



NEWS RELEASE

Under embargo until Friday 22 February 2019

BV SCHMUCK & UHREN BECOMES FIRST GERMAN TRADE ASSOCIATION TO JOIN RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

Munich, Germany: 22 February 2019 – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC), the standards setting and certification organisation for the entire jewellery supply chain, today has announced that BV Schmuck & Uhren has become the first German jewellery trade association to be members of the RJC.

Announced at INHORGENTA MUNICH, one of Europe's largest jewellery industry events, the organisation pledged to meet the RJC's standards and, by joining as a Trade Association member, will act as a conduit to its members and the German jewellery industry to promote and encourage implementation of RJC membership and certification.

The RJC, which has more than 1,100 members globally, including 14 other trade associations in Europe, North America, the Middle East and Southeast Asia, has been keen to work with a renowned German jewellery industry association in a bid to further embed the importance and relevancy of RJC certification in one of Europe's key jewellery markets.

The announcement signals another step forward in RJC's mission for a more responsible and sustainable worldwide jewellery supply chain.

Guido Grohmann, Managing Director at BV Schmuck & Uhren, said "We are delighted to become a member of the RJC. Many organisations we work with have already been certified and our goal for the future is to promote RJC's Code of Practices to better support our members."

Edward Johnson, Director, Business Development at RJC, said "We're delighted to announce BV Schmuck & Uhren as a Trade Association member – a move which marks another significant step forward in RJC's tireless efforts in working with the jewellery industry to promote responsible business practices.

"BV Schmuck & Uhren becomes the first German association to join RJC and through doing so demonstrates its commitment to a responsible supply chain for its members and the wider German industry. We believe working closely together will help us promote the many benefits responsible business practices provide to businesses in the supply chain - from mine to retail - in Germany and beyond."

www.responsiblejewellery.com

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 1,100 member companies that span the jewellery supply chain from mine to retail. RJC Members commit to and are independently audited against the RJC Code of Practices – an international standard on responsible business practices for diamonds, gold and platinum group metals. The Code of Practices addresses human rights, labour rights, environmental impact, mining practices, product disclosure and many more important topics in the jewellery supply chain. RJC also works with multi-stakeholder initiatives on responsible sourcing and supply chain due diligence. The RJC's Chain-of-Custody Certification for precious metals supports these initiatives and can be used as a tool to deliver broader Member and stakeholder benefit.

The RJC is a <u>Full Member of the ISEAL Alliance</u> – the global association for sustainability standards. For more information on RJC Members, Certification, and Standards please visit <u>www.responsiblejewellery.com</u>

About BV Schmuck & Uhren

The German Association of Jewellery, Watches, Clocks & Supplying Industry (BV Schmuck & Uhren) was founded in Pforzheim in 1947. As a lobby group for over 170 predominantly medium-sized member companies, BVSU represents the interests of its members at a national, European and international level. BVSU is a member of the Federation of German Industries (BDI). It is responsible for coordinating the Federal Associations of the German Jewellery and Silverware Industry. In this capacity it is also integrated in global efforts of the World Jewellery Confederation, CIBJO. BVSU represents the interests of the German watch and clock industry at a European level as a member of the European watchmaking associations EUROTempus and CPHE. BV Schmuck and Uhren is a member of the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC). For more information please visit https://bv-schmuck-uhren.de.