

CIBJO

CONFEDERATION
INTERNATIONALE DE LA
BIJOUTERIE, JOAILLERIE,
ORFEVREURIE,
DES DIAMANTS, PERLES
ET PIERRES

INTERNATIONAL
CONFEDERATION OF
JEWELLERY, SILVERWARE,
DIAMONDS, PEARLS AND
STONES


INTERNATIONALE
VEREINIGUNG SCHMUCK,
SILBERWAREN,
DIAMANTEN, PERLEN UND
STEINE

INTRODUCTION

In the early 1920's several European countries formed a body called "BIBOA" to represent the interests of the jeweller trade. At a plenary assembly in Pforzheim in October 1961, delegates from ten nations ratified new statutes and transformed the name of the Confederation to "CIBJO", in order to work on a worldwide base instead of an European one. Since that time, CIBJO has continued to take care of promotion and protection of the trade.

National organisations of over twenty countries worldwide now belong to CIBJO. The membership is still expanding, thus enhancing the high standing of CIBJO and re-enforcing its authority.

CIBJO has four independent sectors:

- I Manufacturing of jewellery and silverware
- II Wholesaling of jewellery and silverware
- III Dealing and cutting of diamonds, gemstones and pearls
- IV Retailing of jewellery and silverware

They meet individually as they need, and meet annually together, reporting on their activities and seeking such approval as may be required from the CIBJO Executive Committee in relation to work they are carrying out on behalf of CIBJO.

CIBJO is governed by the Assembly of Delegates, which meets every two years to direct and authorise future actions by the Executive Committee. Each member has a seat thereon, together with representatives of the independent Sectors.

Intersectoral Commissions, one for diamonds, one for gemstones and one for pearls meet periodically to revise and bring up-to-date the three books defining the nomenclature and rules of application for good trade practices:

- The Diamond Book
- The Gemstone Book
- The Pearl Book

CIBJO hopes that these books, collectively termed 'The Blue Book' are interesting and instructive and that they will provide a fuller understanding how international harmonisation is working. The nature of the understanding reached between the various members of CIBJO on detailed matters must concern all professional people connected with diamonds, gemstones and pearls.

CIBJO

DIAMOND BOOK

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**International Confederation of
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CIBJO, 78a Luke Street, LONDON EC2A 4X
Tel: +44 171 613 4243
Fax +44 171 729 5763
Email: cibjo@jewellersuk.com

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Article 1. DEFINITION OF THE DIAMOND

- 1 A diamond is a natural mineral of a crystallized carbon with cubic structure.
- 2 The genuineness of a diamond must not be specifically mentioned because the use of the word 'diamond' by itself is automatically a statement of its genuineness.
- 3 It is prohibited to use the word "diamond" to describe such products that have either partly or wholly crystallized or re-crystallized due to human intervention, no matter which basic material or methods are used. Products made in this way can only be named as "synthetic diamonds" when their structural, physical and chemical properties correspond in their total mass to diamond. The word "diamond" must then be clearly preceded by the terms "synthetic" or "artificial".
- 4 Trade marks or fancy names must not use words similar to "diamond" (e.g. Diamantine, Diamlite). Names of firms, manufacturers or trademarks are not to be used in connection with synthetic or artificial diamonds, unless such names are clearly preceded by the word "synthetic" or "artificial". Example: the definition "GE-diamond" (General Electric) is inadmissible and should be reworded into "synthetic diamond GE".

Article 2. WEIGHT OF THE DIAMOND

- 1 The weight of the diamond is always expressed in carats (international abbreviation "ct") to two decimal points. It can be rounded off upwards only if the third decimal figure is a nine.
- 2 If the total weight of all the diamonds contained in an article is given, the weight must be specified clearly and unambiguously by the terms "total weight" or words of similar importance.

Article 3. COLOUR

- 1 The diamond colours are determined by the seven CIBJO-masterstones*. These describe the lower limit of each colour.
- 2 The colours have to be named as follows:

CIBJO - International Colour Grading Scale		
Exceptional white +	(1) D	(2) River
Exceptional white	E	
Rare white +	F	Top Wesselto
Rare white	G	
White	H	Wwesselton

* see Article 8.

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Slightly tinted white	I J	Top Crystal/ Crystal
Tinted white	K L	Top Cape
Tinted Colour (3)	M Z	From Cape to Yellow
Fancy Diamonds		
(1) GIA terms (2) Transitional use until 1990 (3) Optional subdivision (Tinted colour 1, 2, 3, 4)		

3 Colour specification must be made by an experienced professional, carried out by comparison to a master set chosen according to the original CIBJO -masterstones, under normalized artificial light equivalent to approx. 5000°/5500° Kelvin (D 55).

If no difference is observed between one of these masterstones and the diamond to be graded, the colour of the masterstone is conclusive. If the colour lies between those of two masterstones, the colour of the darker one is conclusive.

4 Non-yellow hues (ie brownish) are graded according to the intensity of the colour compared to the masterstones.

5 Fancy-coloured diamonds which have a clear and distinct colour are separately described.

6 Photometric measurements have no determinative value.

7 The fluorescence of a diamond has merely a descriptive value and is to be expressed as either:

none - slight - medium - strong

as seen under longwave UV (366 nm). These degrees are defined by the three CIBJO -fluorescence-reference-stones, described in Article 8.

8 The body-colour of fluorescent diamonds must be determined under normalized light (D 55 CIE).

9 If an offer contains the quality of a diamond, the colour may not be mentioned without the purity and vice versa.

10 The subdivision of the colours Exceptional White and Rare White into two further subdivisions may only be done for sizes 0.47 ct and larger.

Article 4. CLARITY/PURITY

1 All the internal visible characteristics belong to the inclusions which are internally perceptible. These are :

- crystalline and solid inclusions, clouds, pin-points,
- fissures, feathers, fissures at the girdle (bearding),
- structure phenomena (only in the case of clear visibility inside the stone, i.e. brown-coloured growth-lines, reflective grain-planes).

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- 2 The clarity/purity of a diamond must be examined by an experienced professional under 10-power magnification in normal light by means of an achromatic, aplanatic lens and described as follows:

CIBJO - INTERNATIONAL CLARITY/PURITY SCAL	
loupe-clean (Ic)	A diamond is called loupe-clean, if, under these conditions, it has been found absolutely transparent and free from inclusions.
VVS *	Very very small inclusion(s), very hard to find with (VVS 1, VVS 2) a 10x loupe.
VS *	Very small inclusion(s) which can hardly be found with a 10x loupe.
SI*	Small inclusion (s), easy to find with a 10x loupe, not seen with the naked eye through the crown side.
PI (Pique I)	Inclusion(s) immediately evident with a 10 loupe, difficult to find with the naked eye through the crown side, not impairing the brilliancy.
P II (Pique II)	Large and/or numerous inclusion(s), very easily visible to the naked eye through the crown side which slightly reduce(s) the brilliancy of the diamond.
P III (Pique III)	Large and/or numerous inclusion(s), very easily visible to the naked eye through the crown side which reduce(s) the brilliancy of the diamond.
Terms such as "pure", "pure to eye", "commercially pure" or other misleading expressions or definitions are not to be used.	
* The subdivision of the degrees VVS, VS and SI into two further subdivisions may only be done from sizes of 0.47 and larger.	

- 3 External characteristics do not impair the clarity/purity. This applies particularly to:

- Polishing-lines, rough edges, burn marks and very slightly bearded girdle.
- Externally located damage such as scratches and pinpoint shapes damage.
- extra facets and the remaining parts of the rough diamond (naturals),
- twinning lines, growth lines, knot lines, surface grain lines.

Major external characteristics which cannot be removed by repolishing without considerable loss of weight should be taken into account when the clarity/purity grade is determined.

Article 5. CUT AND SHAPE

- 1 It is inadmissible to describe a diamond as "correctly cut" if the proportions and symmetry of the diamond do not correspond to the norms in common usage. These norms take into account the general proportions of the stone and following the laws of optics, allow a maximum of brilliance for the modern cut of a diamond.

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- 2 A modern brilliant cut is based on specific optical calculations aiming at a maximum of beauty which is a result of brilliancy and dispersion. Different combinations of proportions can give an equally good result and the evaluation of the quality of the cut can therefore not be determined by measurements only.

On the other hand, the finish is independent of the proportions and of minor importance as to the quality of the cut. Two separate indications are given to which extent deviations are observed concerning symmetry and polish. These do not pertain to the brilliancy.
- 3 The term "brilliant" without any additional description of the material may only be applied to round diamonds with brilliant cut.
- 4 The brilliant cut or "full cut" is the round form consisting of an upper portion (crown) with at least thirty-two facets (excluding the table) and a lower portion (pavilion) with at least twenty-four facets (excluding the culet). The other cuts (8/8, 16/16, etc) must be designated as such.
- 5 Other common shapes are marquise, pear, oval, heart, emerald cut, triangle, baguette, etc.

Article 6. DESIGNATION OF TREATMENTS AND COMBINATIONS OF STONES

- 1 If the natural colour of a diamond has been artificially altered, it has to be clearly declared as "treated", "artificially coloured" or "irradiated".
- 2 Diamonds that have been artificially treated to alter their purity by means of laser-drillings or other techniques must be clearly declared as "drilled" or "laser-drilled".

The classification should correspond to the clarity after such modifications. The drilling hole itself being graded as an inclusion.
- 3 Diamonds that have been artificially treated alter their clarity by the infusion of a foreign substance must be clearly declared as "treated".
- 4 Any piece of jewellery put on display or presented for sale, composed of natural as well as synthetic or artificial elements must be accompanied by an obvious legible label, showing composition details according to the rules of the nomenclature. When diamonds (or pieces of jewellery thereof) are displayed together with artificial or synthetic products (or pieces of jewellery thereof), an easily visible label must indicate the nature of the objects shown.

Article 7. SPECIFICATIONS IN DIAMOND REPORTS

- 1 The precise grading of a diamond may only be done when it is unmounted.
- 2 A diamond report may only be made for diamonds having a weight of at least 0.47 ct.
- 3 A diamond grading report includes the basic characteristics and identification marks, includes not more and not less than the description of weight, colour grade, clarity/purity grade, shape and cut, measurements, the proportion of crown height/pavilion depth to diameter in percentage, the finish degree as to symmetry and polish, the description of the girdle, the intensity of the fluorescence and eventual comments.
- 4 The measurements of the shapes refer to the minimum and the maximum diameter as well as to the height (brilliant shape) or length, width and height (other shapes).

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- 5 Description of the girdle:
- bruted - faceted - polished*
thin - medium - thick
- 6 The finish grades for symmetry are given as:
- very good - good - medium - poor*
- 7 External characteristics visible from the crown side should be mentioned in diamond reports under "comments", i.e. negligible external characteristics, external characteristics, naturals, unusual open culet, growth lines (graining), surface grain lines, seam (knot) lines.
- 8 Simplified Diamond Reports may be issued for sizes between 0.20 and 0.47 ct containing statements regarding weight, colour, clarity/purity, shape and measurements.

Article 8. MASTERSTONES

- 1 A set of seven diamonds has been selected and approved by resolution of the Executive Committee on 27 April 1978 as the official set of masterstones for determining the colour grades. These are the diamonds 1.00, 1.17, 1.07, 1.03, 1.00, 1.17, 1.09 ct. The same has been done with three reference stones 0.33, 0.30 and 0.31 ct for determining the intensity of the fluorescence.
- 2 The master set is chosen by reference to its colour degree which represents the lower limit of each colour. Further measurements by means of instruments will have only indicative value. CIBJO will not accept them as determinants and will never change the adopted series because of any results obtained by means of instruments. If in the future any differences between the CIBJO set and other existing systems should arise, CIBJO may not allow the adopted series to be changed, as this series is representative of the practice and commercial use for all the trade organizations represented by CIBJO.
- 3 National duplicates of masterstones are to be compared and chosen equivalent to the official CIBJO set and are to be approved by a CIBJO commission.
- 5 These masterstones should only have a minimum weight of 0.70 ct, good proportions, a yellowish shade with none or negligible fluorescence, a faceted or polished girdle and no coloured, black or otherwise disturbing inclusions.

Article 9. FURTHER APPLICATION OF GENERAL CIBJO RULES

- 1 For the diamond, parts of the CIBJO rules of application for gemstones and pearls are to be applied as well.
- 2 These rules may not be circumvented by using a foreign expression.

Article 10. CIBJO LABORATORIES

The recognised CIBJO laboratories are based on the following rules:

- a) The laboratory must be recognised by the national organisation which is a member of CIBJO. This can be done, in principle, only for one laboratory for each country, including branch offices.

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- b) The laboratory must be independent from commercial and private enterprises or groups of such enterprises.
- c) The laboratory should always be conducted under competent professional direction.
- d) The laboratory must abide by all CIBJO rules without exception and should work in accordance with the following CIBJO publications:
 - the Diamond Book
 - the Gemstone Book
 - the Pearl Book
- e) The laboratory must have a masterset of diamonds recognized by CIBJO.
- f) The laboratory may only issue diamond, gemstone and/or pearl reports which are prepared in accordance with CIBJO rules, otherwise its recognition may be cancelled by CIBJO.