

Diamond import and export figures of Antwerp indicate increase of price per-carat in February

After a price per-carat decline in December 2011 and January 2012, the price for diamonds per-carat rose again in February 2012. This is not illogical because the turn of the year is usually a calm period for the sector.

The U.S. dollar value of exports of polished diamonds in February 2012 soared 4.25 percent to 1.372.735 dollar compared to February 2011. In volume terms, there was a 15.41 percent decline to 655.197 carats.

The average price per carat for polished exports in February was 2095 dollar compared to 1700 dollar in February 2011. Compared to a month ago, the price per-carat also rose. In January 2012 the average price was 1749 dollar.

During January-February, exports of polished goods rose slightly by 2.98 percent to 2.2 billion, while in volume terms they declined by 18.15 percent to 1.12 million carats.

As for export of rough diamonds, the U.S. dollar value increased compared to February 2011 with 2.14 percent to 1.160.982.025 dollar. But in volume terms there was a 11.45 percent fall to 9.089.422 carats compared to last year.

During January and February 2012, Belgium exported 17.2 million carats of rough goods, 20.39 percent fall in carats compared to 2011 but only a 1.18 percent fall on a year earlier in financial terms to 2.147.126.126 dollar.

In polished diamond imports, Belgium brought in 1.379.070 carats during January-February, a decline of 6.25 percent in carats compared to last year, but a 29.25 percent rise in value to 2.41 billion dollar.

In rough diamonds, Belgium imported 16.5 million carats worth 2.1 billion dollar in January and February, a drop of 18.61 percent in volume terms compared to last year, but an increase of 0.51 percent in financial terms on a year earlier.