

Miner unearths 80-carat diamond in Lesotho

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An 80-carat gem-quality diamond recovered in Lesotho by Gem Diamonds Ltd

Gem Diamonds Ltd recently recovered an 80-carat diamond from the Letšeng mine in Lesotho. The D-colour Type II rough is the latest in a list of gem-quality stones unearthed from Letšeng.

This development follows last month's discovery of a 114-carat, D-colour Type II diamond of exceptional quality from the same mine.

According to Gem Diamonds, finding such gem-quality diamonds cemented Letšeng mine's reputation as a well-known resource for the production of large, top-colour, exceptional diamonds, making it the highest dollar-per-carat kimberlite diamond mine in the world.

Clifford Elphick, CEO of Gem Diamonds, commented, "Although this 80-carat diamond is not of the very large size for which Letšeng is renowned, it is one of the highest-quality diamonds recovered at the mine and is entirely undamaged, making this a significant recovery."

The mine has produced four of the 20 largest gem-quality diamonds ever recorded since it was acquired by Gem Diamonds in 2006, the company said.