



Responsible Jewellery Council

NEWS RELEASE

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International Gemological Institute Joins the Responsible Jewellery Council

LONDON – The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) announced today that the International Gemological Institute (IGI), well known as a leading authority on diamonds, coloured stones, and pearls, has joined the Council's membership.

Building a responsible supply chain from mine to retail, the RJC includes more than 130 members, representing all sectors of the diamond and gold supply chain, trade associations and service providers. Council members must apply the RJC System by upholding the RJC Code of Practices and undergoing third-party auditing to become certified. This unique system builds on recognized international initiatives like the Kimberley Process and ISO standards, such as SA8000 and ISO 14001.

Michael Rae, RJC's Chief Executive Officer, welcomed the Institute's new membership by saying IGI has established a worldwide reputation in the diamond grading and gem and jewellery appraisal professions, and through its School of Gemology. "We see a natural synergy here between our organisations to build the best practice model for the diamond and gold jewellery supply chain. We are pleased to offer IGI a way to provide consumers further assurance of the maximum quality of services available."

"We are proud to be a member of RJC and look forward to working together to ensure the responsible and ethical advancement of the industry and collaborating on the development of RJC's education initiatives and appraisal guidelines," stated Jerry Ehrenwald, President and CEO of IGI. "We feel the Council's Code of Practices aligns with IGI's principles, values and mission to provide consumers with accurate and reliable product information."

Since 1975, IGI reports have proven to be one of the most internationally recognized evaluations for gemstones and fine jewellery. At IGI, hundreds of scientific technicians and gemologists examine stones and jewellery items each year in units of tens of thousands. IGI has established bases of operations in 15 vital industry locations throughout the world.

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, First Floor, Dudley House, 34-38 Southampton Street, London, UK, WC2E 7HF.
The Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices Ltd is registered in England and Wales with company number 05449042.

About RJC –

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit organisation representing over 130 member companies across the gold and diamond jewellery supply chain.

RJC Members are committed to promoting responsible ethical, human rights, social and environmental practices in a transparent and accountable manner throughout the industry from mine to retail. Their commitment aims to reinforce consumer and stakeholder confidence in diamond and gold jewellery products.

The Council has developed the RJC System, a certification system – which will apply to all Members' businesses that contribute to the diamond and gold jewellery supply chain. Under the RJC system, all Commercial Members of the RJC will be required to be audited by accredited, third party auditors to verify their conformance with the RJC's Code of Practices.

About IGI –

The International Gemological Institute, the world's largest independent laboratory for testing and evaluating gemstones and fine jewelry, was established in 1975 in Antwerp and is located in New York City, Los Angeles, Toronto, Hong Kong, Mumbai, the Seepz Zone, Kolkata, New Delhi, Dubai, Bangkok, Tokyo, Tel Aviv, Thrissur and the Dominican Republic. IGI is an ISO accredited worldwide organization.

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RJC and a full list of its Members can be found on the web at www.responsiblejewellery.com
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IGI can be found on the web at www.igionline.com or www.igiworldwide.com - For Media queries please contact Lauren Childs, lchilds@fww-us.com, +1 919 277 1160.

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