



## Press Release

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For immediate release

### **Launch of International Osmium Identification Code and Database Provide Unprecedented Security for Global Trade with ‘Last Precious Metal’**

*MUNICH, GERMANY– 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2018 - The Osmium-Institute Germany has announced that the International Osmium Database has been launched and can now be accessed online. The database contains unique identifiers about every piece of osmium which has ever been or will circulate on the market. The announcement follows a 12 month period of negotiations with customs authorities on four continents and is set to establish the global standard to clearly identify every piece of osmium in international and private transactions.*

With surging international trade of crystalline osmium, the eighth and last precious metal, buyers confidence and transactional security are becoming increasingly important.

The crystal surface structure of crystalline osmium is an important natural feature because it is unique for every individual osmium piece and offers a higher degree of security than a human fingerprint. This characteristic on the face of every osmium piece, even noticeable with the naked eye, formed the base for establishing the Osmium Identification Code (OIC). The OIC is stored along with other information such as photographs, weight, dimensions and current monetary value in the International Osmium Database during the authentication process and is used to verify the authenticity of individual osmium pieces online.

The OIC is a unique identifier for every osmium piece and consists of a combination of letters and numbers, for example B13 – LM3D – T93G. The first digit classifies the osmium piece into a product category such as a flat shape, a bar or a ring. It can also be multi-digit. In this case, the ‘B’ stands for an Osmium Pearl. The following two numbers, if present, refer to a product sub-category or specify a value unit. The next two fields contain each a random combination of four letters and numbers which are generated during the authentication process. Characters such as ‘o’ , ‘i’ and ‘l’ are not permitted as they

can easily be confused with other numbers or letters. This results in a high number of combinations and therefore a high level of security.

The OIC empowers customs authorities, jewellers, institutional buyers as well as private persons (including the owners of a piece) to verify the authenticity the respective osmium piece, should this become necessary. Verification is only possible if the OIC is known.

To establish the OIC and the International Osmium Database it was necessary for all Osmium-Institutes to work together and coordinate their activities with various authorities and regulators. A database of this kind is only possible for osmium and no other precious metal since the latter do not have a macroscopic surface structure.

Elisabeth Gleirscher, a member of the management team of the Osmium-Institute Germany, the global governing body to safeguard a standardised and secure trade of crystalline osmium, says: *“The Osmium Identification Code provides a secure method to protect and ensure authenticity for both sellers and buyers of osmium: Sellers can be assured of an accurate sale price, just as buyers are assured of the certification and authenticity of their osmium piece. In this way, the OIC prevents fraud on resale.”*

The International Osmium Database can be accessed by entering the OIC on a range of websites, including [www.osmium-jewelry.com](http://www.osmium-jewelry.com) and [www.osmium-institute.com.au](http://www.osmium-institute.com.au) (‘Authentication and certification’ tab).

## About the Osmium-Institutes:

### Tasks:

Osmium Institutes have the international task of introducing osmium into 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 jewellers who have received approval from osmium institutes for trade and distribution. These organisations 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 (hexadecimal code).

### 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 forms are the osmium disc 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 produced on request.

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**For journalists, the [www.osmium-dlc.com](http://www.osmium-dlc.com) is available as a download center for free Osmium-related material. For direct inquiries or defined questions, please send an email to [scarlett.clauss@osmium-institute.com](mailto:scarlett.clauss@osmium-institute.com)**

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

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**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:

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