

# Paspaley

## reports 9% sales growth in HK auction

**D**emand for Australian South Sea pearls remains strong, judging from the results of the 54<sup>th</sup> Paspaley Pearl Auction in March.

The auction generated nearly ¥1.032 billion (\$8.54 million) in sales, up 9 percent from the prior year, said Peter Bracher, executive director of Paspaley Pearling Company.

"Compared to the March 2014 auction, total sales were 9 percent higher and the average price in Japanese Yen per momme was 21 percent higher," Bracher said. "The market is certainly stronger than one year ago. This result was consistent with our expectations."

The average price achieved was ¥13,692 (\$113.34) per momme, he continued.

Held on the sidelines of the HKTDC Hong Kong International Jewellery Show, the auction sold 359 of the 517 lots offered.

According to Bracher, fine-quality round goods in both white and gold, and stranding lots were most in demand. "The highlight of the auction was a single piece of fine-quality baroque that sold for ¥3.5 million (\$28,973)," he said.

The auction drew 101 companies representing more than 20 countries. Seventy-seven of those were successful in winning lots, with the largest buyers coming from Hong Kong, Japan and China.

The next Paspaley auction is scheduled for June 22 to 24 in Hong Kong, immediately prior to the June Hong Kong Jewellery & Gem Fair. **JNA**

### Highlights of the 54<sup>th</sup> Paspaley Pearl Auction

**Total lots offered:** 517

**Number of lots sold:** 359

**Total sales value:** ¥1,031,743,000 (\$8.54 million)

**Average price per momme:** ¥13,692 (\$113.34)



*A 21mm button-shaped Australian South Sea pearl available at the auction*

*A selection of Keshi pearls available at the auction*

