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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW STANDARD FOR RESPONSIBLY SOURCED PRECIOUS METALS NOW OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Standard Guides Jewelers, Metal Refiners, Retailers Toward Sustainable Practices

May 26, 2011 - Emeryville, CA – Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) has announced a 60-day public comment period for its new Responsible Recycled Source (RRS) Standard. SCS developed the standard to provide jewelers, metal refiners and retailers with a rigorous third-party certification program for responsibly sourced jewelry.



The extraction, refining, manufacturing and distribution of precious metals is associated with a number of well-publicized environmental, social, ethical and political problems. The RRS Standard addresses environmental and social performance practices within the precious metals industry.

Specifically, it provides criteria for recycling facilities, metal refineries and jewelry manufacturing plants related to safe and fair working conditions, procurement strategies that exclude corrupt or unethical business partners, and implementation of environmental management systems. It also outlines a methodology for tracking materials throughout the supply chain to ensure compliance. Companies certified to the standard will be required to demonstrate measurable and continual reduction of their environmental impacts.

Certification will be granted only after successful completion of an audit of a company's facility by an experienced SCS team. Annual audits will be performed to guarantee continued conformance with the standard.

SCS drew upon extensive experience in social responsibility certification, life cycle assessment, recycled content certification and chain-of-custody certification in the development of the standard. The standard incorporates ILO conventions, U.S. federal regulations, ISO Standards and Guidelines, and life cycle methods.

The RRS Standard has been posted for public comment on the SCS website at http://www.scscertified.com/standards_review.php

Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) has been providing global leadership in [third-party sustainability](#) and environmental certification, auditing, testing and standards development for more than 25 years. SCS programs span a wide range of industries including green building, product manufacturing, food and agriculture, forestry, retailing and more.

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