

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Murad Chaparov appointed as Interim Director General of Smolensk Kristall**

Board of Directors of JSC “PC “Kristall” has appointed Murad Chaparov, recently serving in JSC URALCHEM, as Interim Director General of the company, with improving competitiveness as the key goal.

Before appointment to Kristall, Murad Chaparov worked for six years in JSC URALCHEM (Russia) – first in Azot Branch, then in PMU Branch in the city of Perm. From 2008 to 2012, he served as the First Deputy of Director General then as Director General of JSC Voskresensk Mineral Fertilizers. Before that, he had headed legal subdivisions in different businesses for a decade.

Murad Chaparov was born in Pyatigorsk in 1972. He graduated from the New Humanitarian University, Faculty of Law, in 1997 and completed an MBA course on business management and entrepreneurship at the Plekhanov Russian University of Economics in 2011.

“Kristall has good manufacturing capabilities, vast experience and expertise. The company possesses considerable potential, which I see in the addressing a wide range of challenges, including customization of sales to meet the current market needs. We need an effective segmentation with adjustment to the needs of different client groups, flexible service and the ability to offer a customized product to the niche client,” Murad Chaparov said.

Previous Kristall’s Director General, Maxim Shkadov, was appointed as Advisor to ALROSA’s CEO in December 2018. Until recently, Alexey Romankov, Kristall’s Deputy Director General and Production Director, held the position of Interim Director General. With the appointment of Murad Chaparov, Romankov resumed his functions.

#### ***Company profile:***

*Joint-stock company “Production Corporation “Kristall” is the largest polished diamond manufacturer both in Russia and Europe as well as one of the most important global cutting and polishing centres. The Company specializes in mass manufacturing of premium quality diamonds, cut and polished in accordance with “Triple Excellent” standards. Being No.1 Exporter of polished diamonds from Russia, Kristall has a global sales network covering the key international diamond trading centers, including Antwerp, Hong Kong and New York.*