



Signet Responsible Sourcing Protocol (SRSP)

Signet and Membership of the Responsible Jewellery Council (“RJC”)

Effective: Calendar Year 2020

General Principles

Signet is a founding and certified member of the Responsible Jewellery Council (“RJC”), which is the global standard for responsible practices in the jewelry industry. Companies certified under the RJC’s Code of Practices are demonstrating their commitment to the reputation of the jewelry industry, which is fundamental to maintaining consumer confidence.

As a result, and aligned with Signet’s dedication to the continuous improvement in the integrity of global jewelry supply chain, Signet has made RJC membership and certification a requirement for all suppliers. Suppliers which achieve RJC certification with the SRSP as a “Provenance Claim” for each relevant mineral are not required to be audited separately by Signet, unless there are special reasons or identified risks which may cause Signet to require an additional audit.

RJC Certification – Coverage

- RJC membership should cover all the entities under the control, influence or common ownership of the supplier which are involved in Signet’s supply chain (for example, factories in India, China, Thailand etc. as well as US sales offices), not only the company

which directly supplies products to Signet, in accordance with the Application Scope of the SRSP in Section 2e.

- Acquisitions by any supplier should be added to any exiting RJC membership scope within 12 months of the acquisition.
- The RJC allows a period of two years for a member to be audited and certified, measured from the date a company joins.
 - The RJC may allow extensions of time in the event of extenuating circumstances, but if a member fails to be audited within the allocated time frame, their status will change to non-member and their details will be removed from the RJC website.
 - The company must then wait twelve months before applying to re-join.
 - Signet suppliers must achieve certification within two years of membership; any proposed extensions must be notified to and agreed by Signet's Responsible Sourcing team (info@signetsrsp.com).

RJC Certification and Provenance Claims

- The RJC's Code of Practices includes a voluntary option for members to make claims about the provenance of materials (source, origin or practices used when sourcing), to have these audited as part of their RJC Code of Practices certification audit. Such "Provenance Claims" can serve to assure customers that the materials are sourced responsibly and specifically explain how, such as being recycled, or conflict-free.
- Signet strongly recommends that suppliers add compliance with the SRSP for the relevant materials (gold, natural diamonds, platinum, silver and/or colored stones etc.) as a "Provenance Claim" in their RJC certification.
 - The Provenance Claim must refer specifically to the SRSP for each of the relevant minerals (e.g. "[Company Name] sources gold in compliance with the Signet Responsible Sourcing Protocol): suppliers are free to add additional Provenance Claims in addition to SRSP compliance if they wish.
- RJC certification with the Signet Responsible Sourcing Protocol ("SRSP") for each mineral as "Provenance Claims" gives Signet independent assurances about the responsible practices of each supplier company as well as confidence regarding responsible sourcing through each supplier's supply chain, which is an important component of Signet's supply chain due diligence and risk assessment.
- Suppliers which achieve this level of certification are not required to be audited separately by Signet, for the SRSP and also for other factory/social audits, for as long as the certification is valid (normally 3 years).
 - Suppliers must inform Signet of any significant changes in the scope of RJC membership, lapses or failure to achieve RJC certification.

- Any supplier which cannot provide RJC certification with a Provenance Claim may be subject to an audit of their SRSP Compliance Report and/or their factory/social practices by an independent third party audit firm, based on a risk assessment conducted by Signet. Signet suppliers are responsible for the expense of an audit.

