



NEWS RELEASE

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RJC HOSTS ITS 2017 AGM IN GERMANY AND ELECTS ITS NEW VICE-CHAIR

PFORZHEIM, GERMANY – On Thursday 11 May 2017 RJC, the global standards-setting and certification organisation for the entire jewellery supply chain, held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Pforzheim, Germany. The event was hosted by RJC certified member, C. Hafner GmbH + Co. KG and German trade association, BV Schmuck + Uhren. During the meeting the RJC membership elected Mr Didier Theraulaz (Piaget) as its new Vice-chairman of the Board and re-elected Ms. Ferial Zerouki (De Beers Group) as Honorary Treasurer.

RJC members also elected to the Board Peter Karakchiev (Public Joint Stock Company ALROSA), Stephen Lussier (De Beers Group), Alok Kumbhat (Jewelex India Pvt Ltd, Diamond division), Philipp Reisert (C. Hafner GmbH + Co. KG), Larry Drummond (Metalor Technologies SA), Thomas Puzone (Vacheron Constantin), Mark Hanna (Richline Group, Inc.), Eric de Rocquigny (Van Cleef & Arpels), Boaz Lev (Gem Lab Services), Marijke Achten (HRD Antwerp) and Michaël Geelhand de Merxemn (Antwerp World Diamond Centre) representing their respective fora.

"As my first RJC AGM as Chair of the organisation, I'd like to thank my predecessor Charles Chaussepied for his guidance and support as we come together to explore and discuss the next challenges and opportunities of RJC's future in Pforzheim, Germany. As we move into our next decade coming together in this space is a way to synergise our efforts and ensure we move forward together, united," says Wilfried Hoerner, Chairman of the RJC Board of Directors.

RJC Executive Director Andrew Bone added, "Pforzheim is the heart of the watch and jewellery manufacturing industry in Germany, and RJC is at the heart of the entire jewellery supply chain. We are very happy to host our AGM and conference here in Pforzheim, and thank our hosts for their hospitality."

Following the AGM, RJC hosted an open discussion with a selection of panelists from the jewellery pipeline. The panel discussion focused on the new EU Regulation on Conflict Minerals with panelists sharing insight into what the regulation and implementation of increased due diligence will mean to the RJC and its members. The panel included representatives from Sparkasse Pforzheim Calw (the first bank to achieve RJC certification), C. Hafner GmbH + Co. KG (a COP and CoC certified refiner based in Germany) and Union Française de la BJOP (the French trade association).

The RJC also launched its 2017 Annual Progress Report at the event. The Report echoes the RJC's 2016 successes and accomplishments, further demonstrating its continuing achievements across membership

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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, 9 Whitehall, First Floor Front, SW1A 2DD, London, UK.
The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042.

growth, certification and standards development. The Report is now available in hard copy from the RJC Office in London and a [digital copy is available on the RJC website](#).

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 1,000 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 [Full Member of the ISEAL Alliance](#) – the global association for sustainability standards. For more information on RJC Members, Certification, and Standards please visit www.responsiblejewellery.com

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