

The Loupe

GIA World News

Vol. 16, No. 2
Spring 2007

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*This publication made possible
by a generous grant from Stuller*



This 24.60-ct. color-change Zultanite, shown here in natural light (top) and then in incandescent light, is a part of GIA's Museum Collection thanks to Zultanite Gems LLC. The Turkish diaspore was first discovered in the early 1980s and, until recently, had only been mined in very small quantities. Photos by Robert Weldon.

Zultanite Gems LLC

Zultanite is a Turkish diaspore (a mineral composed of aluminum hydrogen oxide) that exhibits phenomenal properties such as chatoyancy and color change. The transparent gem appears yellow-green/green-yellow in daylight or fluorescent light and shifts to a brownish, purplish pink color in incandescent light.

GIA received a 24.60-ct. mixed-cut stone from Zultanite Gems LLC in 2006; the gemstone is part of the Institute's permanent Museum Collection.

"This donation is meant to show GIA our appreciation for identifying the first Zultanite crystal two decades ago," said Murat Akgun, managing director of Zultanite Gems LLC. "Through GIA's research help, we learned that it is a phenomenal gemstone unique to Turkey. We hope its presence in the GIA Museum will help the public learn more about this special gem and its origins."

info

For information on how to make a contribution to the GIA Collection or other Institute departments, contact In-Kind Gifts Coordinator Kimberly Vagner at (760) 603-4150 or kimberly.vagner@gia.edu.