

Press Release

First Rough Diamond Trade Event Great Success

Antwerp, 6 November 2014 – The first trade event for rough diamonds is a great success. About 40 diamond companies traded approximately 100,000 carats of rough diamonds. "The trade event is a phenomenal success," says organizing chairman of the Antwerpsche Diamantkring, Freddy Inzlicht. "Since this morning, we have been overwhelmed by hundreds of interested diamond dealers."

Antwerp is the only diamond trading center in the world with four bourses where diamonds can be traded. Today, one of these bourses, the 'Antwerpsche Diamantkring', is organizing 'Rough Diamond Day'; the first rough diamond trade event. The Antwerpsche Diamantkring is the only bourse in the world that represents the rough diamond trade. Other bourses trade both rough and polished diamonds.

Both small and large diamond companies and rough diamond brokers attended the event.

AWDC, short for Antwerp World Diamond Centre, is an industry-established foundation, whose mission is to serve and support the diamond business in Antwerp, the world's most important diamond trade hub. AWDC is the coordinating body and the official representative of the Antwerp diamond sector, and as such is recognized internationally as the host, spokesperson and intermediary for the Belgian diamond community. In this capacity, AWDC liases on behalf of the Belgian diamond sector with governments and actively promotes support for the diamond sector at home and abroad.

84% of all rough diamonds and 50% of all polished diamonds pass through Antwerp. Diamonds represent 5% of the total Belgian exports and 15% of all the Belgian exports outside the EU, making diamonds the most important export product outside the EU.

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