



**Media Release
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CANADIAN FIRM INTRODUCES NEW DIAMOND MARKING TECHNOLOGY

- Nano-scale process enhances gem-security and preserves value -

(Toronto – September 20, 2007) A new technology to securely identify diamonds in seconds without marring their appearance or decreasing their value has just been introduced by Valinmark Inc. of Toronto.

Valinmark's technology – aimed at both diamond cutters and retailers – is designed to improve upon existing identification methods, such as ion-beam technology, that is costly, slow and can have an impact on a gem's value.

"Marking diamonds has been a major challenge for decades," said Dr. Yuri Nizienko, Head of Research at Valinmark. "We believe that our technology will be welcomed by all levels of the industry enabling stones to be imprinted without affecting its grade or visual quality."

Advantages of the Valinmark technology include the ease with which images can be viewed after they are transferred from a digital photograph. One of the prime applications of the technology will be "table branding" by retailers at a cost comparable to existing technologies.

The Valinmark process uses impulse laser plasma to stencil a pattern on the stone's surface, which cannot be detected visually, even under heavy magnification. During the marking process, adhesive properties of some parts of a surface are changed. This results in water particles condensing with different density and forming a well defined picture. In order to see the image, one only needs to cool the stone or simply breathe on it.

The depth of the marking penetration can be selected based on need and may vary from several nanometers to tens of nanometers, an important feature for security purposes. The marking is removable only by professional diamond-cutters and does not change the geometry of the stone.

Valinmark is a technology company based in Toronto, Canada. Its products are the result of years of scientific research at leading North American and European laboratories.

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