Worldwide, some 1.5 million individuals are artisanal diamond miners. They and their families will benefit from the improved working conditions and standards that are DDII's objectives, objectives that will be enhanced by our collaboration with the Responsible Jewellery Council."

"RJC is delighted to formalise the relationship between our two organisations. By working together, DDII and RJC will reinforce our efforts to improve responsible business practices throughout the jewellery supply chain and enhance the lives of artisanal diamond miners and their communities," said Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.



Dorothee Gizenga

For more information please go to www.ddiglobal.org



RJC Member Certification & Training Webinars



In September and October, Catherine Sproule, RJC's Chief Operating Officer and Anna Leach, RJC's Administration Manager, conducted Certification meetings

and workshops in Europe and the US, to assist RJC Members with their certification process.

"Visiting RJC members in these key markets and hearing about their experiences on the path to certification allowed Anna and me to provide support and answer questions about the process," said Catherine Sproule, COO.

► **Reminder: RJC Members have two years from their date of joining to achieve RJC Certification**

► **Reminder: If you joined the RJC prior to December 2009 you must be Certified by December 2011**

RJC offers free online webinars to its Members and encourages its Members to use the following guidelines as a starting point as you work towards achieving RJC Certification.

Assign a Coordinator to oversee the Self Assessment

Depending on the nature and complexity of your business, it may be appropriate to assemble several people to assist the coordinator in planning and conducting the self assessment.

Attend the FREE Online Training

these modules are designed for those that are directly involved in implementing the RJC Certification process within your organisations.

A general introduction webinar recording can be viewed on our website and this is a good introduction to the RJC Training <http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/certification/>

RJC Commercial Member Certification

Deadline – Extension Request

RJC's first certification deadline for Members that joined prior to December 2009 is the end



Catherine Sproule



Anna Leach

of December 2011 or at the end of December 2012 if the Member has Mining Facilities.

To allow for situations where Members could not meet their certification deadlines due to extenuating circumstances, such as where issues have been encountered preventing the timely scheduling audits, the RJC has developed an Extension Policy.

The Extension Policy has strict criteria in place and applications for extensions will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. As the RJC does not see Self Assessments, any application for a short extension to the deadline requires the support of the Member's chosen Accredited Auditor.

If an extension is granted, the Member's listing on the RJC's website will state: "Extension granted to achieve Certification by [date]."

If certification is not be achieved by the expiry of the extension period, RJC disciplinary proceedings will commence with possible consequences for the company's continued RJC Membership.

For more information, please contact Anna Leach, RJC's Administration Manager, anna.leach@responsiblejewellery.com

INSIGHT SESSION – INTERVIEW WITH RJC CERTIFIED MEMBERS

'Insights' is an ongoing section in The Monitor that encourages RJC Members to share their certification approach and learning.

In this section, Daniel Templeman, Chief Financial Officer of Metalor Technologies SA, the first RJC certified refinery; Fabrizio Maggioni, Financial Controller from Argor-Heraeus, RJC precious metals second certified refinery and Harriet Kelsall, Managing Director, Harriet Kelsall Jewellery Design Ltd, RJC certified jewellery retailer, have offered their advices on certification to readers.



Daniel Templeman

► Interview with Daniel Templeman, Chief Financial Officer of Metalor Technologies SA

1. What was your plan for carrying out the RJC Self Assessment?

Metalor has been an active member of the RJC since shortly after its foundation in 2005, so was familiar with the certification requirements as they were evolving, in advance of the self assessment guidelines being published. This enabled us over a period of three years to review, formalize and, in a few cases, adapt our policies, processes and practices. So, for Metalor, the self-assessment was more of a final checklist and preparation aid for the audit itself. For a company embarking on journey the self assessment provides a perfect tool to analyse any gaps and work to address these before deciding to subject to the compliance audit proper.

2. Who in your organization was involved in the process?

The RJC Certification covers a very broad range of best practice and standards across all aspects of

responsible corporate policy and does not just focus on the aspects specific to the jewellery, gold or diamond activities of the business but also much broader topics such as responsible ethical, human rights, social and environmental practices. So apart from senior level sponsorship from the board, CEO and senior management, all business units managers and most functional heads will be involved along with many of their staff. I would strongly recommend to appoint a project manager to coordinate all these workstreams, and to be aware he or she will need to be fully dedicated to the project at critical periods.

3. What were some of the key challenges?

Despite our careful preparations, the strong emphasis of the Certification audit on the broad range of topics including "internal" responsibility was notable. As a group with staff and production facilities mainly in developed countries we took it for granted that some of these topics were not really aimed at us, so did not do any special preparation for certification. So, for example interviewing a

random sample of our staff in confidence as to fair working practices and their perceptions at Metalor, was a bit of a surprise. Also, the attention to detail was notable, and included comments on the height of some of our plant signage that even our HSE auditors had not noted.

4. Has implementing the RJC Certification System highlighted areas for improvement in your business?

Metalor received a "clean" Certification report first time round, but yes we had some minor non-conformances that we have been addressing. For example, those directly involved in compliance and corporate and social responsibility topics are well informed of our policies and procedures will be broadening or communication and training more widely. A key component of a strong compliance system is its ability to learn and integrate feedback and learnings from day to day compliance issues or from audits such as RJC's.

5. What are the main benefits for your business in implementing the RJC Certification System?

We were very proud to be the first refiner to receive

RJC Certification and received significant positive feedback from customers and suppliers in the industry. The certification has given an external endorsement of our strong focus in the last few years to build what we believe to be an industry leading position in respect of responsible practice. It was, for example, significant in us rapidly gaining "pre-approved and ready for audit" status from the EICC's conflict free gold initiative following the Dodd Frank Act reporting requirements in that respect. The preparation work involved in the Certification have also gone a long way to ensuring we are already prepared to satisfy the chain of custody and known origin standards being developed by the RJC, LBMA, WGC as well as the OECD's guidance on responsible mineral supply as soon as these are finalized in the coming months.

6. What advice do you have for other Members at this stage?

Do not underestimate the time required to prepare for and go through the Certification process!

7. Would you encourage others to complete RJC Certification?

Definitely.

8. RJC is currently developing a Chain-of-Custody standard for gold, diamonds and platinum metals. How do refineries approach responsible sourcing issues?

Metalor welcomes the development of internationally recognized chain of custody and responsible sourcing guidelines and standards which benefit from extensive consultation from all parts of the industry and also, critically, from a wide range of other stakeholders such as NGO's. No single company could achieve such consensus, acceptance and alignment on such complex topics, and Metalor is looking forward to demonstrating its compliance with these new standards as soon as the standards are finalized.

For more information, please go to www.metalor.com

METALOR[®]

INSIGHT SESSION – INTERVIEW WITH FABRIZIO MAGGIONI, FINANCIAL CONTROLLER, ARGOR-HERAEUS SA

1. What was your plan for carrying out the RJC Self Assessment?

A strong belief in the values expressed in the RJC's Code of Practices has certainly made easier the way toward the certification. The CEO, after consultation with the senior management, has started the Project and designated a Project Coordinator (PC) to lead the self assessment and the verification assessment. The CEO and the PC have created a Project Group (PG) formed by managers with skills covering the following macro areas: Business Ethics, Human Rights/Social Performance, Environmental Performance and Management Systems. The PG

extended to key employees the belief in the RJC's values and communicated to them the purpose of the Self Assessment (SA). The PC and the PG met periodically to review the progress of the project, to share information and to establish the next steps. During the SA every provision was checked to identify potential non-conformances and eventually clear them by an appropriate corrective action before the Verification Assessment (VA). The SA has been developed and brought to an end by the use of the Core System Documents, available on the RJC's website, and by the participation to the sessions of webinar training. In case of doubts or questions we availed ourselves of the RJC's reference people. After completion of the SA we choose, from the accredited auditors list, the company STR for the VA. The audit has been successfully passed in June this year.

2. Who in your organization was involved in the process?

The PG included the HR Manager, Compliance Officers, Safety Manager, Engineering Manager and Environmental Manager. The PC was the Group

Financial Controller. Other key employees, in different areas, have been involved during the SA or the VA phases. The successful outcome of the project has been made possible by the constant support offered by the CEO and the senior management during all stages of the project itself.

3. What were some of the key challenges?

The biggest challenge has been to perform an accurate SA, to address possible non conformances and, above all, to present sound evidences proving actual compliance with the RJC's standards. We are convinced that the work done internally has made easier the VA stage.

4. Has implementing the RJC Certification System highlighted areas for improvement in your business?

The SA has given us the opportunity to refine some aspects through small corrective actions in specific areas. Also, useful recommendations came out by the confrontation with the auditors.

5. What are the main benefits for your business in implementing the RJC Certification System?



Fabrizio Maggioni

The obtained certification further reinforces our ability to spread the values we believe in and increases the interest of our stakeholders in the "world" of the RJC. Some of them have already contacted us in order to collect information on how to plan the SA phase.

6. What advice do you have for other Members at this stage?

For sure we recommend to those RJC's members willing to obtain the certification to prudently evaluate the time span to achieve the Project. We have planned well in advance each single stage and for this reason we never had the need of "hurrying up". Moreover, we recommend making use of the

Core System Documents that help the Members to understand the requirements for achieving the Certification.

7. Would you encourage others to complete RJC Certification?

Day after day we aim to transfer to the stakeholders the founding values of Argor-Heraeus; as a consequence we also encourage them, wherever possible, to obtain the RJC's certification.

8. RJC is currently developing a Chain-of-Custody standard for gold, diamonds and platinum metals. How do refineries approach responsible sourcing issues?

Argor-Heraeus is participating actively in the formulation of the RJC Chain of Custody. Dr Hörner, as the representative of Argor-Heraeus, is part of the Standards Committee of RJC which develops the respective guidelines in collaboration with LBMA/WGC/OECD.

More information go to www.argor.com



INTERVIEW WITH HARRIET KELSALL, MANAGING DIRECTOR, HARRIET KELSALL JEWELLERY DESIGN LTD



Harriet Kelsall

1. What was your plan for carrying out the RJC Self Assessment?

We really wanted to go through the RJC's certification system because, as a jewellery company, we want to be sure that we are operating as responsibly as we possibly can be.

We are the first independent jeweller in the UK to be certified by the RJC and we feel immensely proud of this. As a small business compared to the large international jewellery chains, I knew it would be much harder for us to achieve without the bandwidth, resources and sheer man-power to make this happen. However, I felt it was important to hold ourselves up against the set of RJC standards and check that we are doing everything that we should.

I also was keen to get through this as a small business so that I would be in a good position to help other small businesses to not get left behind by the larger companies, which I have always felt was a real danger to the jewellery industry of this entire RJC system. After all, small independent companies like mine actually make up the majority of the jewellery industry in the UK.

Once we had decided to move forward with certification, our first challenge was to actually understand the corporate language of the documentation.

However, we continued on and then the plan was to go through every aspect of the business in absolute detail according to the documentation provided by the RJC. We ended up developing our own self-assessment document based on the booklet provided by the RJC as this worked better for us so that our general manager could dip in and out of it easily without losing his place each time.

During this process, we changed lots of things about the business for the better. For example, we found a few security holes in what we were doing (it previously would have been possible for somebody to steal gold in a certain way and for us not to realise for a couple of months).

We also found we were lacking in health and safety checks. In thinking through the whole business in this way, we made a lot of very positive changes. The business is in a much better position now than it was when we started. This makes me feel a lot better and also puts us in a much better legal position too.

2. Who in your organization was involved in the process?

As the RJC certification process is so thorough and relates to lots of different aspects of the business, I would say that it involved everybody in the organisation – around 30 people – at some stage or another.

In terms of who drove the process and managed it, that was Simon Gibbons, our General Manager

who did a brilliant job with this. I just provided the motivation and a few bits and pieces of help along the way.

3. What were some of the key challenges?

The main challenge we faced was reading and understanding the documentation provided by the RJC. At times, it was difficult to work our way through all of the information and really comprehend everything that we needed to do and get right before being audited. We felt that the language used was very technical and not aimed at a lay audience.

A huge challenge was that there was no UK-specific legislation or information, which I felt rather cross about as I felt that was what the UK division of the RJC should have provided because it took ages for us to simply look up all of the relevant laws and documents. I felt it was insane that every UK business going through certification was doing this.

This fact nearly made me pull out of my membership because I felt this was bizarre and it made me feel frustrated that this left smaller businesses in particular at a disadvantage as we don't have legal assistance.

Another challenge was setting aside enough time to go through the entire process. We made time as we were very committed to doing the audit properly and improving the business but it did require a significant number of man-hours to do it correctly.

4. Has implementing the RJC Certification System highlighted areas for improvement in your business?

We were very careful about reading all of the

documentation provided by the RJC and going through every aspect of the business with a fine tooth comb checking all of our policies and procedures before we felt ready to be audited.

This in itself highlighted many areas for improvement, which we rectified, and we were very happy that they were highlighted so that we could improve the business.

5. What are the main benefits for your business in implementing the RJC Certification System?

There are a number of benefits in going through RJC certification. Firstly, by scrutinising all of our policies and procedures ranging from health and safety to employment law to money laundering law to conflict diamonds, we now know that all of our systems and processes are at an optimum level which means we are delivering a better service to our customers, our employees and our suppliers. This is a huge benefit and for this reason alone I would urge other companies to implement the RJC certification system.

Secondly, it's something we can publicise externally which helps set us apart from our competitors and it gives us another selling point, which we can leverage.

I would also say that now that we have done this, I feel that the business is ready for me to tackle some larger and more tricky issues (internal system changes and improvements). I think before the changes that resulted from the RJC work,

I would not have felt able to tackle these aspects.

6. What advice do you have for other Members at this stage?

If you are in the BJA, tell Simon Rainer that you want to get through this as he has promised that once he has a few members interested, they will work on some documentation with UK-specific legislation to make this aspect of it much easier. So if you tell him you are going through this, it will happen sooner.

Also, break the documentation down into chunks that you can handle as single projects.

Something that we found really useful when going through the audit was to create a folder, which 'walked' the auditor through each of the questions and provided copies of evidence for each one.

The auditor appreciated this as it meant they had all of the information required to hand.

7. Would you encourage others to complete RJC Certification?

The short answer is yes although I would urge companies to consider the following:

- Who would coordinate the process?
- Is the business able to support the time/cost involved?
- Does that person have sufficient influence and skill/knowledge to make changes?
- Would they be able to 'persuade' people in the business to become involved and comply with changes?

- What level of evidence would be acceptable for the auditor in relation to the scale of business? For example, a one man/woman band could say that their discrimination policy is that they treat all of their customers the same and if they had to make reasonable adjustments they would consider and seek appropriate advice. Whereas for us, with 30 employees, we had to consider the implications of internal discrimination and have an overarching policy.

I think it would be relatively easy for a business of five or fewer employees to get through the audit with much less time needing to be spent. It would be very straightforward for a one-man-band to get through it.

For more information visit www.hkjewellery.co.uk



We would like to thank Metalor Technologies SA, Argor-Heraeus SA and Harriet Kelsall Jewellery Design Ltd, for their useful perspectives. If you have comments, or would like to share your organisation's approach and learning, please contact Mila Bonini, RJC's Communications Manager, at mila.bonini@responsiblejewellery.com

JEWELLERY FOCUS MAGAZINE ANNOUNCED AS A SUPPORTER

Jewellery Focus, well-known as the highest circulated jewellery trade magazine in the UK, has become an official Supporter of the Council. In becoming a Supporter, the magazine - which is the flagship publication of B2B publisher Mulberry Publications, based in Colchester - has aligned its commitment to transparent business endeavours with the RJC's mission to advance ethical practices throughout the jewellery supply chain, from mine to retail.

"With our overriding objective of helping those in the jewellery industry to boost the success of their businesses, and of the sector as a whole, the Jewellery Focus team members and I are absolutely delighted to have become official Supporters of the Responsible Jewellery Council. Though applying ethical standards across the entire industry is a huge task, each time someone joins the fight we take a step towards making it a reality. I hope that we will see more progress during 2012, through determination, innovation and collaboration, but with sensitivity and careful consideration of the surrounding issues," said Louise Hoffman, Editor, Jewellery Focus.

For more information, please visit www.jewelleryfocus.co.uk



Louise Hoffman

Jewellery
FOCUS

Welcome to new Members

The following 42 companies have been welcomed as RJC Members since the publication of the August edition of *The RJC Monitor*.

Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC)	October 2011	www.awdc.be
Aurouet de Mervelec SAS	September 2011	-
B & I Royce Ltd	October 2011	-
C Dinesh & Co Pvt Ltd	August 2011	www.cdinesh.com
Classic Diam	October 2011	www.classicjewellerybvba.com
Cookson Drijfhout BV	August 2011	www.cookson-drijfhout.nl
Cookson Material Products Group	August 2011	www.sternleach.com
Cora International LLC	August 2011	www.corainternational.com
D.A. Jhaveri BVBA	November 2011	www.dajhaveri.com
Deepak International Ltd	October 2011	-
Diaminter	October 2011	-
Dianco (HK) Limited	November 2011	www.dianco.com
Diamour Inc	September 2011	www.diamour.us
Dianco LLC	October 2011	-
Dianco DMCC	October 2011	-
Efva Attling Stockholm	October 2011	www.efvaattling.com
Foundation Jewellery	August 2011	www.foundationjewellery.com
Futurgem Srl	October 2011	www.futurgem.com
Galaxy Diamonds (Belgium) BVBA	October 2011	www.galaxydia.com
Gem Blue BVBA	September 2011	-
Hallmark Diamonds	October 2011	-
Hasuna Co. Ltd	November 2011	www.hasuna.com
IBB London Ltd	October 2011	www.ibblondon.com
IGC Group NV	August 2011	www.igcgroup.com
Jaybee Trading Inc t/a !xam Diamonds	August 2011	www.xamdiamonds.com
J B And Brothers Pvt Ltd	June 2011	www.jbbrothers.com
Jogdiam Corporation BVBA	November 2011	-
Lasbleiz - Fournier - Vitiello SAS	November 2011	-
Lawrence Blunt Ltd	October 2011	-
Legor Group SpA	July 2011	www.legorgroup.com
Messika Diamonds SAS	October 2011	www.messika-jewelry.com
Niru	October 2011	www.niru.co.il
O'Neill Diamonds Inc	September 2011	www.oneilldiamonds.ca
Oro Africa	November 2011	www.oroafrica.com
Prestige Jewelry International Inc	September 2011	-
Ratnakar BVBA	September 2011	-
Salanitra SA	October 2011	www.salanitra.ch
Sankalp Diam	October 2011	-
Sidney Garber Jewelers Inc	September 2011	www.sidneygarber.com
SMF Ridler	September 2011	www.lesfacettes.de
Sunny Creations Ltd	September 2011	www.sunnycreations.com.hk
Rosy Blue - Rosy Blue (India) Pvt Ltd	August 2011	www.rosyblue.com/

Hasuna Co. Ltd is the First RJC Member from Japan

RJC is delighted to welcome the Tokyo-based jewellery retailer HASUNA Co., Ltd, the first Japanese company to join RJC.

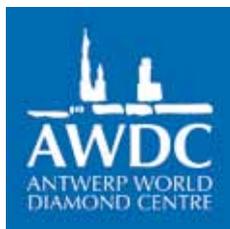
"We feel very honoured to have become a member of RJC as the first ethical jeweller in Japan. Through collaborating with RJC, we look forward to accelerate people's awareness towards ethically produced jewellery in Asia," said Ms Natsuko Shiraki, CEO of HASUNA Co.,Ltd.

More information on the company can be found at www.hasuna.com



Natsuko Shiraki

ANTWERP WORLD DIAMOND CENTRE JOINS RJC



"AWDC is pleased to announce that the AWDC, the umbrella organization of the Antwerp diamond industry and trade,

became a Trade Association Member of the RJC in October 2011. Thanks to our Trade Association Member status we will be able to support and assist Antwerp diamond companies, especially small and medium sized companies, willing to voluntarily conform to the RJC's Code of Practices. More specifically, the AWDC wants to provide on-demand assistance and, together with the RJC, look for possible solutions to better engage smaller companies in the RJC membership and certification via a cost effective and well implementable system," said Caroline de Wolf, Communications Manager, AWDC. "Moreover, as a Trade Association Member of the RJC, AWDC will have the ability to proactively inform our diamond companies on the developments and future activities of the Responsible Jewellery Council and express on behalf of the Antwerp diamond sector the need for a realistic, implementable, businesslike approach," concluded Ms de Wolf.

About AWDC

AWDC is the coordinating body and the official representative of the Antwerp diamond sector, and

as such is recognized internationally as the host, spokesperson and intermediary for the Belgian diamond community. In this capacity, AWDC liaises on behalf of the Belgian diamond sector with governments and actively promotes support for the diamond sector at home and abroad. As such AWDC strives to further develop Antwerp as the world's diamond centre.

Antwerp is the diamond industry's primary business centre, serving as the headquarters for about 1,850 diamond firms, which is the largest concentration of companies in the industry. They include rough diamond producers, rough dealers, manufacturers, and polished diamond wholesalers. With so many different firms it is important to have an umbrella organization as a coordinating body and the official representative.

More information on www.awdc.be



Caroline de Wolf



Our Updated Website

The RJC website is a very important delivery mechanism for information about the Council and its activities, the RJC Member Certification System, the Chain of Custody Certification, news releases, newsletters, updates and opportunities to become involved.

In November 2011, the website was extensively updated to enhance the ability to search Member and Auditor information and improve access to the most popular links.

We invite you to visit our new site at www.responsiblejewellery.com

RJC Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Please view the November Indicators Report (MIR) with internal data, logging and reporting procedures.

The MIR is intended to publicly report each month on selected quantitative indicators

for the RJC's Supporting Strategies:

- Growth in RJC Membership
- Estimated Annual Sales of Commercial Members
- Increase in RJC Certifications
- Accredited Auditors
- Training participation
- Complaints Mechanism processes

RJC Monitoring and Evaluation Program			
Monthly Indicators Report (MIR) – November 2011			
Contact: mir@responsiblejewellery.com			
The RJC Monthly Indicators Report (MIR) updates selected quantitative indicators each month to regularly inform Members and stakeholders on impacts and progress. For more information see the RJC Monitoring & Evaluation Plan www.responsiblejewellery.com/monitoring			
Indicator	Baseline	November 2011	Trend
Growth in RJC Membership	July 2005	302 Members	Average growth of 4.4% per month since July 2005.
Estimated Annual Sales of Commercial Members	January 2010	€27.5 Billion*	23% increase since January 2010*
Increase in RJC Certifications	September 2011	79 Certified Members	Average monthly growth of 38.5%
Accredited Auditors	July 2010	7 Accredited Auditing Firms 200 Accredited Auditors	Average growth of 13.8% per month since July 2010.
Training participation	October 2009	Members Materials delivered: 125 Total no. Participants: 648*	46% of RJC Members have one or more employees who have attended one or more training sessions since launch of webinar training.
Complaints Mechanism	September 2010	Auditors Audits delivered: 76 Total no. Participants: 60*	Auditor training is compulsory.
		0 complaints received	No data to report yet.

Click above to view update

Standards news: Top 10 Qs about the Chain-of-Custody Initiative

1. What is the Chain-of-Custody (CoC) Initiative?

The CoC initiative, which began in early 2010, involves the development of a standard and a process for independent third-party certification of chain-of-custody systems, as a complement to the RJC Member certification of responsible business practices. The proposed standard aims to enable businesses to demonstrate assurance for responsible, conflict-free supply chains for diamonds, gold and platinum group metals. The standard is based on the principle of segregation.

2. What is the current status of the CoC Initiative?

RJC initiated this work in the belief that chain-of-custody certification is a tool that can strengthen the integrity of the jewellery supply chain. The RJC initially planned to launch its Chain-of-Custody Standard for gold, platinum group metals and diamonds in 2012.

Some RJC Members in the diamond supply chain recently raised concerns regarding certain specific potential impediments for the implementation of the draft RJC CoC Standard in the diamond supply chain. As a result, the RJC Standards Committee has agreed to temporarily suspend the finalisation of the draft RJC CoC Standard as it applies to diamonds so as to undertake additional consultation with the diamond industry concerning the feasibility of the draft RJC CoC Standard.

This decision does not impact the upcoming completion and implementation of the CoC Standard for gold and platinum group metals. The RJC expects to issue the gold and platinum group metals-related CoC Standard in early in 2012 and the first certifications against the standard are expected in the second quarter of 2012. It is anticipated that this CoC Standard will assist companies in the gold jewellery supply chain meet the CoC requirements established by the United States' Dodd-Frank legislation regarding the avoidance of conflict gold.

A sub-committee of the RJC Standards Committee, consisting of Members from all sectors of the diamond jewellery supply chain, has been formed with the objective of consulting further with companies and trade associations in the diamond sector in an effort to resolve the concerns raised. The terms of reference, including the reporting timetable, for the sub-committee are currently being developed

and will be posted on the RJC website as soon as they have been completed and formally ratified by the RJC Standards Committee. This is expected to occur in February 2012.

The RJC expects to finalise the CoC Standard for diamonds once the sub-committee has completed its consultations and made its recommendations to the RJC Standards Committee.

3. How would certification work?

RJC Members may voluntarily choose to become CoC Certified, or have parts of their business become CoC Certified. RJC Membership is required in order to ensure CoC Material comes from responsible sources. Certification will require the entity seeking certification to be audited by accredited auditors to provide assurance that they comply with all of the applicable parts of the CoC Standard.

4. How would the Standard establish a chain-of-custody?

The Standard requires CoC Certified Entities to have internal control systems in place to reliably segregate CoC Materials from non-CoC Materials. CoC Certified Entities will be able to declare materials to be eligible for chain-of-custody, according to the criteria laid out in the Standard. These CoC Materials may then be transferred to other CoC Certified Entities to establish a chain-of-custody.

5. What sources would be eligible?

Eligible CoC Materials (diamonds, gold and platinum group metals) may be declared by CoC Certified Entities, and must come from responsible, conflict-free sources. The most important of these are mining facilities operated by RJC Members or under another recognised 'responsible mining standard', recycled sources following know-your-customer requirements, and grandfathered supplies held in inventories at the time of certification.

6. How would custody be maintained and transferred to other participants in the supply chain?

CoC Materials may be transferred to other CoC Certified Entities with CoC Transfer Documents, thereby establishing a chain-of-custody.

7. How could CoC Certification be used in product claims to consumers?

Claims could be made to consumers about CoC Material in jewellery products, though this is not required under the Standard. Any claims will have

to be described in written form and made available at the point of sale, and no information may be provided about CoC Material that is inconsistent with the CoC Transfer Documents applying to the CoC Material.

8. How does the initiative relate to the Dodd-Frank Act and the OECD Due Diligence Guidance?

The CoC Standard is designed to assist companies to comply with the requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act by using definitions for eligible material that reflect the proposed US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rules implementing the legislation, and requiring that these materials be segregated and documented as they are transferred through the supply chain. The advantage of CoC Certification is that an independently verified chain-of-custody for gold is established from the relevant starting points in the supply chain, thereby removing the requirement to conduct retrospective inquiries to determine origin. The Standard will also align with, and support implementation of, the OECD Due Diligence Guidance, in particular by providing a formal mechanism for the audits of gold refiners, as required under Step 4 of that Guidance. The RJC is working with other standards, such as that of the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA), the World Gold Council (WGC) and the Electronics Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC) to harmonise the respective initiatives where possible.

9. How does CoC relate to the Kimberley Process?

The CoC Standard sets additional requirements above the Kimberley Process Certification, including for responsible mining, a broader definition of conflict, and more rigorous assurance of segregation through the supply chain. CoC Certification may assist those who may be concerned about the governance of the Kimberley Process, and/or the narrower definition of conflict that it uses, which focuses on the funding of military forces opposed to internationally recognised governments.

10. Do sources, contractors or other types of business partners have to be disclosed?

No. Once Materials have been declared as Eligible Materials, they can be mixed with other CoC Materials and sold to other entities. There is no requirement for disclosure of where the Materials came from, nor is there any requirement for disclosure of contractors or other types of business partners.



iseal
alliance

ISEAL launched its draft Assurance Code and the consultation runs until 31 December.

UPCOMING RJC EVENTS

Monday, January 16th, 2012

Fiera di Vicenza, VICENZAORO Winter 2012

Conference Room: 'Sala Trissino'

11am-12pm RJC Press Conference

12pm-1pm RJC Roundtable on Chain of Custody Certification

We look forward to welcoming you !

**UN Global
Compact**

www.unglobalcompact.org



The Responsible Jewellery Council and its Management Team hope our Commercial Members' 4th Quarter sales exceed their expectations and we wish all our Members and stakeholders the very best for the Holiday Season and 2012

The RJC Monitor

The Responsible Jewellery Council is the trading name of the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd.

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