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# JNA

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Lifting of US ban on Burmese rubies  
injects optimism into gemstone trade

Flexibility and diversification top  
HK jeweller's 2017 goals

The allure of Fijian pearls

# Casting solutions from German company

German jewellery tools manufacturer Ti-Research Gbr is presenting Cast, a "compact, centrifugal and affordable casting machine" for modern jewellery makers.

Creating jewellery by means of CAD software and 3D printing is starting to become the norm among a growing number of individual jewellery shop owners, said Ti-Research. Casting, however, is yet to become a common practice in these small shops, it added.

Sandor Cser, managing director of Ti-Research, said 3D-printed parts, conventional wax patterns and organic objects can be cast using this machine.

Cast ideally fits in a small shop that



Cast

produces one-of-a-kind or a few pieces of jewellery, the company said, adding that a number of bench jewellers have already integrated 3D software, small 3D printers and other modern means to produce sophisticated patterns. "With their own centrifugal casting machines, it's easier to integrate the final casting process in their shops. Cast is made of stainless steel and available as a small table top device," the company continued.

According to Ti-Research, centrifugal casting provides many benefits over other casting methods. The higher centrifugal force allows the casting of metals with a high melting point like platinum and more filigree structures, as opposed to standard vacuum casting, it added. **JNA**

## Metal-melting equipment

Yihui Casting Technology Co Ltd is introducing the Gold Melting Furnace (MM-F Series), an "advanced" melting equipment for gold, silver, copper, beryllium and other non-ferrous metals.

It applies double IGBT (insulated-gate bipolar transistor) technology and provides protection against overvoltage, overcurrent and overheating, the company said, adding that it also offers high stability, enhanced safety and reliability.

MM-F is likewise equipped with an adjustable melting temperature, digital display and good heat insulation, noted Yihui Casting. It can take on a hundred percent full load and can function 24 hours continuously.

Other features include a compact design and user-friendly operations, according to the manufacturer. **JNA**

## Busch offers cotton polishing buffs for metals

Cotton polishing buffs with a twist are the latest product offerings of Busch GmbH & Co KG. According to the company, cotton polishing buffs are not new, but Busch's Soft Wheel cotton polishing buff is impregnated with a special abrasive grit.

"The time-consuming procedure of dipping workpieces into a polishing paste is unnecessary when using Soft Wheels, which are suitable for polishing all customary jewellery metals. The buffs can be mounted without difficulty on the Busch mandrel 305RS 050 with a reinforced collar," noted the company.

With Soft Wheels, jewellery items can be given a high-lustre finish virtually without applying pressure. After pre-polishing with the green buff, a perfect high-lustre finish is obtained with the pink buff without leaving smudges and paste residues, which impair the appearance of the metal surface, explained Busch. **JNA**



Soft Wheels with mandrel 305RS 050



TRADE FAIRS

# HKJMA show concludes on a high note

The 24<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong International Jewelry Manufacturers' Show (HKJMS) welcomed more than 36,000 local and overseas buyers, an increase of 13 percent from the 2015 edition.

The four-day fair, organised by the Hong Kong Jewelry Manufacturers' Association, featured more than 1,100 booths with over 760 global exhibitors from Europe, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and the US, among other countries.

According to the organiser, buyer delegations from Korea, China and Malaysia were welcomed by the vendors. A wide variety of diamond, coloured gemstone and pearl jewellery, and loose gemstones was on display during the show, which concluded on November 27.

Other highlights of the show were free seminars, which included "Colored Stones and their Identification," organised by GIA Hong Kong; "Knowing more about Pearls," organised by the Hong Kong Pearl Association; and "Uncommon Types of Well-Known Natural Gemstones," organised by The Gemmological Association of Hong Kong.

Another main attraction was the awarding ceremonies for the JMA International Jewelry Design Competition 2016, held on the sidelines of the show.

More than 560 entries, which revolved around the design theme of "Unity," were received last year.

The "Bright Radiance" pair of earrings by Peter Lam Jewellery Ltd was declared champion in the Open Group I category. Another piece by Peter Lam – "The Mysterious Force" bangle – won merit and best



craftsmanship awards in the Open Group I category.

The "Spirit-Realization" ring by PIN (Hong Kong) Ltd was named champion in the Open Group II category.

The 2017 edition of the HKJMS will be held in a bigger venue, with nearly 300 additional booths to be featured, according to the trade show organiser. The fair will also showcase new zones and overseas pavilions to enrich product variety.

The show is scheduled for November 30 to December 3. **JNA**



From top: Buyers line up for the opening of the Hong Kong International Jewelry Manufacturers' Show held from November 24 to 27 at the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre; the lotus-inspired 'Spirit-Realization' ring by PIN (Hong Kong) Ltd. This piece brought home the championship in the Open Group II category of the JMA International Jewelry Design Competition; the gemstone-studded 'Bright Radiance' pair of earrings by Peter Lam Jewellery Ltd. This piece was named champion in the Open Group I category of the JMA International Jewelry Design Competition; a model displays award-winning pieces at the show's opening ceremonies