



**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **Ari Epstein and Mark Jenkins join WDC Board of Directors**

NEW YORK: January 24, 2011 – The Board of Directors of the World Diamond Council accepted today two new directors into its ranks. They are Ari Epstein, CEO of the Antwerp World Diamond Centre (AWDC), and Mark Jenkins, Group Company Secretary of Signet Jewelers Limited.

Gathering for its first meeting in 2011, the WDC Board appointed Mr. Epstein to the seat vacated by Freddy J. Hanard, who retired as CEO of the AWDC at the end of 2010, and appointed Mr. Jenkins to the seat vacated by Terry Burman, who will be retiring as Signet's Group CEO on January 29.

"I am delighted to welcome Ari and Mark to the Board of Directors, and am confident that they will contribute significantly to the WDC's mission," said Eli Izhakoff, President of the World Diamond Council. "They have very large shoes to fill. Both Freddy and Terry were key participants, and head organizations that have supported WDC right from the very beginning. We wish them well, just as we wish their successors the best of luck as WDC directors."

Following the acceptance of the two new directors, the Board of Directors approved the WDC President's nomination of Mr. Epstein as Vice President of the World Diamond Council. Mr. Epstein will serve in the position as did Mr. Hanard until his retirement.

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