

LAB INFORMATION CIRCULAR (L.I.C.)

CURRENT ISSUES

Total Disclosure ?

To disclose or not to disclose ? This is the question. In the current trading circles there is a lot of confusion over the question of enhancements and their disclosure. This situation has arisen due to the highlighting of these issues by consumer forums and laboratories in USA, Europe and certain Asian countries.

This problem is now posing a serious health hazard with the latest certification of highly **Radioactive brown Chrysoberyl Cat's Eye** which is currently in circulation. A number of countries have put out warnings to this effect and also made it mandatory for such stones to have clearance in terms of safe radiation levels. Unfortunately, no Gem Testing Laboratory in India is equipped with the instrument (Geiger Meuller Counter) for detecting radioactivity.

Another issue is the **fracture filling of stones** with surface reaching fractures. These stones are being filled with resins, glass, plastics etc. The international consumer forums are now insisting on Total Disclosure of the exact nature of the filling within a stone. Once again, no laboratory in India is in a position to identify the exact nature of the material.

India, being a major supplier country is at a crucial stage in the current international scenario.

TOWARDS HARMONY



CERTIFICATION TERMINOLOGY

We are introducing this column due to the repeated requests of

the trading community. This is an alphabetical listing and specifies how GTL, Jaipur, identifies a gemstone on its certificates.

This is the name given as the Species is identified. In the case of acknowledged varieties, the variety name is mentioned separately under the Comments section on a certificate and in italics in the following list. Due to space constraints only a few stones will be listed in each issue.

Terminology will include terms used for Natural, Synthetic and Enhanced stones.

1. Andalusite
2. Apatite (all colours)
- 2a. Apatite cat's eye
3. Apophyllite
4. Azurite

(Continued on page 2.)

G.T.L. ACTIVITIES

Welcome 1998

Send us your comments and suggestions so that we may bring you more information and updates.

Contact: Gem Testing Laboratory,
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Contact Persons: Shyamala Fernandes
Sunil Sarma, Vikas Joshi

Gem Testing Facilities

1. Single stone - Regular category
2. Single stone - On The Spot (O.T.S.)
3. Packet Lot - Same colour lots only

Note: Rough specimens require to have one side polished for certification.

Educational Activities

1. Diploma Course In Gem Identification
Resident Course- **4th May 1998**

ADMISSIONS ON FIRST COME BASIS

Correspondence Course

2. Basic Courses - 5 / 15 days :
Rough / Emerald / Navratna
Identification

= Special courses conducted for offices as per individual requirements.

3. In January 1998, one candidate appeared for the Preliminary Examination in Gemmology conducted by G.A.G.T.L. of Great Britain.

N**NOMENCLATURE (Contd)**

5. Barite
6. Benitoite
7. Natural Beryl (all colours)
- 7a. Natural Beryl-Aquamarine (blue)
- Parti-Coloured
- 7b. Natural Emerald
(green beryl with Chromium & / or
Iron & / or Vanadium)
- 7c. Natural Emerald Cat's eye
- 7d. Natural Beryl Cat's Eye
- 7e. Natural Star Beryl
8. Calcite (all colours)
9. Chalcedony (all colours)
10. Natural Chrysoberyl
(Yellow, Brown, Green)
- 10a. Natural Chrysoberyl Cat's Eye
- 10b. Natural Alexandrite
- 10c. Natural Alexandrite Cat's Eye
11. Chrysocolla
12. Natural Sapphire (all colours)
- 12a. Natural Sapphire
(Colour Changing)
- 12b. Natural Sapphire
(Parti-Coloured)
- 12c. Natural Star Sapphire
(all colours)
- 12d. Natural Ruby
- 12e. Natural Star Ruby

SYNTHETICS

1. Synthetic Beryl (all colours)
- 1a. Synthetic Emerald
2. Synthetic Chrysoberyl / Cat's Eye
- 2a. Synthetic Alexandrite / Cat's Eye
3. Synthetic Sapphire / Colour
Changing / Parti-Coloured
- 3a. Synthetic Star Sapphire
- 3b. Synthetic Ruby / Star Ruby

TRADE HOWLERS!!!

One trader to another regarding
GTL certification details.

"In most certificates, under
magnification they write -
Fingerprints seen. I do wish they
would **wipe the stone** so that
no fingerprints are seen."

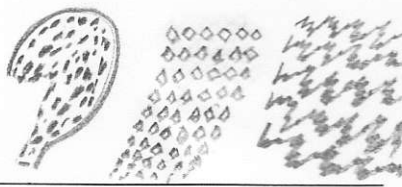
HA..HA..HA.....!

CLARIFICATION

What is a Fingerprint?

The term Fingerprint refers to an
Inclusion observed within a stone.
A fingerprint may be composed
of liquid droplets, crystalline
matter or a structural feature
which was formed at the time of
formation of the stone.

A fingerprint can be seen in any
stone. It is seen in natural,
synthetic and enhanced stones
and is often a key feature in
gem identification.

**1998 Indian Jewellery Design Competition**

GTL, Jaipur ex-students who
have participated. We wish you
all the very best.

HOLIDAYS IN FEB. & MARCH 1998

- 25th. Feb - Mahashivratri
14th / 28th Feb - 2nd & 4th. Sat.
12th & 13th Mar - Holi
14th / 28th Mar - 2nd & 4th Sat.

GEMSTONE KIT FOR STUDENTS

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Chandi-Ki-Taksal, Jaipur-302002

Ph: 519574 (R) / 607040 (O) -pp

NOTE : This space is for past & present
students of GTL, Jaipur. We are not
responsible for any form of dealings.

STONE NEWS

Opal cat's eye : In the last two
months a number of opal cat's eye
were brought in for testing. The
colours were orangish yellow,
milky white, yellowish brown. Some
of them had quite a good
transparency, with a sharp cat's
eye.

Calcite : One of our regular
customers brought a golden
yellow coloured well polished
cabochon for testing. The colour
was similar to yellow Beryl. While
examining the stone the
properties were typical for calcite,
under magnifications fingerprints
and strong doubling of inclusions
were observed, with reflected
light from the surface (due to low
hardness - 3) a number of
scratches were seen.

Sphene : Transparent well cut
and rough, yellowish green,
yellowish brown and brown colour.
The properties are typical for
sphene. With visual observation
the rough surface had an oily
luster. Spectral colours along
(spider wave like) fingerprints
and fairly strong doubling of
fingerprints was seen.

Dagger studded with Ruby : A
six inch dagger with a yellow
metal handle studded with small
ruby cabochons was handed in
recently. All the stones were
found to be Synthetic Rubies.
Under magnification curved lines
and gas bubbles were clearly
visible.

Necklace set with Sapphires: A
yellow metal necklace set with
yellow sapphires, sizes varying
from about 2cts. to about 15cts.
was examined. Out of the 32
stones, one stone was found to
be a Citrine, Quartz and the
remaining had all the properties
of Natural Sapphires.