LBMA IS THE PRE-EMINENT STANDARD-SETTING BODY FOR THE GLOBAL WHOLESALE MARKET FOR PRECIOUS METALS.

SOME 150 MEMBERS BASED IN OVER 30 COUNTRIES ENCOMPASSING EVERY PART OF THE JOURNEY IN PRECIOUS METALS FROM MINING TO REFINING, FROM TRANSPORTATION TO TRADING AND FROM VAULTING TO MANUFACTURING.
LEADERSHIP
LBMA acts as the voice of the world’s precious metals market, as well as being a contact point for regulators, investors and clients.

MISSION
Our mission is to add value to the global precious metals industry, by setting standards and developing market services, thereby ensuring the highest levels of integrity, transparency and trust.

MEMBERSHIP
Those who meet our criteria are encouraged to become LBMA members (full details can be found on our website www.lbma.org.uk) and assist a robust association in promoting the continued evolution and health of a global marketplace for precious metals in which all participants can operate with confidence.
Globally Significant. London Based.

LBMA is headquartered in London, taking advantage of a time zone which brings together miners, investors, fabricators, ETFs, refiners, manufacturers, consumers and central banks from around the world. This is key to London being the centre of the world’s largest precious metals market.

Perhaps even more important than geography though, the physical settlement of metal in the global OTC precious metals market takes place across accounts in London, much as in the way that the pound sterling does. Hence, the market complies with the rules and practices determined by LBMA regarding Good Delivery bars and conduct, wherever the market participants are based in the world.
Quality

GOOD DELIVERY

The global OTC market for precious metals is dependent on the fungibility of bars that underpin the system. Only gold and silver bars that meet LBMA’s Good Delivery standards are acceptable in the settlement of a Loco London contract. We set the international standard for these bars through maintenance of the London Good Delivery Lists.

Accreditation to LBMA’s Good Delivery List is globally recognised as the benchmark for the quality of gold and silver bars, due to the exacting criteria that an applicant must satisfy. The List is also used (under licence) by many Futures Exchanges around the world to determine which bars are accepted in their own markets.

Refiners seeking acceptance to the list of accredited refiners must undergo stringent checks regarding their history in the market, their financial standing and their ability to produce bars that meet the exacting standards of London Good Delivery (LGD) Rules. Additionally, they must implement LBMA’s Responsible Gold and/or Silver Guidance prior to accreditation.

Full details on how to become an accredited refiner can be found on LBMA’s website www.lbma.org.uk.

RESPONSIBLE SOURCING

LBMA, as the global authority for precious metals, maintains the highest standards for Responsible Sourcing. Vital to their credibility is the broad scope in combating money laundering, terrorist financing and human rights abuses, including the worst forms of child labour. The scope of both the gold and silver guidance not only meets, but exceeds, conflict minerals regulations.

The standards set out management system requirements for LBMA accredited precious metal refiners. They are audited annually and are required to report publically.

Looking forward, LBMA is expanding this scope to include the environment, sustainability and governance, as well as new guidance covering the Responsible Sourcing of both platinum and palladium.

LBMA accredited refiners account for approximately 90% of global annual gold production.

90%
Integrity

GLOBAL PRECIOUS METAL CODE

Client confidence is a key issue for the global OTC precious metals markets. To address this, in May 2017, LBMA published the first Global Precious Metals Code (the “Code”), which sets out a common set of principles to promote the integrity and effective functioning of the global market, covering ethics, governance, risk management and business conduct.

Although not a member of LBMA, the Bank of England was the first institution to commit publicly to the Code, when in February 2018 it issued a statement of Commitment. By issuing this Statement, the Bank is demonstrating that it is committed to adhering to the principles of the Code when acting as a market participant in the precious metals market.

All LBMA members involved in the global wholesale OTC precious metals market must confirm adherence to the Code.

Transparency

DATA

Vaulting Statistics were first published by LBMA in 2017. The amount of gold and silver physically held in London vaults is currently more than 7,500 tonnes of gold and 34,000 tonnes of silver. The gold alone is valued in excess of $300 billion.

The weight of gold and silver held in London vaults is the equivalent to the following number of bulls.

10,000

45,000

Trade Reporting will provide three clear benefits: an accurate picture of the size of the OTC market, greater transparency for existing and potential investors, as well as increased confidence in the liquidity of the market. The data will be published for the first time in 2018, on LBMA’s platform LBMA-i.

BENCHMARK PRICES

LBMA’s wholly owned subsidiary, Precious Metals Prices Limited, owns the Intellectual Property Rights for the daily spot benchmark prices for gold, silver, platinum and palladium.

The administration and calculation of the prices are managed by independent third parties across electronic auction platforms.

JOINING LBMA

LBMA has five types of Membership:

- Market-Making Member
- Full Member
- Affiliate Member
- Exchange Affiliate Member
- Associate

Full details of how to apply and the requirements necessary can be found on LBMA’s website, www.lbma.org.uk
STAY CONNECTED WITH LBMA

Events
LBMA organises a variety of industry events featuring leading experts including:

Annual Precious Metals Conference traditionally at a different location each year. The 2018 conference will be held in Boston, while in previous years, conferences have been held in Barcelona, Singapore, Vienna, Shanghai, Kyoto etc.

An Assaying and Refining Conference is held in London every two years, with the next event taking place on 17-20 March 2019.

A Rolling programme of committee meetings and working groups to enable a vigorous, global OTC Market.

Social events to facilitate networking for a wide range of market participants, including a Biennial Dinner.

Webinars
LBMA hosts regular webinars to keep members up to date on significant industry topics, including the impact of regulatory changes.

Publications
Alchemist, LBMA’s quarterly journal which contains features, analysis and articles of interest to all participants in, and observers of, the global bullion market.

Other publications include the Precious Metals Integrity brochure and the Annual Review, as well as regular communications including Member briefings and regulatory updates.

Market Updates
LBMA keeps the membership up to date with issues affecting the global OTC precious metals market, as well as details of upcoming events.

Contact LBMA should you wish to receive market updates at mail@lbma.org.uk.

Gold held in London vaults that underpins the global OTC market is worth in excess of $300 billion. This is considerably more than the reported value of metal held in Fort Knox, Kentucky, and is second only to the entire holdings of the US government.