

## **World Jewellery Confederation and the Birmingham Assay Office enter into Technical Cooperation Agreement**



*Doug Henry (left), CEO and Assay Master of the Birmingham Assay Office, and Gaetano Cavalieri, President of the World Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO), after signing the partnership agreement between BAO and CIBJO, in Birmingham, United Kingdom, on June 23, 2023.*

MILAN, ITALY: JUNE 28, 2023 –The World Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO) and The Birmingham Assay Office (BAO) have announced a significant new partnership, establishing a framework for technical cooperation between the two organisations aimed at enhancing the global jewellery industry. It was signed in Birmingham on June 23, 2023, by Gaetano Cavalieri, President of CIBJO, and Doug Henry, CEO and Assay Master of the Birmingham Assay Office.

Marking a major milestone in the industry, the agreement maps out a programme of cooperation that will focus on areas such as information exchange, joint research, technical assistance, and initiatives promoting best practices, harmonisation of standards, and consumer protection.

"Today's agreement marks a significant step forward for our organisations and for the global jewellery industry as a whole," said Dr. Cavalieri. "We look forward to working closely with BAO to enhance our collective knowledge, innovate, and raise industry standards even further."

"This agreement with CIBJO represents a natural alignment of our objectives and interests. We are thrilled to be embarking on this journey, working together to protect consumers and maintain the integrity of our industry, Mr. Henry added.

During their meeting, Dr. Cavalieri and Mr. Henry discussed a range of subjects, from sharing resources and expertise to joint efforts in consumer education and tackling fraudulent practices. The meeting also highlighted the vital role of innovative technologies and the adoption of digital solutions in hallmarking, testing, and certification processes.

Further details about the specific areas and projects for cooperation will be mutually agreed upon and outlined in subsequent annexes to the agreement. The alliance is reflective of both organisations' commitment to the future of the industry, with a focus on collaboration, innovation, and shared growth.

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**ABOUT CIBJO**

The World Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO) is the international jewellery confederation of national trade organisations. CIBJO's purpose is to encourage harmonisation, promote international cooperation in the jewellery industry and to consider issues which concern the trade worldwide. CIBJO's chief mission is to protect consumer confidence in the industry. The World Jewellery Confederation is the sole jewellery industry organisation to have Special Consultative Status with the United Nation's Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC) and is a member of the UN Global Compact.

**ABOUT BAO**

The Birmingham Assay Office (BAO) is a globally recognised and respected institution offering a diverse range of services to the jewellery industry. Established in 1773, BAO is committed to ensuring the standard of precious metals, consumer protection, and promoting best practices across the industry. Leveraging centuries of expertise and innovative technologies, BAO provides hallmarking, testing, and certification services, playing an integral role in maintaining the integrity of the industry.