

June HK Fair generates positive response

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Sentiments were generally positive at the 28th **June Hong Kong Jewellery & Gem Fair** with close to 25,000 visitors from around the world attending the four-day event at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Data from trade fair organiser UBM Asia Ltd showed 2,286 exhibitors from 45 countries and regions occupied over 70,000 square metres of exhibition space. The number of exhibitors was 20 percent higher compared to the 2014 edition.

Celine Lau, director of Jewellery Fairs at UBM Asia, commented, "The June Fair diversified its product offerings by adding new pavilions. There was positive feedback on the new pavilions and the international profile of exhibitors."

These new pavilions included the Fashion Jewellery Pavilion, Stainless Steel Jewellery Pavilion and the Designer Arena. The Diamond Pavilion and the Gemstone Pavilion featured over 480 diamantaires and 500 gemstones suppliers.

The fair welcomed 24,838 visitors from 105 countries and regions. China, a key driver in the global jewellery market, accounted for 37 percent of the total number of visitors. The top 10 sources of visitors from outside Hong Kong and China were India, Taiwan, the Philippines, Thailand, Japan, the US, Singapore, Korea, Australia and Indonesia. Overall, the top 10 visiting countries accounted for 19 percent of the total number of visitors.

"The June Fair was restructured this year and housed a record number of suppliers. New product segments also brought synergy to the fair, enhancing buyers' sourcing experience with wider product ranges and competitive budget," added Lau.

International platform

A number of exhibitors were pleased with the outcome of June Hong Kong Fair.

Luiz Martins, manager of Brazil-based gemstone manufacturer Stone World, said his company networked with new clients during the show. "Our major buyers are mainly from Brazil and China. We met around 10 new buyers at this edition. We are satisfied with the organiser's high-quality service."

For Takeshi Nakamura, representative of Japanese jewellery manufacturer Ishitomo Co Ltd, participating in the show for the first time yielded positive results for his company. "We aim to develop our presence in the Chinese market so we joined the fair. We met quite a lot of new buyers. We are impressed with the scale of the exhibition; it is truly an international fair."

Orau Pearls, a pearl wholesaler from French Polynesia, has been participating in the June show for seven years. "Joining the June Fair enables us to explore more business opportunities and meet buyers from around the world," said Juliette Tikare, manager of Orau Pearls.



Fine Jewellery Pavilion



Buyers inspect goods at the June Hong Kong Fair



RMC Gems' loose gemstone collection

Visitors also expressed satisfaction with this year's trade show.

"I came to meet existing suppliers from China and Korea. Visiting the June Fair also enables me to update myself on the latest market developments and trends. The fair is well organised and convenient to visit. I will visit the fair again next year," noted Cecilie Melli, owner of Cecilie Melli Equipering from Norway.

Marcos Neves Do Prado, director of Prado Gems Co Ltd from Brazil, said he met suppliers from Japan, Russia, China and Hong Kong. "The quality of products is good and there is a wide variety of products available. The fair provides everyone with a good opportunity to explore new business."

For Drame Fode, representative of Societe Drame & Freres Gems from Madagascar, the June Hong Kong Fair was a good venue to source products from new suppliers and to know more about the latest market trends. "The fair features many suppliers from around the world. I met three diamond suppliers from India. The June Fair is one of the important sourcing fairs that I visit regularly."



Jewellery display from Top Kang Lapidary & Jewellery Arts



Opal rings and pendant in 18-karat gold by Sonja Kreis of Germany