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[AFNS] CHICAGO, USA 16-01-2007 – Black diamonds came from outer space, according to a paper published online in the scientific journal *Astrophysical Journal Letters*. The research was summarized on the U.S. National Science Foundation's website.

Scientists Jozsef Garai and Stephen Haggerty of Florida International University along with Case Western Reserve University researchers Sandeep Rekhi and Mark Chance, claim an extraterrestrial origin for the unusual black diamonds. Also called carbonado diamonds, the stones are found only in Brazil and the Central African Republic, and appear to be completely unrelated to terrestrial diamonds, which are found in volcanic kimberlite ore.

Infrared synchrotron radiation at Brookhaven National Laboratory was used to discover the diamonds' source. Trace amounts hydrogen in the carbonado diamonds indicate an origin in a hydrogen-rich interstellar space, the researchers believe.

The term carbonado was coined by the Portuguese in Brazil in the mid-18th century, based on the diamonds' visual similarity to porous charcoal. The new data support earlier research by Haggerty showing that carbonado diamonds formed in stellar supernovae explosions. Black diamonds were once the size of asteroids, a kilometer or more in diameter when they first landed on Earth.

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[Majescor selling Brazilian diamond assets](#)

Montreal-based Majescor Resources Inc. said it is selling in two diamond properties in Brazil to Vaaldiam Resources Ltd.—a 40 percent interest in the Brauna diamond deposit and the wholly owned Tres Marias property. The selling price is Can. \$2.25 million (U.S.\$1.93 million) in cash, Can. \$1.5 million (U.S.\$1.29 million) in Vaaldiam stock and a 1 percent gross sales royalty on diamond production from the properties.

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