



Responsible Jewellery Council

NEWS RELEASE

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Responsible Jewellery Council announces SGS as Accredited Auditors

London - The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced SGS as the second auditing firm accredited by the RJC to carry out verifications of Members' business practices.

"I am delighted to welcome SGS as an accredited auditing company to the RJC System. The accreditation of SGS adds another highly regarded, international auditing company with considerable jewellery industry expertise and a global presence to serve the RJC's growing membership," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"With over 240 Members committed to independent third party audits under the RJC System, there is an undoubted demand for accredited auditors. RJC will announce the accreditation of additional auditing companies in coming weeks," says Michael Rae.

SGS is one of the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification companies. Recognized as a global benchmark for quality and integrity, SGS employs 59,000 people and operates a network of more than 1,000 offices and laboratories around the world. SGS is a UKAS accredited international provider to ISO/IEC 17021:2006 for providing audits and certifications of management systems.

The current structure of SGS, consisting of 10 business segments operating across 10 geographical regions, was formed in 2001. From its beginnings in 1878 as a grain inspection house, SGS has steadily grown into the role of one of the industry leaders.

"We are very proud to be accredited to the RJC System. High-performing business processes are at the heart of today's economy. The audit and certification services we can provide to RJC Members allow them to enhance their business processes. Through certification, they can deliver extra value, improve quality management and performance, minimize risk, and gain a real advantage over their competition," says Frankie Ng, Executive Vice President, Consumer Testing Services, SGS.

Information about RJC Accredited Auditors is available on the RJC website at <http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/auditors.html>

www.responsiblejewellery.com

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 240 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.

The Council has developed the RJC 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 System. A full list of its Members can be found on the web at www.responsiblejewellery.com

About SGS

SGS, headquartered in Geneva, is a leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. SGS is recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity. With more than 59,000 employees, SGS operates a network of over 1000 offices and laboratories worldwide. SGS is a UKAS accredited international provider to ISO/IEC 17021:2006 for providing audits and certifications of management systems. SGS holds accreditation to conduct a number of certifications including: SA8000 (SAAS Accreditation Program); ISO14001 (SGS UK Ltd Certification provided); OHSAS18001 (SGS UK Ltd Certification provided); World Wide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP); Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC); International Council of Toy Industries CARE Program (ICTI); Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI); Initiative Clause Sociale and Business Social Compliance Initiative. More information on www.sgs.com

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www.responsiblejewellery.com

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