



Responsible Jewellery Council

NEWS RELEASE

1 March, 2011

RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL RELEASES CONSULTATION REPORT ON CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY CERTIFICATION

LONDON - The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) has released a report on its four-month consultation process on a draft standard for Chain-of-Custody Certification. The report is available on the RJC's website at:

http://www.responsiblejewellery.com/downloads/RJC_CommentsReport_CoC_Paper2_25Feb2011.pdf

The report analyses input from 25 written submissions to the RJC, and discussions with key stakeholders during roundtable sessions convened in January-February 2011. A total of 185 participants attended RJC's roundtables in Vicenza, Geneva, Paris, Antwerp, London, Birmingham, Washington DC and New York.

Interest in Chain-of-Custody has grown considerably as a result of the conflict minerals provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act that were passed by US Congress in 2010. Determining the origin of gold in the jewellery supply chain will be a strong focus for companies affected by the Dodd-Frank Act, under rules to be published by the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 15, 2011. The RJC aims to develop its Chain-of-Custody certification standard to support companies seeking to apply greater due diligence in the supply chain, whether for Dodd-Frank compliance or as part of a broader company strategy.

Over the next few months, the RJC will progress the key points identified in the report during discussion and consensus-building for the next stages of standards development. A 3rd discussion paper will be drafted by RJC for public comment by mid-2011. This will include a revised draft CoC standard for public consultation, and a summary of how the issues raised in the report have been addressed.

The RJC warmly thanks all who contributed their perspectives in roundtables and submissions. Comments and feedback from all stakeholders on this initiative continues to be welcome, and the RJC looks forward to ongoing engagement.

www.responsiblejewellery.com

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 260 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 metals jewellery products. The Council has developed the RJC Member Certification System, a certification system – which will apply to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond, gold and platinum 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 Member Certification System. A full list of its Members can be found on the web at www.responsiblejewellery.com

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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.
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