



## Responsible Jewellery Council

### NEWS RELEASE

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### Gemological Institute of America Joins the Responsible Jewellery Council

**LONDON** – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) today announced that the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), the world’s foremost gemological authority on diamonds, colored stones, and pearls, has joined the Council’s membership.

Building a responsible supply chain from mine to retail, the RJC includes more than 100 members, representing all sectors of the diamond and gold supply chain, trade associations and service providers. Council members must apply the RJC System by upholding the RJC Code of Practices and undergoing third-party auditing to become certified. This unique system builds on recognized international initiatives like the Kimberley Process and ISO standards, such as SA8000 and ISO 14001.

Michael Rae, RJC’s Chief Executive Officer, welcomed this new alliance with GIA and the many synergies for best practices it will facilitate. “GIA has established the international benchmark for grading laboratories and there is a fundamental logic for our organizations to leverage the strength of our standards and global approaches. We can now offer GIA the opportunity to certify its business practices against the RJC System,” he said.

Established in 1931, GIA is a nonprofit institute with its worldwide headquarters in Carlsbad, California. GIA’s mission is to ensure the public trust in gems and jewellery by upholding the highest standards of integrity, academics, science and professionalism through education, research, laboratory services, and instrument development.

“We are proud to be a member of RJC and look forward to working together to cultivate future generations of ethical business leaders,” said Donna Baker, President and Chief Executive Officer of GIA.

#### About RJC -

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation representing over 100 member companies across the gold and diamond jewellery supply chain.

RJC Members are 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.

[www.responsiblejewellery.com](http://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 System, a certification system – which will apply to all Members’ businesses that contribute to the diamond and gold jewellery supply chain. 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.

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The Responsible Jewellery Council and a full list of its Members can be found on the web at [www.responsiblejewellery.com](http://www.responsiblejewellery.com)

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GIA can be found on the web at [www.gia.edu](http://www.gia.edu). Media queries contact: Laura Simanton 760-603-4112 or Jessica Sachariason, 760-603-4197.

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