

Synthetic Diamond Bears Fake Inscription Matching Natural

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Source: JCK Online.com

*I*n an episode that has frightening implications for an industry trying to keep its diamonds distinguished, a synthetic round diamond was recently submitted to GIA's gem lab with a phony inscription meant to identify it as natural.

According to a GIA Lab Note, its Carlsbad, Calif., laboratory recently took in a 1.76 ct. F VS1 excellent cut round. It bore an inscription (pictured) for a GIA report issued in 2015, which was meant for a 1.74 ct. D VVS1 natural untreated stone.

GIA's screening process, however, determined that the stone needed additional testing. Further research showed the stone was grown by HPHT.

"Rarely do we encounter the type of blatant fraud described here," said note authors Christopher M. Breeding and Troy Ardon, adding, "We believe the submitting client noticed inconsistencies with the GIA report information and sent it to the lab for an updated report."

This is not the first time the trade has seen this kind of episode. In 2016, man-made diamonds sold with natural reports—advertised as such—were discovered on Asian website Alibaba.