

NEWS RELEASE

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RIC CERTIFIES AUGUST GERSTNER RINGFABRIK GMBH & CO.KG

LONDON - RJC announced today that August Gerstner Ringfabrik GmbH & Co. KG has achieved Certification against the 2013 Code of Practices (COP) at its manufacturing facility in Pforzheim, Germany.

"It is a pleasure to announce August Gerstner Ringfabrik GmbH & Co. KG has been certified against the 2013 COP. The provisions under the 2013 COP address important issues for our Members and their supply chain. We are delighted to see Members achieving Certification against the standard and warmly congratulate August Gerstner Ringfabrik GmbH & Co. KG," says Andrew Bone, RJC's Executive Director.

The successful verification assessment was led by Katja Wilde from SGS United Kingdom Limited, one of the independent third-party auditing firms accredited by the RJC.

"August Gerstner is proud to have achieved RJC Certification. We commit to integrating ethical, human rights, social and environmental business practices into our day-to-day operations, business planning activities and processes. Wearing beautiful and precious jewellery is a privilege we are allowed to enjoy. We do not want this to happen at the expense of others. Our slogan "The Ring for Life" will be completed under this new certification," says Ines Vuillermin, CEO of August Gerstner Ringfabrik GmbH & Co. KG.

For further information please contact:

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About RJC

The Responsible Jewellery Council is an international not-for-profit standards and certification organisation. It has more than 800 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 August Gerstner Ringfabrik GmbH & Co. KG

August Gerstner Ringfabrik GmbH & Co. KG is a family-run wedding ring manufacturer founded in 1862. Since 1907, we're producing our wedding bands in our beautiful historic residence in Pforzheim, Germany. With unique experience, great care and a lot of passion, each of our approx. 120 employees contributes to the successful manufacture of each ring and ring pair.

In this tradition, we are not only one of the oldest, but one of the leading global wedding ring producers. Continuously managed by family members, the headquarters and production are still in the same location in Pforzheim, the city of gold and jewellery. With pride and commitment, the company management and employees feel compelled to maintain the high values of traditional goldsmith craftsmanship.

For more details: www.gerstner-trauringe.de

RJC Certification Information – August Gerstner Ringfabrik GmbH & Co. KG

RJC Certified Members