

# CERTIFICATES

## Date introduced:

Certificates were introduced in 1970, which radically changed the jewelry trade.

## Characteristics:

A certificate only bears weight, when it is recognized by the jewelry trade itself. We have chosen the world's two most reputable grading labs.



The grading report can be compared to a **diamond ID card**, and it cannot be confused with another one. The certificate shows the characteristics and grades for the diamond examined and include :

- ▶ Weight of the cut diamond
- ▶ Clarity
- ▶ Color and fluorescence
- ▶ Proportions.
- ▶ Finish
- ▶ Its dimensions: diameter, height or thickness, minimum diameter and maximum diameter of the girdle.
- ▶ All structural flaws of the gemstone must be written on the certificate for example: possible traces of laser drilling or trace of rough matter not bruted or cut.



Over the past few years, the use of a laser inscription with the certificate number on the girdle or table of the diamond has been increasing. This service, which can be provided, allows the precise identification of the diamond with no possible contest and comes with its certificate. The inscription is very discreet and invisible to the naked eye. 10X magnification is required to see it.

## Characteristics:

Beware of these terms The terms « clarity enhanced » and « color enhanced » are sometimes found on certificates. The term Clarity enhanced means that the diamond's clarity

has been modified to improve it, which considerably decreases its value. The term Color enhanced means that the diamond's color has been modified to improve it, which considerably decreases its value. When the diamond presents either of these characteristics, it is mentioned in the "Comments" section of the certificate.

#### ▶ Grading Institutes

Les deux laboratoires les plus rigoureux sont :

- ▶ The **GIA** (Gemological Institute of America) – Offices: USA, Italy, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Taiwan, United Kingdom, Russia, China, Website: GIA
  
- ▶ The **HRD** (Hoge Raad voor Diamant) Office: Belgium. Website: HRD