

# Code of Conduct

## for Users of the Emerald Paternity Test

(Version 2.0)

### 1. Preamble

Provenance Proof is a company comprising different technologies and solutions with the aim to bring transparency into the gems and jewellery industry.

The Emerald Paternity Test is a technology to prove the provenance of emeralds back to the exact mine, using DNA-based nanolabels. Typically applied at the mining site on the rough crystal, these nanolabels can be retrieved and decoded at any stage along the supply chain, offering an independent proof of the exact source of an emerald. The technology of the Emerald Paternity Test is embodied in a process that provides traceability back to the mining site.

The proper functioning and reliability of the Emerald Paternity Test depend on the correct application of the technology, respecting the purpose, potential and limitations of the technology, and all procedures and processes related to it. Any entity actively involved in the process shall maintain high standards and principles of integrity and honesty in its business activities. This includes, but is not limited to, complying with this Code of Conduct and all local and national laws applicable to a member or its business. Any User of the Emerald Paternity Test acknowledges and agrees that its compliance with these standards and principles is necessary for the proper functioning of the technology and its inherent traceability.

The User signifies its pledge and bond to maintain high standards and principles of integrity and honesty in its business activities and to comply with this entirety of this Code of Conduct.

### 2. General Guidelines

- A. As used herein, the term "Authorised User" means any entity, company, cooperation, association, or individual that actively applies and uses the Emerald Paternity Test technology or process or any related documents or data at any stage. For example, authorised Users include miners that use the Emerald Paternity Test technology in their facility. Other types of Authorised Users are all possible stakeholders down the supply chain that might get in touch with gems containing the Emerald Paternity Test technology, including cutters, treaters, wholesalers, governments, trade associations, dealers, jewellery manufacturers, retailers, and privates.
- B. It is the duty of each Authorised User to use and apply the Emerald Paternity Test technology and the related processes and data in an honest way and avoid any practice, which could result in wrong, incomplete or misleading data, information or conclusion.
- C. Each Authorised User shall at all times comply with all local and national laws applicable to the member or its business. Each Authorised User shall exercise reasonable due diligence to acquaint itself with all applicable laws, including any law, rule or regulation or any order, writ, injunction or decree of any governmental agency or authority having jurisdiction of the Authorised User or its business.

- D. An Authorised User must not misrepresent any gem's identity, authenticity, treatment, or origin that uses the Emerald Paternity Test or another Provenance Proof technology.
- E. Related to gems that contain or use a Provenance Proof technology, Authorised Users have the right to use the Provenance Proof logo and Provenance Proof name in its advertising, sales documents and literature. However, Authorised Users must not use the Provenance Proof label with gems that do not contain or use any Provenance Proof technology.  
An Authorised User's use of the Provenance Proof logo must be limited in size or design, not to imply that the advertising or other document was published by Provenance Proof.
- F. The Authorised User accepts that its name, identity, and further details related to the use of the Emerald Paternity Test, are stated and made public on the Provenance Proof website. This site discloses the Authorised User's identity and its property of being an Authorised User of the Provenance Proof initiative and further disclosing the Authorised User as using one of the Provenance Proof technologies on all or some of its gems.
- G. The Authorised User accepts that any violation of the Code of Conduct will be disclosed on the Provenance Proof website and actively communicated to other Authorised Users, the industry and the public. In addition, violation of the Code of Conduct forfeits the Authorised User's right to use the Provenance Proof logo and Provenance Proof name related to gems containing or using a Provenance Proof technology.
- H. Each Authorised User shall define or select some basic ethical, social and environmental standards for all its operations, practices and processes that directly or indirectly relate to Provenance Proof technology or its processes. Each Authorised User shall control and monitor its compliance with these standards, keep track of possible violations and apply corrective actions whenever needed.  
To the best of their ability, Authorised User shall determine that its activities are undertaken in a responsible manner with a concern for protecting and restoring the environment, not involving any child labour or forced labour, and with efforts to protect the health of all workers. Further, the Authorised User shall determine that its gems are mined or sourced legally, not associated with smuggling or supporting illegal activities.  
Membership and participation in established and internationally acknowledged organisations and certification schemes that pursue ethical, social and environmental practices are encouraged.
- I. The Authorised User shall comply with additional instructions and guidelines issued by Provenance Proof in relation to the use of Provenance Proof technologies.

### **3. Guidelines related to the Emerald Paternity Test technology**

- A. The Authorised User shall give the needed support to the entity entrusted with the application of the Emerald Paternity Test technology. Specifically, the Authorised User shall provide this entity with all requested information and data about the mining, sorting, warehousing and storage related to the gems in which the technology is applied.
- B. The Authorised User shall ensure that the Emerald Paternity Test technology is applied exclusively on the gems that are intended to receive the specific nanolabels. Specifically, the Authorised User shall ensure that only those emeralds receive the nanolabels where the exact source, custody, and mining period are identical to the exact source, custody, and mining period encoded in the respective nanolabels.

- D. The Authorised User shall ensure that no gems undergo the Emerald Paternity Test process where the exact and correct source, custody, and mining period cannot be guaranteed. In case of doubts of the compliance of the gems with the information contained in the nanolabels, the Authorised User has to bring this doubt to the awareness of the entity entrusted with the application of the Emerald Paternity Test technology before the technology is applied to such doubtful gems.
- E. The Authorised User shall refrain from any attempt to use the Emerald Paternity Test technology and any related data or documents in a way differing from the intended process and application. The Authorised User agrees that the application of the nanolabels can be subject to occasional inspections by an independent body or entity entrusted by Provenance Proof.
- F. The Authorised User shall refrain to get into possession, store, analyse, use, or in any other way tamper with the Emerald Paternity Test technology that goes beyond the intended use.
- G. The Authorised User shall ensure that gems containing the Emerald Paternity Test technology are presented to all third parties as such, i.e. proactively communicating the fact that the gem does contain this technology.
- H. The Authorised User ensures that the respective documentation, such as the Emerald Paternity Test Certificate / Tracing Confirmation Card, is provided to the buyer for all gems containing the Emerald Paternity Test technology.
- I. The Authorised User ensures that Emerald Paternity Test Certificates/Tracking Confirmation Cards are allocated exclusively to gems that contain the Emerald Paternity Test technology. Furthermore, the Authorised User shall ensure that any remaining Emerald Paternity Test Certificates/Tracking Confirmation Cards are destroyed.
- J. In case of any concerns about the wrong or fraudulent application of the nanolabels within the Authorised User's organisation or network, the Provenance Proof must be informed immediately.

With his signature, the Authorised User confirms to have read and understood the entirety of this document and work in full compliance with it.

Authorised User: .....

Represented by: .....

Function: .....

Place & Date: .....

Signature: .....