

**Press Release** 

Osmium-Institut zur Inverkehrbringung und Zertifizierung von Osmium GmbH Höllriegelskreuther Weg 3 82065 Baierbrunn

> Tel: +49 (89) 7 44 88 88 - 88 Fax: +49 (89) 7 44 88 88 - 89 Mobile: +49 (177) 7 938 007

E-Mail: <u>Ingo.Wolf@Osmium-Institute.com</u> Internet: <u>www.Osmium.info</u>

\_\_\_\_\_

Director: Ingo D. Wolf county court: munich, HRB 200 453 USt-Id-Nr: DE 284 376 137

# For immediate release

# Osmium, the last precious metal, launched globally

MUNICH, Germany - 29 October 2018 – The Osmium-Institute Germany has announced the global market launch of the precious metal osmium. Being headquartered in Baierbrunn, Germany, the entity acts as the global governing body for the introduction, certification, commercialisation of and international trade with crystalline osmium. The move is set to provide new opportunities for global jewellery and commodity investment industries, including in Australia.

A glance at the periodic table reveals that osmium is a precious metal. Besides osmium, these include platinum, gold, silver, palladium, iridium, rhodium and ruthenium. Everyone is familiar with platinum, gold and silver. Palladium and iridium are already less known. Rhodium has been available for a few years as an investment metal in bar form. And ruthenium has proven itself in the market only in late 2017, when it went through an incredible price hike. Osmium is the eighth and therefore the last precious metal.

The special position of osmium in the periodic table and on the market imply some extraordinary properties. Among all precious metals, osmium is the rarest with the highest density. In addition, its bulk modulus and abrasion resistance exceeds even that of diamonds. When cooled down, osmium becomes a superconductor which can transport electricity without loss.

"Only now people begin to realise that there exist just eight precious metals," says Ingo Wolf, who heads global operations of the Osmium-Institute Germany. "Some may have heard of osmium in the past, but almost no one is able to associate anything specific with this amazing element. With markets now opening up internationally, this is changing rapidly."

Those who have had the opportunity to hold osmium in their hands agree that it is the most beautiful precious metal. The reason is that osmium sparkles. It does so because it consists of millions of tiny crystals bound on a surface. And that is exactly what makes osmium very interesting for the jewellery industry. Incidentally, osmium in its raw form is a poisonous and unspectacular grey powder. However, when crystallised in a manner similar to carbon when making diamonds, osmium changes its crystal structure. This process renders the osmium non-toxic for temperatures up to 400 degrees Celsius and therefore stable for all practical purposes. Most importantly, the crystallisation imparts a unique lustre, the so-called osmium sparkle, to its surface.

"If you search online you will find a lot about the harmful properties of raw osmium, and these very properties forbid trade in private and investment markets," explains Mr Wolf. "Crystallisation changes these properties, including the ability to react with other metals. In crystalline form, osmium is absolutely harmless."

Osmium is only available in this crystalline form. It is usually delivered in flat structures and then cut into bespoke shapes which can be processed into jewellery. Because of its distinct reflective properties of blue light, it is also used by jewellers as a small circular disc in rings. These small discs are called osmium diamonds.

With its current price of more than 900 Swiss Francs per gram, osmium is also very expensive. In the future, osmium may yield even higher returns because there are only 9 cubic meters of osmium available in the earth's crust. In 10,000 tons of platinum ore, equivalent to 250 truckloads, only 28 grams of osmium are found during mining.

Many commodity experts expect the so-called osmium Big Bang. This refers to the point in time when all recoverable osmium has actually been taken out of the mines. At that moment, osmium will simply disappear from the market. In such a scenario it is possible that its price will increase tenfold.

Dr Joerg Saxler, who is based in Sydney and heads the affiliated Osmium-Institute in Australia, adds, "Due to its intriguing story, its special properties and rarity, there is a strong case for osmium to become the new commodity of choice for premium jewellery designers and investors alike."

However, the osmium market is not for speculators. For this reason, osmium is also referred to as generation metal: Forward looking investors leave their purchased osmium untouched and simply pass it on to their children. In the short term, osmium is not that easy to resell because the secondary market is just being established. This is the jewellery industry, where osmium is increasingly being employed with the most creative jewellery designers being eager to shine with the 'new' precious metal and its special properties. This is already being understood in markets such as China and India.

Those who would like to learn more about osmium can do so at one of the Osmium-Institutes around the world. The scientific staff employed by the institutes is not only willing to provide information about osmium but is also the guardian of the international database storing the Osmium Identification Code. This database is the central location which holds key information on every piece of the unforgeable metal with its unique crystal structure, including individual certificates of authenticity.

The website <u>www.osmium.info</u> is published, maintained and updated in many different languages by the Osmium-Institute Germany and provides basic information. Individuals interested in osmium can search for their local Osmium-Institute at <u>www.osmiuminstitute.com</u>. Those who already own osmium can verify their Osmium Identification Code at <u>www.osmium-jewelry.com</u> to access their individual certificates of authenticity and the current price of their osmium pieces online

# About the Osmium-Institutes:

### Tasks:

Osmium-Institutes have the international task of introducing osmium to the regional markets. They provide native-speaker support in the marketing of osmium as well as training for investment advisors, processors, and organizations working with osmium.

Osmium is promoted as a jewelry and investment metal by osmium institutes and receives considerable support. This serves the purpose of providing information on high-temperature processing into jewellery and at the same time helping investors to check osmium for authenticity.

The current Swiss prices are published after each fixing via RSS feeds of the Osmium institutes in several currencies.

#### Purchase of osmium:

To purchase osmium, please contact retailers, financial institutions and wholesalers as well as jewelers who have received approval from Osmium-Institutes for trade and distribution. These organizations have an obligation to have a profound knowledge of osmium.

Some of them are listed on the websites of the regional Osmium-Institutes.

#### Process of osmium certification:

After being crystallized in Switzerland, all pieces of osmium are passed through the German Osmium-Institute. After chemical analysis and scan, the crystal structures are entered as "fingerprints" of the osmium crystals in the international osmium database and the internationally valid number and letter code is assigned (Osmium Identification Code - OIC).

#### Manifestations:

Unlike osmium sponge, crystallized osmium is non-toxic and completely harmless. Its appearance differs in the crystal lattice structure and thus changes the chemical properties of osmium. The metal belongs to the group of platinum metals and, like any precious metal, has the properties of special resistance to reactors.

#### 2D-geometries:

Osmium is supplied in flat structures with a layer thickness of approximately one mm. Almost any shape can be cut by wire erosion. The rectangular shape is common for bars, which can be imported duty-free in many countries and countries as an investment instrument.

Safety instructions of the Osmium-Institutes apply for the cut. During processing, it is recommended that the regional Osmium-Institute approves the desired cutting forms. Certified cutting companies can also be commissioned directly by the institutes. For these cuts, if ordered over an Osmium-Institute, full insurance applies in the case of a false cut of the ordered form.

#### **3D-geometries:**

Osmium can be crystallized in structures up to 2cm in size on carbon cores. The core remains in the structure. It cannot be removed and in addition, serves to the stability of the 3D surface. Only topologically monovalent forms are possible which do not have through holes. The shapes must merge smoothly. Sharp edges and corners are not possible.

#### Forms of trade for crystallized Osmium:

The most common trading shapes are the Osmium-Disks and Osmium Medium Edged Bars. They are called osmium semi-finished products and are duty-free in many countries. These bars are supplemented by Osmium-Diamonds and Osmium -Stars.

Special shapes are simple geometries, silhouettes, and letters. 3D objects are only available in extremely small quantities and are rarely and usually only on request produced.

#### Contacts for specific inquiries by media partners:

Ms. Scarlett Clauss: <u>Scarlett.Clauss@Osmium-Institute.com</u> international public relations Europe: Tel. +49 171 1060356

Ms. Sarah Voelk: Sarah.Voelk@Osmium-Institute.com international social media Europe: Tel.: +49 163 754 7771

Contact for questions on customs and taxes as well as export, trade and import:

Dr. Jörg Saxler Joerg.Saxler@Osmium-Institute.com tax and duty department Australia Cell: +61 427 800 193

#### Contact for Onboarding, Partnership, Training:

Ms. Elisabeth Gleirscher: Elisabeth.Gleirscher@Osmium-Institute.com international onboarding, training Europe: Tel.: +43 699 1310 2709

For journalists, the <u>www.osmium-dlc.com</u> is available as a download center for free Osmium-related material. For direct inquiries or defined questions, please send an email to <u>scarlett.clauss@osmium-institute.com</u>

#### **Contact German Osmium-Institute:**

Osmium-Institut zur Inverkehrbringung und Zertifizierung von Osmium GmbH Höllriegelskreuther Weg 3 82065 Baierbrunn

Tel: +49 (89) 7 44 88 88 - 11 Fax: +49 (89) 7 44 88 88 - 19 Mobile: +49 (177) 7 938 007

E-Mail: <u>Ingo.Wolf@Osmium-Institute.com</u> www.Osmium.info

GF und Direktion: Ingo D. Wolf Amtsgericht: München, HRB 200 453 Ust-Id-Nr: DE 284 376 137

#### Contact for investors, collectors and end customers:

Hotline: +49 (89) 7 44 88 88 - 88

# More information about Osmium may be found here:

# 1. Osmium.info

Basic information for when first getting in touch with Osmium. Covers all important information to pass the examination.

# 2. Osmium-training.com

A short explanation of the virtual academy and therefore the online training. More information about courses and further training.

# 3. Osmium-institute.com

Covers the tasks of the Osmium-Institute and its employees. Here, all international institutes are listed by their region.

# 4. Osmium-onboarding.com

Explains cooperation with the Osmium-Institutes. A platform where new partners can register. Choose your code of reference here.

# 5. Osmium-sales.com

Website covering the sales partner's settlement and basic information. Explanation of the marketing plan / earnings. Password: bigbang

# 7. Osmium-academy.com

Multi-language online training for jewellers and sale partners. Here you can take the online examination anytime you want.

### 8. Buy-osmium.com

Online shop to buy Osmium and Osmium-Jewellery. Access for sales partners. Branded shops for each sales partner.

### 9. Osmium-TV.com

This channel covers topics about Osmium, introduces new jewellery and new partners. All new information is broadcasted in high definition and 4k resolution.

### 10. Osmium-dlc.com

Platform for pictures, texts, short films, brochures, posters, interviews. The latest press information and posters can be downloaded here.

### 11. Osmium-Jewelry.com

This website lists all jewellers trading with Osmium worldwide. Information how to process Osmium and work with the material including a safety guide.

### 12. Osmium-Preis.com

This website covers the current price of Osmium and the related charts. Essential is the 1gr (0,035 oz) price to determine the material price.

List of institutes:

#### Espagna:

Instituto Español del Osmio para la comercialización y certificación de Osmio, S.L. Director: Marion Langenscheidt Calle Pintada 81, 29780 Nerja

Mobile: +34 654 053 799 e-mail: <u>Marion.Langenscheidt@osmium-institute.com</u>

#### Australia:

Osmium-Institute Australia to Introduce and Certify Osmium Pty Ltd. Director: Dr. Joerg Saxler MIEAust CPEng NER PMP PO Box 1043 Edgecliff NSW 2027

ACN 622 985 353

Mobile: +61 427 800 193 e-mail: Joerg.Saxler@osmium-institute.com

#### Singapore:

Osmium-Institute Singapore to introduce and certify Osmium Director: Miriam Becker 21 Malcolm Road, Singapore, 308260

Mobile: +65 9654 0007 e-mail: <u>Miriam.Becker@osmium-institute.com</u>