



3 November 2021

Firestone Diamonds plc
(“Firestone”, “Company” or the “Group”)
Appointment of Rob de Pretto as CEO

Firestone Diamonds plc, which owns 75% of the Lihobong Diamond Mine (“Lihobong” or “the Mine”) is pleased to announce Rob de Pretto’s appointment as the new Chief Executive Officer with effect from 1 November 2021. Rob’s appointment follows Paul Bosma’s decision to step down as Chief Executive Officer to pursue other interests. Paul Bosma will however remain on the Board of the Company in a new capacity as a non-executive director to provide operational guidance and to ensure a smooth transition.

Rob de Pretto has a Masters degree in Metallurgical Engineering and 39 years’ experience in the diamond industry of which 32 years was spent with De Beers and Anglo American in various operational and leadership roles. Rob was most recently the Chief Operating Officer and acting Chief Executive Officer of the Zimbabwe Consolidated Diamond Company.

Paul Bosma’s last day as Chief Executive Officer of the Company was 31 October 2021.

Patrick Meier, Non-Executive Chairman, commented:

“We are pleased to announce Rob de Pretto’s appointment as the new CEO. Rob has a wealth of experience in the diamond industry and we look forward to his contribution as the Company navigates its way towards recommencing production at its Lihobong mine in due course.

“On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Paul for his service to the Company over the past 7 years. During this time Paul was instrumental in overseeing the ramp up from construction to commercial production as General Manager which was followed by his succession to CEO in 2018. He has also successfully guided the company through a difficult period with the mine on care and maintenance. We are grateful to him and I look forward to his continued contribution as a non-executive director.

“We continue to pursue the necessary balance sheet restructuring and will provide further updates in this regard in due course.”

For more information please visit: www.firestonediamonds.com or contact:

Firestone Diamonds plc at info@firestonediamonds.com

Background information on Firestone

Firestone is a UK registered diamond mining company with an operation in Lesotho. Lihobong is owned 75% by Firestone and 25% by the Government of Lesotho. Lesotho is one of Africa’s significant diamond producers, hosting Gem Diamonds’ Letšeng Mine, Firestone’s Lihobong Mine, Namakwa Diamonds’ Kao Mine and Lucapa’s Mothae Mine.