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Two of world's largest diamond manufacturing and trading companies to participate at Panama Gem & Jewelry Center launch event

PANAMA: FEBRUARY 24, 2014 – Representatives of two of the world's five largest diamond manufacturing and trading companies, Rosy Blue and Eurostar Diamond Traders, have confirmed that they will attend the launch of the Panama Gem & Jewelry Center on March 17 and 18. They will be joining other companies from around the world at a special networking session that will bring together international suppliers and buyers with representatives of the diamond, gemstone and jewelry companies from Latin America.

Recognized as the world's largest diamond manufacturing company, Antwerp-headquartered Rosy Blue employs about 6,000 people worldwide, operating cutting plants and trading offices in 14 different countries. Operating at the rough procurement, rough trading, polished manufacturing, polished trading and jewelry stages of the diamond pipeline, Rosy Blue is also one of the largest clients of De Beers, the world's leading rough diamond producer.

As a leading diamond company with sales in excess of \$1 billion, Eurostar Diamond Traders produces about 2.5 million carats of diamonds annually, and employs about 5,000 people. Established in Antwerp 1978 by diamond manufacturers from India, the company operates offices in seven international centers and factories in China and Botswana.

The two-day launch event in Panama will together members of the diamond, gemstone and jewelry industries from Latin America and around the world, where they will be introduced to the \$200 million Panama Gem & Jewelry Center project, which will be the first dedicated facility for the diamond, jewelry and colored stone trades in the region that includes South and Central America, Mexico and the Caribbean. The guest of honor at the launch will be President Ricardo Martinelli, Panama's head of state.

On Monday, March 17, Rosy Blue and Eurostar Diamond Traders participate in the special networking session that is being held as part of the launch event, in which diamond companies from the major global supply centers will present their organizations to the jewelry industry representatives attending the event from Latin American countries. The session is designed to establish relationships between the international and regional visitors, and will be a precursor of what will be a regularly available at the Panama Gem & Jewelry Center, when it opens for business toward the end of 2014.



The Panama Gem & Jewelry Center anchored by the Panama Diamond Exchange (PDE), which is the first and only diamond bourse in all of Latin America.

A dedicated website has been established for the launch, which, in addition to providing information about the event and the project itself, enables participants to register online and book flights and hotels at especially discounted rates. The website is located at www.pdecenterlaunch.com, and can be viewed in Spanish and English.

Non-Latin American companies that would like to be officially represented at the networking event in Panama on March 17, should contact Dirk Blommaert in Belgium (tel: +32 (473) 338-485, email: dirk@actyf.be) or Ya'akov Almor in Israel (tel: +972 (52) 352-2685, email: ya@diamonddiamondroadshows.com).