

JEWELRY

Graff acquires 476-carat diamond

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The Meya Prosperity diamond weighs 476 carats. Image credit: Graff

By STAFF REPORTS

British jeweler Graff Diamonds is furthering its strategy to acquire significant stones with the purchase of the fifth largest diamond found in Sierra Leone.

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The 476-carat Meya Prosperity is the 29th largest diamond ever uncovered. This latest acquisition is Graff's fourth substantial rough diamond addition in 2017.

Diamond addition

Discovered in the Kono District, the Meya Prosperity was unearthed by Meya Mining, a firm jointly owned by Trustco Resources and Germinate Sierra Leone. The diamond was found merely five days after the newly-built mine received its final sign off, with the stone recovered in the first extraction.

Ibrahim Sorie Kamara, shareholder of Germinate SL Limited, applied to the government of Sierra Leone for the mine's license, looking to fuel his country's economic transformation and inspire the next generation of citizens to think big.

"Under the leadership of chairman Laurence Graff, Graff is best placed to take the Meya Prosperity story forward, with a proven track record in exceptional stones," said Jan Joubert, CEO of Meya Mining, in a statement. "It is important that we align ourselves with companies that understand our core values and aspirations - transparency, accountability and integrity. Graff is a company that represents that."



The Meya Prosperity. Image courtesy of Donald Woodrow

According to Graff, it has been behind the cutting and polishing of a majority of the 21 most significant stones of the 21st century.

Earlier this year, the company acquired the largest rough diamond in the world, the Lesedi La Rona.

The Lesedi La Rona is the largest rough diamond to be discovered in more than a century. Weighing in at 1,109-carats, the diamond was purchased by Graff's chairman Laurence Graff from the chairman of Canada's Lucara Diamond Corp. ([see story](#)).

Graff also added the 709-carat Peace diamond from Sierra Leone and a 373-carat stone to its collection in 2017.

"This year we have acquired four of the most important diamonds in history, we are extremely proud to be the custodians of such exceptionally rare stones," Mr. Graff said.

"Our expert team will now spend several months analyzing the Meya Prosperity, discovering the remarkable potential that lies beneath its depths," he said. "We will take extreme care with it, as we do with all of our beautiful diamonds.

"The coming months will bring much excitement as we begin to unveil the results of cutting and polishing these incredible stones. We will soon reveal some of the most fabulous and valuable diamonds that the world has ever seen."