

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GOLD IN AUGUST 2011

U.S. mines produced 20,100 kilograms (kg) of gold in August, a slight increase compared with revised July production. The average daily gold production for U.S. mines was 648 kg in August, compared with 638 kilograms per day (kg/d) for July, and 634 kg/d for the full year of 2010.

The average Engelhard gold price was \$1,760.91 per troy ounce for August, an 11% increase compared with the average gold price in July. The gold price began the month at \$1,626.41 per troy ounce, the lowest level of the month, and then began a steady rise to \$1,881.34 per troy ounce on August 22, the highest level of the month, before dropping almost \$150 per troy ounce in 3 days. The price rebounded and closed the month at \$1,817.23 per troy ounce.

International Tower Hill Mines Ltd. (Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada) announced the results of an updated preliminary economic assessment for its Livengood gold project near Fairbanks, AK. The new assessment estimated that the project could generate \$3.1 billion in pretax cash flows and a \$1.2 billion net present value, at a 5% discount rate at a gold price of \$1,100 per troy ounce. The average cost for the first 5 years of the mine's production was estimated at \$557 per troy ounce of gold produced, and \$703 per troy ounce of gold produced during the life of the mine. The mine was projected to produce 20,700 kilograms of gold per year (kg/yr) (664,000 troy ounces per year) for the first 5 years and 17,500 kg/yr (562,000

troy ounces per year) during the life of the mine, which was estimated to be 23 years. In addition, an upgraded resources estimate expanded the surface mine mineralization to 513,000 kg (16.5 million troy ounces) of gold contained in the measured and indicated categories (International Tower Hill Mines Ltd., 2011).

International Minerals Corp. (Scottsdale, AZ) announced an increase in the mineral resources estimates for the Converse gold project. The project, in the Battle Mountain-Cortez mineralized trend in north-central Nevada, had a reported measured and indicated resource of 331 million metric tons of ore at a grade of 0.48 gram per metric ton containing 160,100 kg (5.146 million troy ounces) of gold. The company anticipated the completion of the preliminary economic assessment by the end of 2011 (International Minerals Corp., 2011).

References Cited

- International Minerals Corp., 2011, International Minerals reports increased resources estimate at Converse gold project in Nevada: Scottsdale, AZ, International Minerals Corp. news release, August 24, 3 p.
- International Tower Hill Mines Ltd., 2011, International Tower Hill announces surface mine measured & indicated resources expansion to 16.5 Moz contained gold and robust preliminary economic assessment at Livengood project, Alaska: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, International Tower Hill Mines Ltd. press release, August 23, 8 p.

TABLE 1
MINE PRODUCTION OF RECOVERABLE GOLD IN THE UNITED
STATES, BY STATE¹

(Kilograms)

	Alaska	Nevada	Other States ²	Total
2010: ^p				
August	2,960	15,400	2,560	20,900
September	2,760	16,200	2,590	21,500
October	2,360	13,600	2,530	18,500
November	2,410	13,800	3,050	19,200
December	2,540	11,800	3,170	17,500
January–December	28,100	166,000	36,900	231,000
2011:				
January	1,870	15,200 ^r	3,050	20,200 ^r
February	1,800	13,100 ^r	2,680	17,600 ^r
March	2,050	14,200 ^r	3,230	19,500 ^r
April	2,300	13,700 ^r	2,920	19,000 ^r
May	2,460	15,300 ^r	3,220	20,900 ^r
June	2,290	15,800 ^r	2,820	20,900 ^r
July	2,440	14,500 ^r	2,890 ^r	19,800 ^r
August	2,290	14,800	3,040	20,100
January–August	17,500	117,000	23,800	158,000

^pPreliminary. ^rRevised.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah, and Washington.

TABLE 2
GOLD PRICES

(Dollars per troy ounce)

Engelhard:	
2010:	
Low/date	1,060.45 Feb. 5
High/date	1,424.07 Nov. 9
Average	1,227.51
2011:	
July:	
Low/date	1,486.17/1
High/date	1,631.92/29
Average	1,580.03
August:	
Low/date	1,626.41/1
High/date	1,881.34/22
Average	1,760.91
Year to date:	
Low/date	1,321.89 Jan. 28
High/date	1,881.34 Aug. 22
Average	1,507.82
Handy and Harman:	
2010, Average	
	1,224.74
2011:	
July	1,576.70
August	1,757.21
Year to date	1,504.67
London Final:	
2010, Average	
	1,224.66
2011:	
July	1,572.81
August	1,755.81
Year to date	1,502.34

Source: Platts Metals Week.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD¹

(Kilograms of gold content, unless otherwise specified)

Period and country	Ores and concentrates ²	Doré and precipitates	Refined bullion ³	Total ⁴	Waste and scrap (gross weight)	Metal powder (gross weight)	Gold compounds (gross weight)
Imports for consumption:							
2010	257,000	148,000	199,000	604,000	46,100	652	43,500
2011:							
June	30,300	18,800	10,500	59,600	3,230	29	9,060
July:							
Bolivia	--	385	25	410	(5)	--	--
Brazil	--	--	455	455	--	--	--
Canada	--	11 ⁶	4,410 ⁶	4,430	846 ⁶	(5)	--
Chile	--	103	450	553	14 ⁶	--	--
Colombia	--	3,320	533	3,850	4	--	--
Costa Rica	--	22	--	22	133 ⁶	--	--
Curacao	--	1,460	--	1,460	5	--	--
Dominican Republic	--	153	5	158	1,300 ⁶	--	--
El Salvador	--	--	--	--	339	--	--
Guatemala	--	36 ⁶	--	36	170 ⁶	--	--
Guyana	--	205	188	394	--	--	--
Honduras	--	4	28	32	276 ⁶	--	--
Japan	--	--	--	--	--	(5)	6,050 ⁶
Mexico	32,800 ⁶	6,250 ⁶	4,180 ⁶	43,200	329 ⁶	--	--
Nicaragua	--	142	(5)	142	176 ⁶	--	--
Panama	--	61	117 ⁶	177	89 ⁶	--	--
Peru	--	43	137	179	--	--	--
Switzerland	--	--	493	493	--	(5)	--
United Kingdom	--	--	--	--	1 ⁶	11 ⁶	464 ⁶
Zaire	--	--	102	102	--	--	--
Other	--	143 ⁶	148	290	198 ⁶	41 ⁶	--
Total	32,800	12,300	11,300	56,400	3,880	52	6,510
Year to date	197,000	99,800	94,000	391,000 ⁷	38,100 ⁷	261	32,900
Exports:							
2010	3,470	84,400	295,000	383,000	660,000	2,330	4,270,000
2011:							
June	720	5,760	25,200	31,700	33,300	53	358,000
July:							
Canada	--	46	135	181	6,040 ⁶	3 ⁶	73,800 ⁶
China	276	--	--	276	--	--	34,800 ⁶
Dominican Republic	--	--	--	--	--	--	11,900 ⁶
Germany	238 ⁶	--	(5)	238	21,000 ⁶	4 ⁶	774 ⁶
Hong Kong	--	--	7,000 ⁶	7,000	6 ⁶	2 ⁶	--
India	8	--	2,010	2,010	--	4 ⁶	2,230 ⁶
Ireland	6 ⁶	--	2 ⁶	8	--	--	1,180 ⁶
Italy	1 ⁶	--	96	96	4,680 ⁶	--	--
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	--	6,090 ⁶	--	563 ⁶
Malaysia	--	--	29	29	--	--	43,800 ⁶
Mexico	679 ⁶	--	98	777	--	3 ⁶	82,200 ⁶
Saudi Arabia	--	--	--	--	--	--	309 ⁶
Singapore	--	--	--	--	--	3 ⁶	152,000 ⁶
Switzerland	--	1,520	7,840	9,360	12,400	--	--
Taiwan	--	--	--	--	--	7 ⁶	36,500 ⁶
Thailand	--	--	1,000	1,000	--	--	--
United Arab Emirates	--	1,630	15	1,640	175	44 ⁶	--
United Kingdom	--	--	17,700 ⁶	17,700	22,500 ⁶	20 ⁶	1,050 ⁶
Other	26 ⁶	1 ⁶	72 ⁶	99	33 ⁶	12 ⁶	82 ⁶
Total	1,230	3,200	36,000	40,400	72,900	102	441,000
Year to date	5,890	34,900	231,000	272,000	423,000	354	2,350,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3—Continued
U.S. IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD¹

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes gold content of base metal ores, concentrates, and matte imported for refining.

³Bullion also moves in both directions between U.S. markets and foreign stocks on deposit in the Federal Reserve Bank. Monetary gold excluded.

⁴"Waste and scrap," "Metal powder," and "Gold compounds" not included in "Total."

⁵Less than ½ unit.

⁶All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

⁷Includes revisions to previously published data.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.