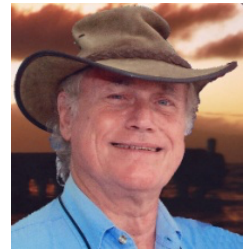


Curriculum Vitae Tom Banker  
 Gemstone-Trade Veteran: Mine To Market  
 293/3 Surawongse Rd. 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr.  
 Suriyawongse, Bangrak  
 Bangkok 10500  
 Kingdom of Thailand



## EXPERIENCE STATEMENT

Since 1970, Tom Banker has been buying, selling, mining, cutting, merchandising, marketing and organizing companies for the Gemstone Trade in Brasil, Thailand, U.S.A., Australia, Europe, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Kenya, Zambia, Madagascar and more.

### International Experience

- Create, organize, develop and manage gemstone-related companies.
- Building Teamwork
- Merchandise new gemstone products
- Innovate gemstone designs and cutting techniques
- Organize mass-production gem-cutting: streamline processing procedures for maximum results
- Gemstone Mining: Artisanal and Mechanical
- Jewelry Fabrication: Bronze, 925 Silver, Pure Gold 10-14-18-22K
- Jade Carving

### Areas of Special Expertise

- Create Fair-Trade gemstone-related NGO Processes: Africa
- Prospecting New Gem Locations
- Key Bangkok and International gemstone and jewelry contacts
- Gemstone Enhancement: Heating, Oiling, Irradiation
- Writing articles for promotion in major International Trade Magazines
- Madagascar Logistics
- Languages: Portuguese, fluent; Thai, reasonable; French, some

## SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

1970-1975 During his world-circumnavigation on Errol Flynn's old 75-foot yacht Sirocco, Banker Completed GIA's correspondence course for Gemology Studied, bought and sold gemstones in Australia, Bangkok, Kenya (when Tsavorite was discovered), Madagascar and Brasil (Piaui Amethyst, Ouro Preto Imperial Topaz, Bahia Emerald, Cruzeiro Toumaline, etc.)

1975-1986 **Natural Arts, Co.** Newport Beach, CA Partnership with Banker and a Sirocco sailing mate Bought, sold, brokered and marketed connoisseur-quality gemstones from Brasil (Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte, Governador Valadares, Bahia, etc.), Kenya, Tanzania **Blue Topaz:** cut, irradiated and marketed industrial volumes, including; Light-Blue Topaz – Cobalt irradiation; Sky-Blue Topaz – Linear-Accelerator irradiation; London-Blue Topaz – Neutron irradiation; Swiss-Blue™ Topaz – Neutron and Lin-Ac irradiation. Contracted irradiation facilities in Poland and Sweden before making a long-term contract with General Atomic in La Jolla, California, where

Natural Arts invented a mass-loading device to put large quantities of white topaz next to the atomic reactor.

Invented Swiss-Blue™ Topaz for an exclusive contract with Golay Buchel who trademarked the name.

Was cutting 150,000 carats/month of Sri-Lankan white topaz for Swiss-Blue™ production.

- 1986-1998 **GemEssence Co. Ltd.** Bangkok, Thailand-registered company with Banker and 'silent' partner, Oriental Jewelry  
Banker established, organized and developed the precision-faceting factory and international-marketing company with 250 staff in three locations, including a New-York sales office.  
GemEssence's specialty was to supply TV-marketing merchandisers.

**ADAMCO SARL, Ltd.** Antananarivo, Madagascar registered company – 50% partner with Oriental Jewelry – to buy, sell and mine rough gemstones and gold.

Banker registered, developed and managed the company with 12 staff, including: 5 Malagasy, 3 Americans, 3 Thais and 1 Brazilian  
ADAMCO projects included buying Sapphire in ANDRANDAMBO, prospecting Blue Tourmaline outside FORT DAUPHIN, mining Sapphire at MAVENTIBAO mine outside Diego Suarez, negotiated with Mada Government and NGO's to re-open the forest-reserve for Sapphire-production, prospected gold in TSINJOARIVO and MASOKOAMENA, discovered the Demantoid-Garnet mine, first foreign buyers in ILALAKAKA when Sapphire was discovered there, and more.

- 1999-2023 **MADAGASCAR: Continued**

2007 **STS** contracted Banker to organize and plan/conduct a buying/documentary-film expedition to ANTSIRABÉ and FIANARATSOA for Tourmaline and ILALAKAKA for Sapphire.

2010 **RogersGems** Joint Venture to buy rough Aquamarine and mine TSARAMANGA Sapphire-Blue Aquamarine near ANTSIRABÉ.

2020-2023 Working with **ADAMCO** Malagasy Ground-Man Jacques Didier **MAMPIHAO** on a variety of successful gemstone projects.  
One project was the discovery and exploitation of Grandidierite: one of the rarest gemstones in the world.  
Currently working on the exploration/extraction of an almost-unknown gem material: Red Corderite (the red version of Iolite).

- 1998-2023 **Jade-Carvings Enterprise** Bangkok and Maesai, Thailand: Banker's wholly-owned and managed company  
Established, developed and currently operates the factory-direct hand-crafted Jade-Carving production business with 5 master-carver shops in Maesai, Thailand on the Burma border. Promotion includes:  
Website [www.Jade-Carvings.com](http://www.Jade-Carvings.com), Top-Rated eBay Store [http://stores.ebay.com/Jade-Carvings-Factory?\\_rdc=1](http://stores.ebay.com/Jade-Carvings-Factory?_rdc=1), FaceBook Page with 6,000 Followers <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jade-Carvings-Factory-eBay-Store/306858136024438?ref=hl>  
Amazon Hand-Made Store <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07FP6Q4DK> and AliBaba Store <https://th105010892.fm.alibaba.com/?spm=a2700.7756200.0.0.7b7pFH>

2013-2016 **Eiko's World Bangkok** <http://www.eikosworld.com/>.

Eiko Gudnason, a well-known Japanese clothes designer contracted Banker to develop her first designs into finished Bronze, 925 Silver and Pure Gold for her new jewelry line. She gave Banker her creations on paper. Banker managed production for the wax models, rubber/silicone molds, casting, polishing, assembly and color-patina.

### **INDONESIA**

2016: Buying Blue Amber when it was discovered

### **DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo)**

2017: Banker wrote the "On-Site Foreign-Buyer Program" Proposal for NGO Estelle Levin to provide and sustain a rough gemstone-buying Structure at gem mining areas for the benefit of the miners and DRC Government's tax income

## **GEMSTONES FIRST TO MARKET**

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| • 1976 Swiss Blue™ Topaz           | • 2005 Northern Madagascar Apatite         |
| • 1977 Kenya, Africa Tavorite      | • 2010 Tsaramanga Sapphire-Blue Aquamarine |
| • 1996 Madagascar Demantoid Garnet | • 2011 Welo Ethiopian Opal                 |
| • 1994 Mexican Leopard Opal        | • Chrome Green Chalcedony                  |
| • 1995 African Catseye Opal        | 2010 Australia                             |
|                                    | 2017 Zimbabwe                              |
| • 1996 ILALAKAKA Sapphire          | • 2015 Madagascar Grandidierite            |

## **ASSOCIATIONS**

AGTA (American Gemstone-Trade Association) Since 1981: Founding Father with 12 years on AGTA's Board of Directors

1992-1994 Committee Chairman: Nomenclature Rules

1994-1996 Committee Chairman: Gemstone-Enhancement

ICA (International Colored-Stone Association) Since 1984: Founding Father

AIGS (Asian Institute of Gemological Sciences), Bangkok

1995-1997 Chairman of the Board

Rotary Club of Bangkok South since 1995

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **GemKey Magazine,**

Rubellite Salvation  
 Chrome Green Chalcedony Revival  
 Tale of Two Silicates  
 Gemstone Color Enhancement  
 Seamy Side of Synthetics  
 Mexican Leopard Opal  
 Angel-Blush Silicate  
 Romancing The Stone

### **Gem Siam Magazine, Thailand/USA**

Launching a New Gemstone Product  
 Gemstone Market Survival  
 Kwan Yim  
 Y2K Gems in Cyberspace  
 Chantaburi Gem Report  
 Chantaburi Gem Traders  
 Northern Madagascar Apatite  
 Miracle Mistress  
 Pre-Millennium Topaz

**Colored Stone Magazine, USA**

Indo-Gem Trail I

Indo-Gem Trail II

Ethiopian Opal

Nambulite

**Rapaport, USA**

Master Carvers From Thailand

Thailand-Market Update