



DMCC welcomes MoU signing between STARGEMS DMCC and HRD Antwerp to establish diamond jewellery grading lab in Almas Tower

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HRD Antwerp, a European leading authority in diamond certification, has entered a partnership with Dubai-based jewellery retailer Stargems to certify their entire jewellery inventory through the establishment of a diamond jewellery grading lab. This cooperation will ultimately ensure the transparency and authenticity of each jewellery piece.

As a result of the collaboration, HRD Antwerp will open its first diamond jewellery grading lab in the Middle East, located inside Turkish Trade Center (TTC) in Almas Tower in the DMCC Free Zone. HRD Antwerp's laboratories use the most sophisticated technology and rely on the extensive expertise of their in-house research department to certify diamonds. With this new partnership, HRD Antwerp aspires to expand its presence in the Middle East by targeting some of the largest and most promising diamond markets.

Shailesh Javeri, Chairman Stargems Group commented: *"Within the diamond industry, trust is key. As a retailer, we want our customers to have confidence in our products. By certifying our entire inventory with the highly reputable HRD Antwerp brand, our customers can be assured about the authenticity and quality of our jewellery."*

For his part, **HRD Antwerp's CEO, Michel Janssens** explained *"We are delighted to be setting up our first diamond jewellery grading lab in the Middle East. Transparency and authenticity form the bedrock of our work and we want to make sure that Stargems' clients purchase their jewellery with full confidence and peace of mind. We look forward to beginning our partnership and introducing a new standard to the industry."*

Both Antwerp and Dubai are global leaders in the diamond trade and this partnership will undoubtedly contribute to further strengthening the ties between the two diamond hubs. It will also have a positive impact on the industry as whole, boosting trust and confidence of consumers.

Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Executive Chairman, DMCC, commented: *"We are thrilled to be welcoming HRD Antwerp to both Dubai and the DMCC community. We fully support this collaboration, which we believe will have a positive impact on the industry as a whole. We at*

DMCC are fully committed to the highest standards of quality, authenticity and transparency and this is exactly the type of partnership that reinforces these values."

About DMCC

Headquartered in Dubai, DMCC is the world's most interconnected Free Zone, and the leading trade and enterprise hub for commodities. Whether developing vibrant neighbourhoods with world-class property like Jumeirah Lakes Towers and the much anticipated Uptown Dubai, or delivering high performance business services, DMCC provides everything its dynamic community needs to live, work and thrive. Made for Trade, DMCC is proud to sustain and grow Dubai's position as the place to be for global trade today and long into the future.

www.dmcc.ae

About Stargems

Stargems Group is an international diamond company that specialises in the sourcing and supply of the finest Diamonds to customers across the world. With a legacy of over 35 years in the diamond industry, Stargems now holds prominence in manufacturing, wholesaling, retailing and tendering of diamonds and diamond jewellery. With offices in Antwerp, Dubai, Hong Kong, Johannesburg and Mumbai, Stargems today is a one stop shop for everything to do with diamonds.

www.stargemsgroup.com

About HRD Antwerp

HRD Antwerp is Europe's leading authority in diamond certification. An HRD Antwerp grading report represents the hallmark of authentic European quality and provides consumers with confidence and peace of mind when purchasing diamonds or jewellery. Our diamond laboratories in Antwerp (HQ), Mumbai and Istanbul use the most sophisticated technology and rely on the extensive expertise of our in-house research department. HRD Antwerp also develops and commercializes screening, examination and manufacturing equipment for the benefit of the diamond industry and trade around the globe. Likewise, we organize international courses in various industry disciplines, create tailor-made programmes and offer individual coaching. Next to its diamond labs, HRD Antwerp also has representative offices in Spain, Italy, Israel, Dubai, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Surat. For more information about our grading services, equipment and education department please visit www.hrdantwerp.com.