



THE WORLD JEWELLERY CONFEDERATION

CIBJO Congress 2013

Tel Aviv, Israel □ May 7-9, 2013

SPECIAL REPORT

Coloured Stone Commission

CIBJO's Gemstone Book is updated and streamlined, to better serve and protect jewellery consumers



By Nilam Alawdeen
President, Coloured Stone Commission

At the last CIBJO Congress which was held in May 2012 in Vicenza, Italy, significant Gemstone Book updates were suggested and approved. These have now been incorporated into the current Gemstone Book which is available for downloading in the Blue Books section on the CIBJO website at www.cibjo.org.

The Colored Stone Commission wishes to thank Ken Scarratt for all the effort he has made to help us in the updating, renumbering and streamlining of the Gemstone Book.

The following are significant updates that have been made:

- The qualifying terms "laboratory-grown" and "laboratory-created" were added as

alternatives to the term "synthetic" in the normative clauses.

To satisfy the concerns of non-English speaking countries where different translations could be made of these alternative terms, the following condition was also included: "In the event that the national jewellery association, which is a member of CIBJO, deems that there is no acceptable local direct translation of the English terms 'laboratory-grown' or 'laboratory-created,' then only the translation of the term 'synthetic' should be used."

- SC or Special Care was added to the Trade Codes and to Annex A of the Gemstone Book for possible use within the trade to describe loose and or mounted gemstones that require special care.
- The word "Gem" was added to the list of



Nilam Alawdeen President of the CIBJO Colored Stone Commission.

Terms and Definitions to describe gemstones and organic substances of natural origin.

- After some discussion, members of the Commission recommended removing the terms A, B & C-type Jade from the Commercial Names for Jadeite in Annex A. These terms although used by some in the industry, are not descriptions that CIBJO should endorse or promote. At present A and B type Jade is not listed, it was decided to remove the remaining C-type Jade from the Commercial Description of Jadeite. *At the forthcoming CIBJO Congress in Tel Aviv, we hope to receive an update on the nomenclature for Jade or Jadeite by CIBJO Sector A Vice-President Louis Lo. This is important, as*

the nomenclature may have significant repercussions in the trade, especially in the Far East.

Additional scheduled discussions at the Tel Aviv congress include:

- A debate on emerald treatments that has been proposed by Coloured Stone Commission Vice-President Charles Abouchar.
- A presentation by Vincenzo Liverino of Torre del Greco, Italy, representing the "Coral Working Group," to update us on the description of coral.

Nomenclature for lead-glass filled rubies

Many concerns were expressed at the last Commission meeting regarding the inadequacy of the current nomenclature to describe lead-glass filled rubies.

If "composite" is not the right term, CIBJO should work in haste to adopt the proper nomenclature, to better protect consumers' interests and, thereby, the integrity of the industry.

This is an ongoing concern that most likely will be discussed at the congress in Tel Aviv and hopefully will result in new positive suggestions.



Nilam Alawdeen President of the CIBJO Colored Stone Commission (standing), with Commission Vice Presidents Emmanuel Piat (left) and Charles Abouchar.

Harmonisation of CIBJO Blue Books

There is ongoing work in progress to better harmonise the definitions in the Gemstone, Diamond and Pearl books. This detailed work is being accomplished by one of CIBJO's most revered stalwarts, Gerard Gropsiron, and Sector A President Roland Naftule, with the help and support of the Sector A commissions.

Many new suggestions and recommendations have been made since the last CIBJO Congress. It is interesting to note how terms take on different

meanings when used in a different context.

Doing this work is difficult but, as it progresses, it becomes a worthwhile and important educational process. We look forward to hearing a very interesting update at the Tel Aviv congress.

And as usual, at the congress we will always have updates from the trade and laboratories about new treatments and suggestions for updates on present nomenclature.

We look forward to your active participation and lively discussions in Tel Aviv.

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