

NEWS RELEASE

Embargoed until 2 August, 2012

RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL CERTIFIES UK HISTORIC ORIGINALS

LONDON - The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) announced today that Historic Originals, the company behind the "Hot Diamonds" retail brand of diamond and sterling silver jewellery, based in Reading, UK, has achieved certification by meeting the highest ethical, social and environmental standards established by the RJC's Member Certification system.

"RJC warmly congratulates Historic Originals on its certification. The successful verification assessment was conducted by Peter Warbrick from SGS, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited to the RJC's Member Certification system," says Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer.

"At Historic Originals, ethical, social and environmental standards are always high on the agenda, and we strive to maintain an excellent performance in relation to these important matters. Consequently, we are thrilled to achieve this certification, and we will work tirelessly to retain our standards over the coming months and years," says Adryan Cresswell, Head of Commerce, Historic Originals and HD Group.

For further information please contact:

Mila Bonini, Communications Manager, Responsible Jewellery Council Telephone +39 02 48002801, Mobile +39 334 5488723, Mila.bonini@responsiblejewellery.com

About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation bringing together more than 370 member companies. RJC and its Members are 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. This commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery products. The RJC has developed the RJC Member Certification system which applies to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond, gold and platinum metals jewellery supply chain. All Certified Members of the RJC are audited by accredited, third party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices. A voluntary Chain-of-Custody Standard has also been developed for gold and platinum group metals. 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

About Historic Originals

In February 2001, Historic Originals, a groundbreaking collection of sterling silver and diamond jewellery, launched into the UK market. It was an overnight success, and rapidly established itself as one of the UK's most desired jewellery brands. Historic Originals' headquarters in Reading, UK, have been certified by the Responsible Jewellery Council. In 2002, Historic Originals ventured into the global arena and since then its international business has grown exponentially with additional sales from airline and duty free channels. Historic Originals currently has sales in over 40 countries worldwide through an established network of distributors, retail partners and prestigious airlines. Historic Originals is also available throughout the UK in major department stores such as Debenhams and John Lewis and major high street jewellers such as H Samuel and Ernest Jones. For further information please visit www.hotdiamonds.co.uk

www.responsiblejewellery.com

RJC Certification Information – Historic Originals **RJC Certified Members**