



Publication of *Platinum & Palladium Survey 2007*

South Africa Continues to Drive Growth in World PGM Output

Global platinum mine production in 2006 registered a 6% increase year-on-year compared to a 5% rise in palladium mine supply, which left the metals respective totals at 7.01 and 7.26 million ounces (217.9 and 225.7 tonnes). This was one of the key findings presented at the launch of GFMS' fourth edition of the Platinum and Palladium Survey at events in Johannesburg and London.

Commenting on the results, Senior Analyst, Bruce Alway remarked that given South Africa's dominance and the industry's well-documented, and ongoing, expansion plans "it had come as little surprise that the country had been the driving force behind the 6% rise in global platinum production". Elsewhere overall production was reported as essentially flat, with net growth of less than 1%. Canadian mine supply contracted by 6%, although this was balanced by gains across the border, with the United States posting a 10% improvement year-on-year.

Turning to palladium, the more modest rise in global output was partly due to slower growth from the world's largest producer, Norilsk Nickel, where output edged up by a modest 31,000 ounces (1.0 tonne) to total 3.164 million ounces (98.4 tonnes). South Africa, in contrast, and inline with the rise in platinum, reported a strong increase in palladium output, while higher production was also measured in Canada and the United States, the former partly thanks to the underground development at North American Palladium's Lac des Iles mine.

With continuing expansion in South Africa, the essential elements are already in place for a further rise in platinum mine production in 2007. Assuming little change in other producing areas, mine production of platinum is expected to reach 7.3 million ounces (227 tonnes), for an approximate year-on-year gain of 300,000 ounces (9 tonnes). For palladium, the consultancy expect mine supply to rise by a slender 2%, with gains in South Africa anticipated to be partly offset by lower production forecast from world number one producer, Norilsk Nickel.

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Platinum & Palladium Survey 2007 contains 84 pages of statistics, commentary and analysis on all aspects of world platinum & palladium supply/demand and on PGM prices in various currencies. The publication can be ordered from GFMS for £275 / US\$495 / €395 per copy. For orders and to receive further product information please contact Ms L. Perrard on: Tel: +44 (0)20 7478 1777, Fax: +44 (0)20 7478 1779, Email: sales@gfms.co.uk, Web Site: www.gfms.co.uk, Online Shop: <http://shop.gfms.co.uk>

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