

#### 2017 RJC BOARDELECTIONS

NOMINEE BIOGRAPHIES - VICE-CHAIR

## Ronny Seliktar

Select Jewelry, Inc.

Ronny Seliktar - President, Select Jewelry Inc. Responsibilities: Oversee Supply Chain, Product Development, Sales and Marketing. Forged strategic partnerships with: Gemfields: Responsible sourcing of conflict free Emeralds and Rubies to regain consumer confidence in the precious category. The American Cancer Society: Launched celebrity brands with LL COOL J, Simone I Smith and Mary J Blige to raise money and awareness for cancer research. United Nations: Launched a global tree planting initiative responsible for planting tens of thousands of trees world wide. A 25 year veteran as a manufacturer of a wide variety of jewelry categories from promotional to fine. Granted seven world wide utility patents for inventing unique manufacturing techniques creating new jewelry categories for the industry. Spearheaded Select's marketing of national brands i.e., Diamond Fascination, Signature Gold, Rare featuring Gemfields, Tori Hill, Alpine Gold, Simone I Smith, etc.. for sale at Signet, QVC, HSN, Neiman Marcus, Bloomingdales, Macy's. Kohl's, JC Penny, Sam's Club, Walmart, Sears, Kmart, Amazon, Starboard Cruise lines, AAFES, Helzberg Diamonds, etc... Through Investing in Automation and implementing forward thinking forecasting tools, Select Jewelry, Inc. has maintained an A+ supply chain rating with our valued trading partners while manufacturing in Israel, China, Thailand, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Dominican Republic, Armenia, Turkey and the USA.

## Mehul Kothari

**Shanti Corporation** 

Mehul Kothari has been involved in the diamond industry trade for over 30 years. He was one of the first major supplier to the large jewelry retailers, as well as a pioneer in treated colored diamonds. His experience within the industry is vast and his knowledge of product is unmatched.

#### RAMESH PATEL

**MISHAL NV** 

I have more then 37 years experience in the Diamond Business. Board member of several organizations like ANTWERP INDIAN ASSOCIATION - ANTWERP WORLD DIAMOND CENTER and present Board member of ANTWERPSCHE DIAMANTKRING. Social engagement is a priority for me.



#### **David Bouffard**

Signet Jewelers Ltd.

David Bouffard began his career with Signet Jewelers more than 35 years ago. As Signet Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Bouffard is responsible for developing and implementing the Company's Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability initiatives, managing Signet's international Government and Industry relationships, and oversees Signet's Strategic Corporate Communications Planning and Corporate Giving initiatives. Bouffard serves on Signet's Corporate Giving, Corporate Social Responsibility and Strategic Corporate Communications Planning Committees. Bouffard has had the role of the Company's spokesperson since 2004 serving as the voice on Corporate Social Responsibility and other corporate matters. Serving the jewelry sector, Bouffard is actively involved with industry organizations such as Jewelers of America, where he is a member of its Ethical Initiatives Committee, Chair of the Jewelry Information Center from 2008 -2009, as well as, the Responsible Jewellery Council, serving on the Executive Committee as Co-Chair of the Standards Committee from 2012 - 2014 and now Chair of its Communications Committee. Bouffard also serves on the World Diamond Council Kimberley Process Task Force. In 2015, Jewelers Vigilance Committee honoredBouffard with the Stanley Schechter Award for his leadership abilities, integrity and passion to elevate the reputation and success of the jewelry community in the U.S. and around the world.

# Joseph Porecki

PODICKO DIAMONDS LTD

I the owner of PODICKO DIAMONDS LTD ,PODICKO ,was established in 1953 by my Father, I am 3rd generation in the DIAMONDS & JEWELLERY ,having close relation & experience with HIGH END JEWELLRY BRANDS/SHOPS ,will be vast added value to RJC ,If I will be elected Thanks for your support.

## **Jose Ramon Camino**

**Metalor Technologies SA** 

Jose Ramon CAMINO is a lawyer and member of the executive committee of the Swiss multinational Company Metalor Technologies, group that he joined in 2014 as Group General Counsel. He is responsible for the legal, compliance and communication's affairs for the Metalor Group. In his previous life he worked during 16 years with the US company Alcoa as President of the Spanish operations and European VP Legal & Corporate based in Geneva. Previously he worked as General counsel for IBM Spain (Madrid) and IBM Eastern Europe based in Vienna. He started his career with the law firm Baker &Mckenzie in the Madrid office. He is a member of the board of FAD www.fad.com and member of the Madrid Bar Association. In 2015 and 2016 he was included by



Legal 500 in the General Counsel Power list of Switzerland www.legal500.com. He has lived in Spain, France, Austria, USA and Switzerland and speaks Spanish, English and French.

## **Peter Karakchiev**

**ALROSA PJSC** 

Peter Karakchiev (35) joined ALROSA, the world's biggest diamond mining company by volume, in April 2013 as Head of External Relations Section. Under his leadership the Section evolved to a full-bodied International Relations Department. He was appointed head of the Department in May 2015. He is responsible for a wide range of ALROSA's international activities including participation in industry organizations, forging bilateral relations with major diamond industry bodies, participation in global events, promoting Company's interests on the intergovernmental level, developing ALROSA's position on key agenda items in the diamond industry. Under his daily management ALROSA joined WDC and RJC as full member, participated in the creation of the Diamond Producers Association (DPA) as a founding member. He is a member of the WDC's Kimberley Process Task Force (KPTF) and ad hoc Strategic Plan committee, responsible for the development of the organizations' strategy till 2020. He was elected to the RJC Board of Directors in November 2016. Before joining ALROSA he worked for multinational logistics companies in London and Vienna, responsible for external communications and special projects development, and for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia on issues of country's membership in APEC. He holds an MBA and a PhD in Politics degrees. Fluent in Russian, English and German.

#### **ILAN DAHAN**

**CROWNRING** 

With over 12 years of experience I have acquired a diverse background in diamond & gemstone trading and sorting, precious metals & jewelry manufacture. I Started as a sorter of polished diamonds quickly moved up to buying and selling polished and rough. At the same time, I was starting venturing in precious metals, developing knowledge and sourcing them which led me to the world of jewelry manufacturing. Managed the full production from every aspect for over 3 years. My primary focus was on improving the manufacturing process, supply chain, developing competent staff and acquiring new machinery technologies Currently I am responsible for all Strategic Diamond & Gemstone Sourcing, Product Development, Product Sourcing, I coordinate all trade shows and company events. In addition, I am building strategic partnerships with brands and retailers globally of our company. I completed my diamond training at GIA.

## **Damiano Zito**

Progold S.p.A.

Damiano Zito is the CEO of Progold S.p.A., an Italian company specialized in the development, production and distribution of precious metals alloys and master alloys for jewellery production as



well pioneers on 3D Direct Precious Metals Printed Jewellery. He holds an MBA from CUOA Business School and has 29 years of experience in the field. He holds as well a diploma in mechanics & metallurgy. He is a board member of the Italian Jewellery Association - FEDERORAFI - with the rights for Norms and Innovation. From January 2016, he is the Chairman of the technical committee "Gems and Precious Metals" at the Italian Standard Body Association, UNI. He is also member delegate as Italian expert at the CEN TC 347, Methods for Analysis of Allergens as well at the ISO TC 174, Jewellery. Damiano is recipient of the Santa Fe Symposium® Ambassador Award from 2006, 2 times recipient (2013 - 2014) of the Applied Engineering Award, 1 time recipient of Research Award (2008) and 3 time recipient, as co-author (2003 - 2005 - 2007), of the Research Award together with Progold R&D team. He strongly believes in RJC and that product excellence is closely linked to the need to make ethical, social and environmental choices. The entire business activity of Progold S.p.A. is based on this premise, thus taking account of human rights, traceability of materials and compliance with all aspects of legislation. Know-how, curiosity and passion are the main qualities he puts in everything he does.

#### **Derek Palmer**

Pluczenik

After graduating from University, Derek Palmer joined De Beers in 1972 as a statistician. Over the next 30 years, he was appointed to increasingly senior positions from Market Research Manager, Regional Director of Europe and America, Director of Asia Pacific and finally as Communications Director. Derek then joined Pluczenik, one of the world's largest Sightholders as their Global Marketing Director. Over the last eleven years, Derek has helped develop downstream marketing activities in every major consumer market. Derek was elected to the RJC board in 2011, where he has been a very active member attending virtually every board meeting. Furthermore, Derek was also co-chair of the diamond chain-of-custody sub- committee of the RJC. With experience spanning some 40 years at every level and in every market, Derek is committed to working with and through the RJC to keep our industry moving forward. Derek is married to Pat Kerr, MBE, who founded an orphanage in Bangladesh and has been the subject of many documentaries. Derek lives in London, Thailand and Bangladesh.

## **Didier Theraulaz**

**Piaget** 

Didier Theraulaz joined Piaget in 1994 and took over several positions in marketing and customer service at the Maison HQ and at a subsidiary. He is currently leading the CSR activities for the brand. He is also responsible for product & distribution compliance, enterprise risk management and internal communication. Didier is a senior executive in the luxury industry with over 20 years proven track record in general management, marketing and change management. Entrepreneurial and innovative spirit with an MBA & engineering background and a proven learning agility. As an early member of RJC since 2005, Piaget is strongly committed to its promotion, development and international recognition. Aside from our long standing presence at the Board and at the ExCo



committee. Piaget commitment to CSR is also reflected more generally in the high ethical standards we set ourselves in our activities and operations. We have made the Responsible Jewellery Council the main pillar of our due diligence policy upstream and downstream along our supply chain. Most of our suppliers are now COP certified. Our aim is to have our gold COC certified. For all these reasons, we wish to pursue our long-standing and meaningful collaboration with the RJC as a representative of the retailer forum.