



## **Publication of *Gold Survey 2009 - Update 1***

### ***Gold Mine Production's Declining Trend Upset With 7% Growth in The First Half***

At launches in London and Denver, GFMS, the world's foremost precious metals consultancy, released its first half findings of trends in the global gold market. Presenting at the Denver Gold Conference, CEO, Dr Paul Walker, highlighted that mine production had abandoned the decade's underlying declining trend to post a marked 7% increase year-on-year in the six months to end-June 2009.

Significant increases were seen in China and particularly Indonesia, where production at the Grasberg mine bounced back from suppressed levels in 2008, when low grade sections of the ore body were mined. Underpinning that growth, project start ups in late 2008 have been instrumental in driving production higher in several important producing countries, including Russia, Peru, and several west African states. Walker highlighted that contrary to recent history, where country level losses have been widespread, in the first half of 2009 "South Africa was the only country to note a significant reduction, which we estimate came in up to 10% lower in the first half."

Commenting on the outlook for the remainder of the year, GFMS' expectation is for the pace of global gold mine output growth to slow materially, but nevertheless maintain a slight upward trajectory in the second half, to end the year notably higher than 2008's levels. "We're seeing a handful of projects ramping up production right now and these, coupled with what should be a significant addition by the end of the year from the Boddington project in Western Australia, should fully offset the underlying decline at maturing properties," added Walker.

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**Gold Survey 2009 - Update 1:** In just 40 pages, Update 1 identifies the most important economic, sociopolitical and market-specific issues facing the gold market. The publication can be ordered from GFMS for £250 / US\$460 / €350 per copy. For orders and to receive further product information please contact Elena Patimova - Tel: +44 (0)20 7478 1750, Fax: +44 (0)20 7478 1779, Email: sales@gfms.co.uk, Web Site: www.gfms.co.uk, Online Shop: <http://shop.gfms.co.uk>

#### **Note to Editors about GFMS Limited:**

GFMS is an independent consultancy providing unrivalled research into precious metals, base metals, steel and diamonds. The company is based in London, UK, but has representation in Australia, India, Germany, France, Spain and Russia, plus a vast range of contacts and associates across the globe. The team includes 23 full-time analysts plus four consultants in key regional markets.

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