



## PRESS RELEASE

### Polished Diamond Prices Continue to Decline in August RapNet Diamond Index (RAPI™) for 1ct. Diamonds -1.4%

PRESS RELEASE, September 8, 2014, New York ... Polished diamond prices declined in August as trading slowed and liquidity tightened in the manufacturing centers. Buyers avoided making large inventory purchases in advance of the September Hong Kong Jewellery and Gem Fair, yet suppliers are maintaining low expectations for the show.

The RapNet Diamond Index (RAPI™) for 1-carat laboratory-graded diamonds fell 1.4 percent during August. RAPI for 0.30-carat diamonds declined 1.5 percent, while RAPI for 0.50-carat diamonds decreased 1 percent. RAPI for 3-carat diamonds fell 1.2 percent during the month.

RapNet Diamond Index (RAPI™)			
	August 2014	YTD (Jan. 1, 2014 - Sept. 1, 2014)	Y2Y (Sept. 1, 2013 - Sept. 1, 2014)
RAPI 0.30 ct.	-1.5%	4.6%	9.9%
RAPI 0.50 ct.	-1.0%	6.1%	7.8%
<b>RAPI 1 ct.</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>
RAPI 3 ct.	-1.2%	-0.8%	-2.6%

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According to the Rapaport Monthly Report – “Large Inventory, Tight Liquidity,” polished markets were quiet with Belgian and Israeli dealers taking vacation through most of August. There was steady U.S. demand for commercial-quality, SI-I2 clarity diamonds. Demand for Gemological Institute of America (GIA) dossiers slowed from previous months but remained fairly robust. The GIA improved its turnaround time of grading diamonds, which has contributed to higher inventory levels ahead of the holiday season.

Rough trading slowed and prices softened on the secondary market in August following the relatively big De Beers sight. Mining companies posted significant profit growth in the first half of 2014 due to high rough prices and a larger volume of supply. In addition to large polished inventories, manufacturers currently have significant quantities of rough inventory, which has further pressured their liquidity. Rough buying is expected to slow further in September.

Diamond manufacturers have low expectations for next week’s Hong Kong show. Buyers are pushing for higher discounts as suppliers seek to raise liquidity levels amid concerns about reduced bank credit. Cash buyers are getting significant discounts. Dealers and manufacturers are hoping the show will help to ease their liquidity pressures and deplete some excess

inventory, while they attempt to reverse the downtrend in polished prices that has been evident in the past few months.

Read the attached Rapaport Monthly Report, "Large Inventory, Tight Liquidity," at [www.diamonds.net/report](http://www.diamonds.net/report) or email: [specialreports@diamonds.net](mailto:specialreports@diamonds.net).

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**About the Rapaport RapNet Diamond Index (RAPI™):** The RAPI is based on the average asking price in hundred \$/ct. for the top 25 quality 1 ct. round diamonds (D-H, IF-VS2, RapSpec-2 and better) with GIA grading reports offered for sale on RapNet – Rapaport Diamond Trading Network. The RAPI is provided for various sizes. [www.RAPNET.com](http://www.RAPNET.com) has daily listings of over 1.23 million diamonds valued over \$7.6 billion and 13,649 members in 85 countries.

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