



WFDB and DTC United On Ethical Responsibility

LONDON/ANTWERP, JUNE 11, 2006: A delegation comprising the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) and the management of the Diamond Trading Company (DTC) met for their annual meeting at DTC headquarters in late May. Their discussions, which were comprehensive and positive, covered a range of important industry-wide issues, notably on the need for ethical accountability within the industry, which is a topic of growing importance across the globe and in all industry sectors.

The DTC stated its commitment to maintain its support for non-Sightholders through allocations of rough diamonds to Diamdel. The company also promised to continue its programme of presentations in cutting centres that it began in 2005. The WFDB stated that these presentations, which are designed for non-Sightholders to communicate the DTC's view on industry challenges and its on-going strategy, have been well received.

The DTC agreed to enter into further discussions with the WFDB to examine how they could ensure that there is gemological detection equipment in all the 25 WFDB-affiliated diamond bourses around the world, for the use of bourse members.

The WFDB presented its plans to introduce the 'WFDB Mark,' which will enable individual WFDB bourse members to provide assurance that they operate ethically and responsibly in business dealings, and therefore promote consumer confidence through transparency. DTC offered its support and stated that it welcomed any initiative that increased awareness of the need to make the industry transparent and accountable on ethical issues.

Shmuel Schnitzer, president of the WFDB, headed the WFDB Executive Committee delegation and, as this was his last meeting with the DTC as president of the WFDB, he was presented with a gift as a token of the DTC's appreciation for his outstanding leadership.

The WFDB and the DTC also discussed the current market environment. The DTC repeated its view that industry fundamentals remained good both from a demand and supply perspective, although the WFDB expressed its concern regarding the current market situation.

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CONTACT:

Louise Prior
DTC Corporate Communications
louise.prior@dtc.com
+44 207 430 3779

Michael Vaughan
Secretary General, WFDB
info@worldfed.com
+32-3-234-9121

Lynette Hori
DTC Media Relations
Lynette.hori@dtc.com
+44-20-7430-3509

Ya'akov Almor
almor@mdirect-business.com
Tel: +972-52-352-2685

Notes to Editors

THE DIAMOND TRADING COMPANY (DTC)

The DTC is the sales and marketing arm of the De Beers Group and is the world's largest supplier of rough diamonds, handling approximately half of the world's supply by value. With activities in sorting and valuing, sales and marketing, the DTC has representative offices in many countries including the UK, South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Japan, Hong Kong, Italy, Dubai and India.

Formed in 1934, the DTC was incorporated in 1986 and established as a stand alone company within the De Beers Group in July 2004. Through its sales and marketing strategy, Supplier of Choice, the company is focused on growing consumer demand for diamond jewellery and maintaining consumer confidence in the integrity of diamonds. 'A Diamond is Forever' has been at the heart of its marketing strategy since 1947.

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DIAMOND BOURSES (WFDB)

The World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB), which was established in 1947, represents 25 Diamond Bourses in 17 countries throughout the world, with approximately 15,000 individual members. It acts as a guardian of the diamond trade, by formulating standards of ethical conduct, which it is able to self regulate through the bourses' judicial system.

Amongst its aims are:

- Promoting the trade in diamonds through the formulation of fair, ethical and transparent business practices;
- Supporting and underpinning consumer confidence in the integrity of the natural diamond;
- Representing the global interests of its members

Further information available at www.worldfed.com.