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Amber grading

琥珀分级

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Foreword

This document is in accordance with the provisions of GB/T 1.1-2020 "Guidelines for standardization work Part

1. Structure and drafting rules for standardization documents" Drafting. Please note that some of the contents of this document may involve patents. The issuing organization of this document does not assume the responsibility for identifying patents. This document is proposed by the Ministry of Natural Resources of the People's Republic of China. This document is under the jurisdiction of the National Technical Committee on Jewelry and Gemstone Standardization (SAC/TC298). This document was drafted by: Shanghai Institute

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1 Scope

GB/T 44910-2024 sets the grading system for amber. China is the largest market for Baltic and Burmese amber, and the trade has long priced it on names rather than on measured attributes - honey, beeswax, blood amber - which are used inconsistently and cannot be checked, a problem compounded by the volume of pressed, heated and dyed material in circulation. The standard replaces the names with graded attributes. It sets the classification rules and requirements, and the recording and presentation of results, for body colour, for fluorescent colour, for transparency and for clarity, and then the grading of the finished article, covering the cut, the proportions and the finish, so that a stone can be described in terms another party can verify. It takes effect on 1 June 2025.

This document specifies the classification method, classification rules and requirements, quality and Dimensions, grading environment requirements, grading rules for uneven samples, grading certificates. This document applies to the grading of natural ground and polished amber (golden amber, beeswax, blood amber, blue amber). The fluorescence color grades in this document apply to blue amber. The transparency and clarity grading of other types of natural polished amber shall be carried out for reference.

2 Normative references

The contents of the following documents constitute essential clauses of this document through normative references in this document. For referenced documents without a date, only the version corresponding to that date applies to this document; for referenced documents without a date, the latest version (including all amendments) applies to This document.

GB/T 16553 Jewelry and Jade Identification

GB/T 37460 Identification and classification of amber

3 Terms and definitions

The terms and definitions defined in GB/T 37460 and the following apply to this document.

3.1 Amber is evaluated in terms of color (including body color and fluorescent color), transparency, clarity, etc., and its quality and size are measured.

3.2 Body color The color of amber is formed by the scattering, reflection and selective absorption of light.

3.3 Hue It represents the color characteristics of amber such as red, orange, yellow, green, and blue, and can be used to describe the body color and fluorescent color of amber.

Note. When used alone without limitation, it refers to body color hue by default.

3.4 Brightness value The lightness or darkness of amber's body color.

3.5 Chroma The intensity of amber's body color.