



JNA Awards 2014 Honourees Announced

HONG KONG, June 19, 2014 – *JNA (Jewellery News Asia)*, the organiser of the prestigious JNA Awards, has announced the much-anticipated list of Honourees across 14 categories for its third edition. A total of 29 companies from 10 countries/regions have been shortlisted. The event is supported by Headline Partners Rio Tinto Diamonds and Chow Tai Fook, together with Honoured Partners Diarough Group, Gübelin Group, Israel Diamond Institute, KARP Group, Paspaley Pearling Company and Shanghai Diamond Exchange.



(From left) Russell Hanigan, Paspaley Pearling Company; Nan-hai Yan, Shanghai Diamond Exchange; Helen Molesworth, Academy of Gübelin; Wolfram Diener, UBM Asia; Letitia Chow, UBM Asia; Peter Suen, Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group; Naresh Surana, Diarough Group; Smit Virani, KARP Group; Noa Pardo, Israel Diamond Institute.



(From left) Nirupa Bhatt, Managing Director of GIA in India and the Middle East, Bill Boyajian, Founder and President of Bill Boyajian & Associates Inc; Albert Cheng, Managing Director of World Gold Council – Far East; James Courage, Chief Executive of Platinum Guild International; Lin Qiang, President and Managing Director of the Shanghai Diamond Exchange





The judging panel consists of five industry experts, namely Nirupa Bhatt, Managing Director of GIA in India and the Middle East; Bill Boyajian, Founder and President of Bill Boyajian & Associates Inc and former President of the Gemological Institute of America (GIA); Albert Cheng, Managing Director of the World Gold Council – Far East (WGC); James Courage, Chief Executive Officer of Platinum Guild International (PGI); and Lin Qiang, President and Managing Director of the Shanghai Diamond Exchange (SDE).

Now in its third year, the awards event has grown in size and stature with 91 highly qualified entries from 20 countries and regions. Countries represented for the first time included Belgium, Indonesia, Italy, Malaysia, the Netherlands and Vietnam. Nominations were also fielded from Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, the Philippines, Russia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom, US and the United Arab Emirates.

A new category, Outstanding Enterprise of the Year – ASEAN, has been introduced this year to reflect the growing importance of this region in the jewellery and gemstone industry.

Letitia Chow, Chair of the JNA Awards 2014 Judging Panel, who is the Founder of JNA and Director of Business Development – Jewellery Group of UBM Asia, says, “The number of high quality entries this year is indeed impressive. It is evident that the JNA Awards has reached a new height in its aim to drive the industry forward by raising the standards and promoting excellence and best practices within the trade. Now in our third year, and with enthusiastic supports bestowed by the industry, we are further encouraged and feel strongly that the JNA Awards has served and will continue to serve its purposes.

“It is particularly gratifying this year to see an increasing number of outstanding entries in the categories for innovation. The continual dedication and unrelenting efforts of these companies in search for excellence and high standards led to innovative solutions to meet the needs and challenges envisaged by our industry. I would like to thank all entrants and congratulate all Honourees.”

WGC’s Albert Cheng, a member of the judging panel for the third year, comments, “I am impressed with the quality of the participants this year. Entries covered most of the Asian countries, particularly China and India. I am also happy to see an increase in the participation from Southeast Asia. The objective of the JNA Awards is to recognise successful enterprises and entrepreneurs, encourage healthy competition and stimulate growth in the jewellery industry. I have seen these happening from my involvement in judging in the last three years.”

James Courage from PGI joins in, “Being a judge of this prestigious awards has given me a privileged insight into the dynamic developments underway across the jewellery industry in



Asia. Challenges are being met with innovation at various levels in the technical and marketing aspects. I am pleased to see that we have a large vibrant group of young entrepreneurs driving the industry forward.”

GIA’s Nirupa Bhatt adds, “Leaders and innovators are critical to the success of the global gems and jewellery industry and the JNA Awards is a platform to highlight them. We are delighted with the variety of entries received each year and we make sure that the judging process is meticulous and detail oriented. I wish all the Honourees the best!”

The following individuals and companies have been shortlisted as Honourees for the JNA Awards 2014:

Brand of the Year – Retail

- Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd
- Jewelmer Joaillerie
- Paspaley

Employer of the Year

- Hari Krishna Exports Pvt Ltd
- Kiran Gems Pvt Ltd
- Luk Fook Holdings (International) Ltd
- Pandora Production Co Ltd

Industry Innovation of the Year – Manufacturing – Business

- Frank Wu Design
- WCJ (Holdings) Co Ltd

Industry Innovation of the Year – Manufacturing – Technology

- China Stone Co Ltd
- Diamond Services Ltd
- Fukui Shell Nucleus Factory
- Shenzhen United BlueOcean Technology Development Co Ltd

Manufacturer of the Year – Diamond Cutting and Polishing

- Hari Krishna Exports Pvt Ltd
- Kiran Gems Pvt Ltd
- Shree Ramkrishna Exports Pvt Ltd

Manufacturer of the Year – Gem-set Jewellery

- KGK Jewellery Mfg Ltd



- Shenzhen Xingguangda Jewelry Industrial Co Ltd

Manufacturer of the Year – Precious Metal Only Jewellery

- Shenzhen Bofook Jewellery Co Ltd
- Shenzhen Ganlu Jewellery Co Ltd

Outstanding Enterprise of the Year – ASEAN Countries

- China Stone Co Ltd
- Jewelmer Joaillerie
- Pranda SCL Indonesia
- Tomei Consolidated Berhad

Outstanding Enterprise of the Year – India

- Hari Krishna Exports Pvt Ltd
- J. B. And Brothers Pvt Ltd
- Kiran Gems Pvt Ltd

Outstanding Enterprise of the Year – Mainland China

- KGK Diamonds (Shanghai) Ltd
- Shenzhen Ganlu Jewellery Co Ltd
- Shenzhen Xingguangda Jewelry Industrial Co Ltd

Retailer of the Year

- Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd
- Primo Japan Inc
- Tomei Consolidated Berhad

E-tailer of the Year

- Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Ltd
- Leibish & Co
- Plukka
- Shanghai Wisdom Jewelry Trading Co Ltd

Sustainability Initiative of the Year

- Dharmanandan Diamonds Pvt Ltd
- Shenzhen Xingguangda Jewelry Industrial Co Ltd
- Shree Ramkrishna Exports Pvt Ltd
- WCJ (Holdings) Co Ltd



Young Entrepreneur of the Year (Age 40 or below):

- Shreyansh Kapoor – Kashi Jewellers
- Payal Shah – L’Dezen Jewellery Co Ltd
- Sit Kwan – Shenzhen Bofook Jewellery Co Ltd
- Huanjian Zheng – Shenzhen Ganlu Jewellery Co Ltd

The Recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award and the Outstanding Contribution of the Year Award will be nominated by the organiser, and the announcement will be made at a later date.

This year’s JNA Awards ceremony and gala dinner will be held on Tuesday, 16 September, at the InterContinental Hong Kong, during the September Hong Kong Jewellery & Gem Fair. It is an industry-wide event that honours and recognises excellence and achievement in the global jewellery trade with a focus on contributions and achievements made in the Asian region. It is a ticketed event by application only. Interested parties can submit their request by logging on to www.JNAawards.com

For more information, please contact:

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Notes for Editors:

1. About JNA

JNA is the flagship magazine of UBM Asia's Jewellery Group. First published in 1983, the title is the leader in providing up-to-date international jewellery trade news with an Asian insight. It features original, in-depth reports by experienced journalists covering the latest developments in the diamond, pearl, gemstone and jewellery-making, equipment and supplies sectors.

2. About the Headline Partners

2.1 Rio Tinto Diamonds (www.riotintodiamonds.com)

Rio Tinto operates a fully integrated diamonds business from exploration through to sales and marketing. It is one of the world's major diamond producers through its 100 percent control of the Argyle mine in Australia, 60 percent interest in Diavik mine in Canada, 78 percent interest in the Murowa mine in Zimbabwe and 100 percent interest in the Bunder project in India.

Rio Tinto's share of the production from its three operating diamond mines is sold through its sales and marketing office in Antwerp, with representative offices in Mumbai, Hong Kong and New York. It also operates a niche cutting and polishing factory in Perth for the rare pink diamonds from its Argyle mine. Rio Tinto is a leading supporter of the Kimberley Process, as well as a founding member of the Responsible Jewellery Council.

2.2 Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Limited (www.chowtaifook.com)

Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Limited, a leading jeweller in Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau, was listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong in December 2011 and has become the world's largest pure-play jeweller by market capitalisation. Chow Tai Fook is now a constituent stock of the Hang Seng China 50 Index and the Hang Seng Mainland 100 Index. Its principal products are mass luxury jewellery and high-end luxury jewellery products including gem-set jewellery, gold products, platinum and karat gold product, and watches.

The Group's iconic brand "Chow Tai Fook" and long-standing history of over 80 years of operations represent key competitive advantages of its business. The Chow Tai Fook brand is recognised for its trustworthiness and authenticity, and renowned for its product design, quality and value.

The Group has an extensive retail network, with over 2,000 points of sale in more than 400 cities in Greater China, Singapore and Malaysia. It also has a growing presence in e-commerce. The Group's vertically integrated business model provides



an effective and tight control over the entire operation chain from raw material procurement, design, production, to marketing and sales through its extensive retail network.

3. About the Honoured Partners

3.1 Diarough Group

Diarough Group was established in Antwerp in 1975 and owns diamond polishing factories in China, India, Thailand and Botswana, with a network of sales offices around the world. Diarough is known among the most professional and respected names in the international diamond industry.

Diarough believes in building and nurturing long-term business relationships based on mutual trust, finding solutions to business and marketing problems, creating marketable opportunities through innovative products and providing excellent client services.

Its jewellery manufacturing unit Uni-Design has produced many award-winning jewellery pieces, which have been proudly worn by celebrities on the red carpet over the years.

The Group employs over 3,500 people and is engaged in a wide range of diamond business activities like rough trading, cutting, polishing, jewellery manufacturing and marketing to retailers, chain stores, global brands and private labels worldwide. Diarough employs advanced technology and modern work speed with traditional ethical business practices upon which the Company was founded.

3.2 Gübelin Group

Since 1854, the name Gübelin has stood for the very highest standards in gemstones, jewellery and watches. With its selection of the most sought-after timepieces and jewellery of its own design, the family-run business is represented at all the prime locations in Switzerland: Lucerne, Zurich, Basel, Bern, St. Moritz, Lugano and Geneva. Last November, Gübelin Jewellery established its presence in Hong Kong.

Besides the jewellery boutiques and the Gübelin Ateliers, the group has a newly-established Academy and a world-renowned Gemmological Laboratory. The Gübelin Gem Lab is one of the oldest and most respected institutions of its kind, relied on by dealers, auction houses, royal families and collectors since the 1920s.

3.3 KARP Group





With over four decades of experience and expertise in the diamond trade, KARP caters to international luxury brands. Apart from being a DTC Sightholder, the group is recognised as an “institution” in the industry, using the most technologically advanced manufacturing systems in the business. KARP manufactures a huge array of products, from 0.005-carat goods to stones weighing 10 carats and above.

It excels in the production of certified fine makes, fancy-cut goods and fancy coloured diamonds. The manufacturer is one of the few companies that has achieved up to 5-micron precision in diamond manufacturing.

3.4 Paspaley Pearling Company

Paspaley Pearling Company is the leading producer of Australian South Sea pearls, supplying strands, loose pearls and mother-of-pearl shells to many of the world’s leading jewellery wholesalers, manufacturers and retailers.

The Paspaley family became involved in pearling in the 1920s and is the world’s only South Sea pearl producer with origins in the natural pearl industry. Paspaley Pearling Company Pty Ltd was incorporated in 1953 and built its success and reputation as a pioneer in the cultivation of South Sea pearls. Today, the Company sets the benchmark for modern pearling practices, operating numerous pearl farms dotted along more than 2,500 kilometres of the remote and pristine coastline of north-west Australia.

Paspaley’s harvest represents the majority of Australian South Sea pearl production and has a well-deserved reputation for exceptional quality.

3.5 Shanghai Diamond Exchange (www.cnsde.com)

Authorised by the State Council, the Shanghai Diamond Exchange (SDE) is the only diamond exchange in China and provides diamond dealers a fair and safe transaction venue under close supervision. It also enjoys a favourable taxation policy and is operated in accordance with international best practices of the diamond industry.

Established in 2000, the SDE is a non-profit, self-regulating membership organisation and a member of the World Federation of Diamond Bourses.

3.6 The Israel Diamond Institute (www.israelidiamond.co.il)

The Israel Diamond Institute Group of Companies (IDI) is a non-profit, public interest company representing all institutions involved in the Israeli Diamond Industry. Israel



is one of the world's leading diamond centres, and the Israeli diamond industry has an illustrious history dating back to the late 1930s.

IDI works for the benefit of Israel's diamond industry in the areas of marketing and business promotion, international communications, R&D, rough sourcing, professional training, publishing and security consultancy. IDI is responsible for industry participation in major trade fairs around the world, organising Israeli Diamond Pavilions, receptions, press conferences and other events at these fairs.

IDI operates a representative office in Hong Kong, which fosters trade relations with Asian markets.

4. About UBM Asia

Owned by UBM plc listed on the London Stock Exchange, UBM Asia is Asia's leading exhibition organiser and the biggest commercial organiser in mainland China, India and Malaysia. Established with its headquarters in Hong Kong and subsidiary companies across Asia and in the US, UBM Asia has a strong global presence in 25 major cities with 30 offices and over 1,400 staff.

With a track record spanning over 30 years, UBM Asia operates in 21 market sectors with 160 dynamic face-to-face exhibitions, 75 high-level professional conferences, 28 targeted trade publications, 18 round-the-clock vertical portals and virtual event services for over 1,000,000 quality exhibitors, visitors, conference delegates, advertisers and subscribers from all over the world. We provide a one-stop diversified global service for high-value business matching, quality market news and online trading networks.

UBM Asia has extensive office networks in China, Southeast Asia and India, three of the world's fastest growing B2B events markets. UBM China has 11 offices in the major cities in mainland China, including Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Chengdu and Shenzhen, where we organise more than 70 exhibitions and conferences. In ASEAN, UBM Asia operates from its offices in Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Vietnam and the Philippines with over 60 events in this region. UBM India teams in Mumbai, New Delhi, Bangalore and Chennai organise 20 exhibitions and 60 conferences every year across the country.