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CONTACT: Dr. Michael S. Krzemnicki FGA
gemlab@ssef.ch



SSEF launches GemTrack™, a service linking cut stones to the rough stones from which they originated, using gemmological techniques

BASEL, SWITZERLAND: FEBRUARY 26, 2019 – The Swiss Gemmological Institute SSEF has announced the launch today of GemTrack™, a new service providing expert scientific opinion linking a cut gemstone to the rough stone from which it originated, thus enabling gemmologically the documentation of part of the stone's journey from mine to market.

The GemTrack™ service involves the combination of crystallographic, structural, chemical and microscopic analyses, which allow for a detailed and potentially unique characterisation and fingerprinting of a rough stone. These same features can later be identified during the investigation of a resultant cut stone, following the cutting and polishing process, and then documented on a GemTrack™ report.

A GemTrack™ document may also be issued if a gem is later mounted in jewellery, in order to document the stone all the way from rough state to an item of jewellery.

A GemTrack™ report will not make any specific claims of mine of origin. However, when credible documentation is provided (such as transparent sales receipts from a rough auction), it may state that, based on provided documentation, a gemstone was sourced from a specific company or auction.

“Given the growing demand for provenance and traceability in our industry, we felt that SSEF can provide a truly independent gemmological documentation for a gem on its journey from the rough to cut state, and even to its being set in jewellery”, said Dr. Michael S. Krzemnicki, Director of SSEF.

For further information about GemTrack™, including procedures and pricing, please visit www.ssef.ch/gemtrack

The **Swiss Gemmological Institute SSEF**, which is part of the Swiss Foundation for the Research of Gemstones (SSEF: Schweizerische Stiftung für Edelstein-Forschung), was founded by trade organisations in 1974 and works independently on a scientific basis. It is structured as a foundation under the aegis of Switzerland's Federal Department of Home Affairs. The function of its laboratory is to analyse precious stones and issue test reports for diamonds, coloured stones and pearls. Members of SSEF Laboratory are also engaged in research and education, in connection with leading universities or with other gemmological laboratories.