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JEWELRY

## Lightbox becomes first lab-grown diamond brand on Blue Nile

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De Beers 'Lighbox is the first lab-grown diamond brand to debut on Blue Nile. Image credit: Blue Nile

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

De Beers' lab-grown diamond brand Lightbox is opening a new manufacturing facility, as it enters into a new partnership with an ecommerce player.



Lightbox's new manufacturing lab is located outside of Portland, Ore. and will produce approximately 200,000 carats annually once fully operational. The brand's "Grown in the USA" lab-grown diamonds will also be featured in an exclusive fashion jewelry collection for online retailer Blue Nile.

"Manufacturing lab-grown diamonds in the U.S. was a goal from the beginning and we are so proud to have achieved it with this state-of-the-art laboratory in a region that has become a hub for advanced industries," said Steve Coe, CEO at Lightbox, in a statement. "With this facility and our ground-breaking partnership with Blue Nile, we have an incredible opportunity to grow our business, improve consumer education and further establish Lightbox as the leading lab-grown diamond jewelry brand."

## Blue Nile x Lightbox

About 60 full-time engineers, technicians and administrative employees will work out of the two-story \$94-million facility, which was designed by Chicago-based architecture firm Sheehan Nagle Hartray.



Lightbox opened a new manufacturing lab in the U.S. Image credit: Lightbox

The opening comes as the brand makes its debut with online jewelry retailer, Blue Nile. Lightbox is the first lab-grown diamond brand to retail on the site in its 21-year history.

The Blue Nile x Lightbox exclusive collection includes earrings, pendants, bracelets and rings. The jewelry features the lab-grown diamonds, created in blush pink, pale blue and white, set in 14K white or yellow gold.

Lightbox's Blue Nile jewelry retails at \$600 and up.

De Beers began selling its lab-grown Lightbox jewelry which launched in 2018 exclusively on direct-to-consumer ecommerce in stores last fall. A bricks-and-mortar trial at select Bloomingdale's and Reeds Jewelers locations followed Lightbox's physical pop-ups (see story).

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