

Grand launch of IGC Universal Gemological Laboratories in India

IGC Universal Gemological Laboratories announced the launch of its India branch at the Rendezvous, The Taj Mahal Palace & Tower Hotel, Mumbai.



Aharon Tamir
(Waldman Diamond Co.)

IGC is a world recognized institute for its high standards in gemological certification and education. It has been the front-runner in pioneering great professionalism and top quality standards in gemology as an ISO registered company. IGC certifies Full and Mini Certificates for diamonds, jewellery and gemstones.

The laboratory is equipped with the most advanced scientific machineries to precisely analyze all kind of man made and enhanced diamonds which are posing a big threat to the diamonds and jewellery industry. These sophisticated machineries also act as the most perfect tool available till date for the detection of HPHT and CVD diamonds (synthetic diamonds).

After having a firm presence in Israel, Russia and TGL affiliation in Japan, IGC has launched itself in India. It has started with centers in Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata and is planning to come up with other important centers of India in the near future.

A mesmerizing presentation kicked off the launch followed by a short and important speech by Sudhir Mehta of Sur Gems. The Ethical High Councilors for IGC-India are Aharon Tamir - Waldman Diamond Co., Vijay Shah - J.B. & Brothers and Sudhir Mehta - Sur Gems.

Citing reasons for its launch in India, Michael Ben Dor of IGC said, "Our Indian Ethical High Councillors have been helpful in sharing insights about the peculiarities of the Indian market. The Indian diamond industry is on the forefront and we would like to provide our globally recognized certification and educational services to culminate itself as the strongest centre for diamonds and jewellery."

"At IGC, we seek to come closer to our consumers in order to serve them better by providing the highest quality reports on the market by grading each stone with an attention to detail and backing it up with the latest technology," says IGC's chief gemologist from Israel Tom Sharon.

IGC also conducts courses on grading, identifying diamond treatments, imitations and synthetic diamonds. The educational level is of GIA standards and the classes are fitted with all the necessary state-of-the-art gemological testing equipment and all students have individual access.

Excerpts from a tête-à-tête with Michael Ben Dor

What is the USP of IGC?

IGC Universal Gemological Laboratories & College uses the most advanced technology available to access, to the fullest possible extent all kinds of diamonds, gems, jewellery and imitations. Comprehensive grading of the stones is provided within a short period of time and at competitive rates. A certificate provided by the International Gemological Center is a stamp of quality. Our lab in Moscow, Russia is the only lab to get an official license from the government.



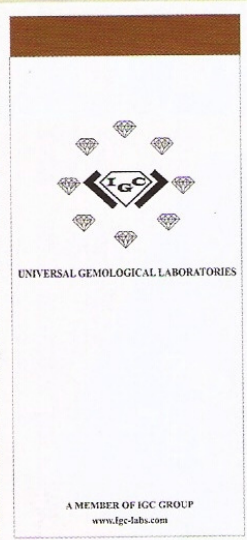
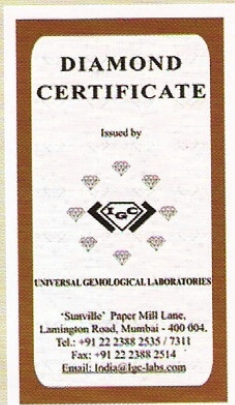
Vijay Shah,
(J.B. & Brothers)

What are the reasons for your foray into the Indian market and what challenges do you foresee?

The Indian GJ industry is on an upward trend and has been a frontrunner in the global GJ sector. The market conditions prevalent here have been impacting the nuances of the GJ sector globally. Hence, it was imperative for us to enter the Indian market.

What are your future plans?

There are a number of future projects coming up at other important industry centres. In India we have started with Mumbai, Delhi & Kolkata and are looking forward to further expansion within India. We seek to strengthen IGC's presence on the map of the world diamond industry. With presence in Israel, Russia, India and TGL affiliation in Japan we are planning to open labs in Dubai, Shanghai and North America.



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We don't want grading to be just a mechanical process but we want to establish direct contact with our customers and clients in order to give them better service.

Aharon Tamir (Waldman Diamond Co.)

IGC has been a frontrunner in pioneering great professionalism and top quality standards in gemology as an ISO registered company. With its international reach and recognition, it surely will be a boon to the Indian diamond industry.

Sudhir Mehta (Sur Gems).

We are happy that IGC will be providing its services to the Indian market through a full-fledged lab and we wish them all the success.

Vijay Shah (J.B. & Brothers)

At IGC, we seek to re-establish the consumer's confidence in diamonds and gemstones by constant research and technology up-gradation in order to counter threats from synthetic diamonds.

Chirag Soni (IGC Universal Gemological Laboratories & College, India)

