



PRESS RELEASE

Antwerp diamond industry launches jobtool 'Antwerp Diamond Jobs'

Antwerp, May 21th 2013 - On May 23rd 2013, Antwerp World Diamond Centre launches the long-awaited jobtool 'Antwerp Diamond Jobs'.

Ari Epstein, CEO Antwerp World Diamond Centre: *"In 2012, AWDC launched its new strategic plan. One of the main topics in this plan is to maintain and reinforce employment in the Antwerp diamond industry. We noticed that people are not really looking for jobs in a specific diamond company, but they are rather searching for a job in the industry in general. With over 1800 registered diamond companies in Antwerp, it is very difficult to find an overview of all relevant vacancies in our industry. Furthermore, this initiative will not only make it easier to find a job, but it will also help the diamond companies in their search to find suitable employees. All diamond companies will be able to post their vacancies online, free of charge. Experienced applicants or people interested to work in our brilliant industry, can consult the listed jobs and apply immediately. 'Antwerp Diamond Jobs' will connect potential candidates directly with the companies who post their vacancies."*

Starting Thursday May 23rd, Antwerp Diamond Jobs will be online on <http://www.adjobs.be>.

In addition, applicants will have free access to the full list of actual vacancies in the Antwerp diamond industry. Potential candidates can also upload and edit their personal profile online.

Ari Epstein, CEO Antwerp World Diamond Centre: *"On a yearly basis, we expect to post an average of approximately 150 job openings online. In regard to jobs, the Antwerp diamond industry is surprisingly diverse. Diamond companies are not only looking for diamond polishers or diamond graders, they also need administrative personnel, marketing profiles, IT employees and much more."*

Antwerp Diamond Jobs will be launched in the presence of Mr. Marc Van Peel, Alderman for employment in Antwerp, on Thursday May 23rd 2013 in the AWDC building in the Hoveniersstraat 22 at 12 noon.

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Marc Van Peel, Alderman for employment in Antwerp: *“Matching supply and demand, can be very difficult and challenging in certain industries. Considering the economic importance of the Antwerp diamond industry cannot be underestimated, I am delighted AWDC launches the jobsite ‘Antwerp Diamond Job’s. Initiatives like this will help to solve the labor market paradox.”*

Antwerp Diamond Jobs is the first jobsite targeted specifically at the Antwerp diamond industry.

Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC) is the coordinating body and the official representative of the Antwerp diamond sector, and as such is recognized as spokesperson and intermediary for the Belgian diamond community. In this capacity, AWDC liaises on behalf of the Belgian diamond sector with governments and actively promotes support for the diamond sector at home and abroad. The Antwerp diamond industry creates 34.000 (in)direct jobs. The global turnover equaled 51.9 billion U.S. dollar in 2012. 80% of the world’s rough diamonds and 50% of all polished diamonds are being traded through Antwerp.

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