

TIFFANY & Co.

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We are honored to be the only jeweler ranked ‘Strong’ by Human Rights Watch for responsible sourcing within our supply chain. Tiffany & Co. has long understood that responsibly sourcing precious metals and diamonds represents our greatest impact, and thus our greatest opportunity. While we recognize that challenges remain, we commend Human Rights Watch for its extensive analysis of this important issue, and are proud of the progress that has been achieved so far.

Tiffany & Co. is committed to reducing environmental impacts, respecting human rights and contributing in a positive way to the communities where we operate. We recognize that supply chains for diamonds, gemstones and precious metals can often be long, complex and opaque, which makes traceability a critical first step toward environmental and social responsibility. We have implemented a vertical integration model that gives us a strong chain of custody over raw materials, direct oversight of manufacturing for the majority of our jewelry, and a voice for improving global standards and conditions. We acquire the majority of our metals directly from mines that we know and from recycled sources. We source the majority of our diamonds as rough diamonds, directly from mines or from suppliers with a limited number of known mines.

Our standards for a Tiffany diamond go above and beyond the Kimberley Process to better safeguard human rights and the environment. For example, due to concerns over human rights abuses in Zimbabwe and Angola, we refuse to purchase rough or polished diamonds from those countries, despite the fact that they comply with the Kimberley Process. Even though we don’t source diamonds from Angola or Zimbabwe, we do use our position in the industry to call for change. In 2015, we signed a letter condemning the human rights abuses in Angola’s diamond sector and calling for the government to drop charges against activist and journalist Rafael Marques de Morais, who was exposing these abuses.

Beyond the walls of our business, we collaborate across the jewelry, mining and luxury industries, as well as with civil society and government, to improve and help set responsible mining standards and encourage increased regulatory oversight where it is in the public interest. We also lend our expertise through multistakeholder initiatives that are setting higher responsible mining standards—efforts we have advanced since 2003. Tiffany & Co. is a founding member of the Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA), which is working to develop an independent certification system that promotes a common set of expectations for the mining industry to protect human rights, provide safe and respectful workplaces, and minimize environmental harm.

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We believe that by supporting rigorous, standards-setting efforts and by advocating for more effective oversight, we can help improve global mining conditions over the long term. Robust global frameworks and voluntary standards are necessary to lift up the entire industry. However, there is often a need for improvement of frameworks and standards, such as expanding the Kimberley Process mandate to protect against human rights, environmental and labor abuses; and creating third-party systems.

We recognize that there is more to be done to ensure respect for human rights in the global gold and diamond supply chains, and we appreciate that this report illuminates where there is still progress to be made. We believe we can always do more, and this drives our commitment to continuous improvement. Our hope is that this report continues to spur cross-sector dialogue and to move the industry forward towards greater transparency and respect for human rights.

Sincerely,



Anisa Kamadoli Costa
Chief Sustainability Officer
Tiffany & Co.