



Responsible Jewellery Council

NEWS RELEASE

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LEADING ITALIAN TRADE ASSOCIATION FEDERORAFI JOINS THE RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced that the Italian association Confindustria Federorafi, the National Federation of Gold Jewellery, Silverware and Jewellery Manufacturers, has become a Member.

Joining other key national associations; Jewelers of America, the American Gem Society, the National Association of Goldsmiths, the British Jewellers Association, the international World Gold Council, the Union Française BJOP and the Danish Jewellers Association, Confindustria Federorafi adds the learning, perspective and prestige of the esteemed Italian jewellery industry to the RJC.

RJC Trade Association members play a key role in the awareness-building of RJC membership. Through their strong national ties, these associations can assist their members in developing models for auditing as well as offering guidance and advice in the steps toward RJC certification. The RJC Certification System is unmatched in any other industry for the quality and breadth of its scope and standards and the integrity and transparency of its developmental process.

“Italy is a recognized leader in the European and international jewellery industry for its manufacturing of classical and contemporary designs. We are delighted to welcome such a valuable organisation as Confindustria Federorafi, the first Italian trade association to join the Council. With its 800 Italian manufacturing companies, Confindustria Federorafi is the perfect organisation to help us reach out to large and small manufacturers wishing to demonstrate solid, responsible business practices,” says Michael Rae, the RJC’s Chief Executive Officer.

“We are proud to initiate support for the RJC’s certification system with our members. Italy is known as a world leader in gold jewelry production for its outstanding design and technical skills. Precious metals jewellery made in Italy amounts to 70% of European production. Each year in Italy 150 tonnes of fine gold, 1000 tonnes of silver and four tonnes of platinum are processed. There are over 10,000 companies operating in this sector, employing 40,000 people for production. We feel that the Responsible Jewellery Council can play a pivotal role in our country,” says Antonio Zucchi, President, Confindustria Federorafi.

“BULGARI, as member of Confindustria Federorafi, was very supportive of the decision to join the RJC and sees the strategic link between the two organizations as an important step for the future. We are an active member of RJC and we look forward to the synergy that the RJC and Confindustria

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Federorafi can generate,” says Luisa La Via, Senior Director, Corporate Training & Development, BULGARI.

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 230 member companies committed to promoting responsible ethical, human rights, social and environmental practices in a transparent and accountable manner throughout the industry from mine to retail. Their commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond and gold jewellery products.

The Council has developed the RJC System, a certification system – which will apply to all Members’ businesses that contribute to the diamond and gold 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.

Since 15 April the Responsible Jewellery Council has welcomed the following Members:

Interjewel U.S.A. Inc, JSN, Karp Impex NV, Saumil Diam LLC, Munic Gems LLC, N.Shah & Co. BVBA, Sunview, Alex Daniel Diamonds Limited, Girard-Perregaux, Joia, Jeanrichard, Priyanka Gems BVBA, Confindustria Federorafi, Beny Sofer Inc., the Gemological Science International (GSI), Shania SPRL and ACME Jewellery Ltd. A full list of its Members can be found on the web at

www.responsiblejewellery.com

About Confindustria Federorafi

Federorafi is a member of Confindustria (Organization representing Italian manufacturing and services companies) and E-JAG (European Jewellers’ Associations Group) and was one of the founding members of FIAMP (Italian Federation of Fashion and Personal Accessories Manufacturers). Federorafi is the most qualified interlocutor of Italian gold jewellery, jewellery and silverware manufacturers, as it not only competently and efficiently safeguards their rights and interests, but it also liaises with the vast network of companies on issues of a general, national and transnational nature. More information on www.federorafi.it

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