



JEWELERS OF AMERICA

RESPONSIBLE GOLD STATEMENT

Jewelers of America members expect their business partners to adhere to socially and environmentally responsible business practices.

Members take the impact of the gold jewelry supply chain seriously and believe that gold should be extracted and processed in a manner that respects the needs of people and the earth.

We believe a commitment to responsible gold must include our suppliers, to ensure that responsible practices are addressed at every point in the supply chain. Without the engagement of all segments of our industry, retailers' individual pledges to source responsibly will not be effective.

Jewelers of America was a founding member and participates in several collaborative efforts that are working to promote responsible sourcing, including in the gold sector, specifically the Responsible Jewellery Council and the Madison Dialogue.

RESPONSIBLE JEWELLERY COUNCIL

The Responsible Jewellery Council (RJC) has created a worldwide diamond and gold jewelry supply chain system for companies in all sectors, from mining through to retail. RJC published its core system documents in 2008, which include a requirement that members have independent auditors undertake third-party verification of their responsible practices, as defined by the RJC Code of Practices. RJC plans to introduce a Mining Supplement to its system in 2009. After comprehensive stakeholder consultation, the Mining Supplement will outline the major ethical, social, human rights and environmental practices to which RJC mining members must adhere. Jewelers of America represents the viewpoint of our 11,000 member stores within RJC, and many of our retail members also belong as individual companies to RJC.

MADISON DIALOGUE

The Madison Dialogue is a cross sector initiative established to promote communication and information sharing among companies, civil society groups and others seeking to encourage best practices, sustainable economic development and verified sources of responsible gold, diamonds and other minerals. The Madison Dialogue supports working groups that are meeting in a number of areas, such as precious metals mining (including artisanal/small scale mining), manufacturing and recycling, in order to support systems of credible principles, standards and assurance/certification systems.

- For information on the Responsible Jewellery Council, visit www.responsiblejewellery.com.
- For information on the Madison Dialogue, visit www.madisondialogue.org.
- For more detailed information about the various factors involved in responsible gold mining, please go to www.trustingold.com and responsiblegold.org.