

JEWELRY

Tiffany shareholders approve LVMH acquisition deal

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The deal between Tiffany and LVMH is expected to close in early 2021. Image credit: Tiffany & Co.

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

Shareholders of U.S. jeweler Tiffany & Co have approved a \$15.8 billion deal with LVMH, officially ending a long dispute between the two companies.

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LVMH president and CEO Bernard Arnault made an initial offer to acquire the jewelry company late last year, but effects of the COVID-19 pandemic launched a year-long legal battle between the retailers. However, during a virtual special shareholder meeting, an outstanding majority were in favor of finally closing the deal.

Off the market

LVMH updated its deal to buy Tiffany & Co. at the reduced price of \$15.8 billion in October, which was met with enthusiasm by industry experts ([see story](#)).

During a shareholders meeting on Wednesday, Tiffany approved this updated agreement for LVMH to acquire the jeweler, as almost 99 percent voted in its favor.



LVMH and Tiffany have ended their year-long legal battle. Image credit: Tiffany and Co.

After LVMH backed out of the deal in early September, citing concerns over potential U.S. tariffs, Tiffany filed suit to enforce the merger. Among the jeweler's accusations was that LVMH had not been assertive about receiving governmental approvals for the deal, including the European Union.

Meanwhile, LVMH claimed that the "highly profitable" jeweler it had planned to purchase "no longer exists" due to mismanagement during the pandemic ([see story](#)).

LVMH will pay \$131.50 per share, which is down from the original \$135 signed in November 2019, saving nearly \$420 million. The retailers agreed to settle outstanding litigation in the Delaware Chancery Court and the deal is expected to close in early 2021.

Once the deal is closed, Tiffany will no longer be a public company, but instead an indirect subsidiary of LVMH.

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