

NEWS RELEASE

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BAUME & MERCIER - RE-CERTIFIED AGAINST NEW RJC CODE OF PRACTICES

LONDON - RJC announced today that Baume & Mercier has achieved Re-Certification against the 2013 Code of Practices (COP), demonstrating their company's commitment and contribution to a responsible global jewellery supply chain. They are the first Swiss watch manufacturer to be certified against the RJC's new standard.

"RJC congratulates Baume & Mercier on achieving Re-Certification. After a Member has become RJC Certified for the first time, independent verification is required at the end of each certification period to ensure continued conformance and to maintain Certified Member status. The 2013 COP includes new provisions that address important issues for RJC Members and their supply chains," says Catherine Sproule, RJC's Chief Operations Officer.

The independent third party audit was conducted by Michel Mooser from SGS, one of the qualified auditing firms accredited by the RJC.

"As a luxury brand whose fundamental identity revolves around values of authenticity and accessibility, Baume & Mercier's core emotional qualities are based on cherishing life's most important moments and memories. We are therefore very proud to have renewed our RJC Certification for a further period of three years. We feel that this achievement underlines how the practice of high ethical standards is an essential aspect of Baume & Mercier's corporate identity. We take pride in our responsible business practices, rooted in social responsibility and the ethical use of natural resources and, as such, bring our continued support to the RJC in their endeavours in this field," says Alain Zimmermann, CEO, Baume & Mercier.

For further information please contact:

Madalina Grigorie, Communications Coordinator, Responsible Jewellery Council Telephone + 44 (0)20 7836 6376, <u>madalina.grigorie@responsiblejewellery.com</u>

About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 500 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>

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About Baume & Mercier

Baume & Mercier's story begins in 1830 in the Jura Mountains and reads like a true saga. From generation to generation, from family links to friendship ties, from refined complications to visionary innovations, the family dream continues to be fulfilled and our watches continue to embody the ideal of excellence and affordable luxury we have expressed for over 180 years.

Over its history, Baume & Mercier has distinguished itself at national exhibitions and world fairs, also setting accuracy records in timekeeping competitions, particularly the timing trials run by Kew Observatory near London. In 1919, Baume & Mercier movements were awarded the "Poinçon de Genève" or Geneva Hallmark, the highest token of fine craftsmanship in watchmaking.

Building on prestige and legitimacy steadily acquired over decades, Baume & Mercier continues to make its mark on watchmaking while remaining in close touch with the public that has made it so successful. In an era of changing values, a Baume & Mercier watch is a memory-keeper of life's most cherished moments: weddings, births, anniversaries and birthdays, graduations and family reunions, expressed in our dictum "Life is about moments".

RJC Certification Information – Baume & Mercier

RJC Certified Members

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, 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.