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PRESS RELEASE

BVSU translations of RJC standards become official RJC documents

The translations of the Responsible Jewellery Council standards "Code of Practices" (COP) and "Chain-of-Custody" (CoC) prepared by the German Association of the Jewellery and Watch Industry will be adopted by the RJC.

Pforzheim, 14 December 2020. In the summer of 2020, the **German Association of Jewellery, Watches, Clocks & Supplying Industry (BVSU)** presented German translations of the "**Code of Practices**" (COP) and "**Chain-of-Custody**" (CoC) standards of the **Resposible Jewellery Council (RJC)**. As of today, they have been accepted as official translations by the RJC and are now available for download on the RJC website.

The Responsible Jewellery Council is a non-profit standards-setting and certification organization founded in 2005. It strives for a responsible, world-wide supply chain that promotes trust in the global jewellery and watch industry. To this end, RJC defines two different standards according to which members can be aligned and certified. The Code of Practices defines responsible, ethical, human rights, social and environmental practices that span the jewellery and watch supply chain from mine to retail. All certified RJC members must comply with the Code of Practice.

In addition, the so-called "chain-of-custody" certification defines an approach for companies to handle and trade gold, silver and platinum group metals in a way that is fully traceable and responsibly sourced. A chain-of-custody is thus a documented sequence of custody of material as it moves along the supply chain. It defines how precious metals are responsibly produced, processed and traded through jewellery supply chains. Chain of Custody certification is voluntary and complements certification under the Code of Practices.

BVSU Chief Executive Dr Guido Grohmann explains: "BVSU has been a member of the Responsible Jewellery Council since 2019. Our main goal besides promoting the RJC Code of Practices is to be able to better support our members in certifications and re-certifications. We will certainly be able to focus even better on both points with the now official translations. In a next step, we will support the RJC in translating other important documents into German."

German Association of Jewellery, Watches, Clocks & Supplying Industry 14 December 2020

The German Association of Jewellery, Watches, Clocks & Supplying Industry (BVSU) was founded in Pforzheim in 1947. As a lobby group for over 170 predominantly medium-sized member companies, BVSU represents the interests of its members at a national, European and international level. BVSU is a member of the Federation of German Industries (BDI). It is responsible for coordinating the federal associations of the German jewellery and silverware industry. In this capacity it is also integrated in global efforts of the World Jewellery Confederation, CIBJO. BVSU represents the interests of the German watch and clock industry at a European level as a member of the European watchmaking associations EUROTempus and CPHE. BV Schmuck and Uhren is a member of the Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC).