



Press release

ALROSA President Ivanov leads delegation to Antwerp diamond industry

ALROSA's new President Sergey Ivanov led a senior delegation from the Russian diamond miner to Antwerp today to get acquainted with their partners at the Antwerp World Diamond Centre. The high-level visit focused on the longstanding cooperation between ALROSA and the AWDC, reconfirming their privileged relationship and discussing the current and future outlook for the rough diamond market.

ALROSA is the world's largest producer of rough diamonds in terms of volume, generating an estimated 25% of global supply. The European Union, and more specifically Antwerp, is the primary market for Russian exports of rough diamonds, receiving nearly 60% of the Russian miner's output. Consequently, the Russian Federation is the source of 31% of all rough diamonds imported to Antwerp, making it the largest supplier of rough diamonds to the Antwerp diamond industry. AWDC's Diamond Office registered imports of nearly 28 million carats of rough diamonds from Russia in 2016, representing total value of 2.5 billion dollars - a 33% increase in volume and a 25% increase in value over the year before.

In honor of this privileged relationship, the new President of ALROSA, Sergey Ivanov, today visited Antwerp to meet his partners at AWDC. Mr. Ivanov was accompanied by Mr. Andrey Yurin, Head of the Gokhran of Russia. They were welcomed by the President of AWDC's Board of Directors Mr. Stéphane Fischler, the Vice President of AWDC's Board of Directors Mr. Nishit Parikh and several members of AWDC's management team.

The first order of business was to introduce Mr. Ivanov to the AWDC and reaffirm the longstanding cooperation between the two organizations. This was followed by a discussion of the global diamond market, taking stock of current market dynamics and its future outlook. The next item on the agenda was the current state of affairs regarding the Kimberley Process and the contributions of the World Diamond Council to its efforts. The meeting concluded with a presentation by the AWDC concerning its plans for the Diamond Year. The Russian delegation then paid a visit to the HRD Antwerp laboratory, the Diamond Office and the Beurs voor Diamanthatel.

Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC) 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

Diamonds love Antwerp

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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.

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 Belgian exports outside the EU, making diamonds the most important export product outside the EU.

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