



GFMS and ROC Associates Form GFMS Analytics

GFMS and ROC Associates are delighted to announce the forging of an alliance, GFMS Analytics Ltd, which they believe will become a powerful new research force in the precious metals markets. GFMS Analytics' Managing Director, Rhona O'Connell, noted "I am delighted to be working with GFMS Ltd. The joint venture will provide a fresh analytical angle to the precious metals markets, drawing on my own extensive personal experience in the field as well as GFMS' unparalleled research reach."

The new venture will initially provide a monthly publication reviewing the performance of the precious metals complex over the previous month in the context of economic, financial and political developments and set against the actions and reactions of other asset classes. This publication will include an outlook for the gold, silver and PGMs markets and the metals' prices. In addition, the monthly will analyse developments in the mining sector, especially from a corporate angle, while taking into account external developments of interest and relevance.

Commenting on the monthly, GFMS' Chief Executive Officer, Paul Walker, stated that, "The new monthly will provide an excellent complement to our existing suite of precious metals publications. In addition, together with ROC Associates, we are already working on developing other value added services for the precious metals markets that will be launched within the next few months."

About ROC Associates

ROC Associates is an independent market analysis company run by Rhona O'Connell and specialising in metals markets analysis and comment. The specialist areas constitute gold, silver, platinum and palladium, looking at the markets themselves in the context of the economic, political and financial environments while considering also the performance of other asset classes and related mining equities. Rhona O'Connell is a recognised authority in the metals markets, with over 20 years' experience as an analyst in the metals sector. After graduating from Cambridge University with a degree in Natural Sciences and Law, she gained her first experience in the precious metals markets working for mining company Consolidated Gold Fields Ltd. The company was then the producer of the Gold Surveys that are now under the auspices of GFMS, along with inhouse analysis of silver and the platinum group metals for mine feasibility studies and marketing plans. She subsequently worked for commodity brokers Rudolf Wolff, was the group precious metals analyst for investment bankers Shearson Lehman and spent ten years as a metals markets analyst in the stockbroking fraternity before latterly managing the gold market research at the World Gold Council.

About GFMS

GFMS is an independent London-based research company, focused on the gold, silver and PGM markets, and best known for its flagship publication, the annual Gold Survey. GFMS is based in London, UK, but has representation in Australia, China, India and Russia, and a vast range of contacts and associates across the world. Since its inception in August 1989, GFMS' activities have grown steadily and we have expanded our portfolio of services which now includes consultancy services, seminars and price forecasts. Today we are widely regarded as the most authoritative source of information on the global gold, silver and PGM markets. GFMS has also recently established two new divisions (GFMS Metals Consulting and GFMS Mining & Exploration Consulting) in order to address the increasing need for independent and tailored research in the base metals and mining and exploration fields.

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