

Merchant Banking

The silver book

June 2007



VM Group

Sponsored by Fortis

Tel. +44 20 7487 3600
info@vmgroup.co.uk

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Introduction

Jessica Cross, CEO

VM Group/MineLife
London, June 2007

This is the debut issue of The Silver Book – a record of past activities and a discussion of possible future developments in the international silver market, and sister report to The Yellow and White Books, which cover gold and platinum group metals respectively.

With the compliments of Fortis Bank, The Silver Book will be made available in June and December each year. The VM Group thanks Fortis Bank for recognising the rationale behind this publication.

Like its sister reports, The Silver Book is designed as a quick read but is backed up with data that can be referred to on an on-going basis. Each issue of The Silver Book will contain:

- A feature article specific to the silver industry. This debut publication looks at how VM Group has put together the statistics that appear in this report and comments on the implications these figures have on interpreting the past, current and future silver market. In particular, we question the conventional wisdom that maintains that the silver market has been characterised by years of metal deficits.
- A discussion of the efficiency with which silver is recycled from photographic waste, a sector we believe to have been underestimated over the years. This debut issue looks at how VM Group has modelled this sector.
- Statistical data series considering each sector of the identifiable silver market.

We remind readers that our data is available electronically in Microsoft Excel format – contact us by email with specific data requests at: info@virtualmetals.co.uk.

Housekeeping

- All volumes are in metric tonnes or troy ounces unless stated.
- All references to dollars are US dollars unless stated.
- For space saving in the data tables (production, scrap, and jewellery), countries registering small amounts of gold are grouped into “other”. Contact us if you need a detailed breakdown.
- Numbers in the tables have been independently rounded and, accordingly, may not add exactly to indicated totals and subtotals.

Jessica Cross
CEO
VM Group
London, June 2007

This time 5 years ago

June 14th 2002

Daily fix: \$4.89/oz

Dollar to Sterling: 1.47

Yen to Dollar: 125.1

Euro to Dollar: 1.06

1 month lease rate: 0.72%

US Mint, June 2nd 2002: According to mint statistics the US Mint's American Eagle silver bullion coinage program passed the 100 Moz sales mark. With an average London price fix of \$4.35/oz (since the programme's inception in 1983) total revenue from sales amounted to approximately \$517 million.

Innovative Medical Services (IMS), April 1st 2002: IMS has made an announcement regarding its silver based Axenohl product which could become an important non-toxic and non-irritant, over the counter topical remedy to kill off bacteria that can cause acne.

Silver Institute, 18th April 2002: Kodak are to introduce a camera called the Advantix EasyShare that will combine digital photography with traditional silver backed film. Customers will be able to receive prints from their retailer whilst maintaining a negative and also having the option of e-mailing the images as a digital picture.

Reuters, May 23rd 2002: According to the Peoples Bank of China, 21 types of silver coins along with a series of 10 commemorative precious metals coins will be issued throughout the year. More than 2 Moz of silver will be used to mint the coins, 474,000 oz more than in 2001.

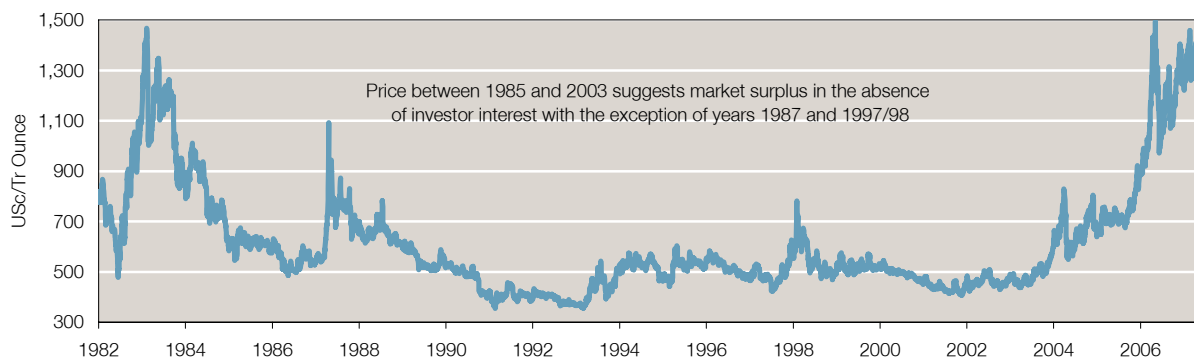
Feature: Deficit? What deficit?

Jessica Cross and Gary Mead

VM Group
London, June 2007

In 2000, an American-based precious metals investment website posed a very pertinent question concerning publicly available silver statistics: if the market is in deficit and had apparently been so for many years, why had the price not risen?¹ This is an entirely valid point – the accompanying chart covering the period 1982 to the current year, shows that the silver price from around late 1985 to 2003 languished between \$4 and \$6 per ounce (with the exceptional price rallies of 1987 and 1998). A market in persistent deficit yet prone to a consistently weak price flies in the face of economic theory. What was really going on?

Silver, LBMA Fixing, USD



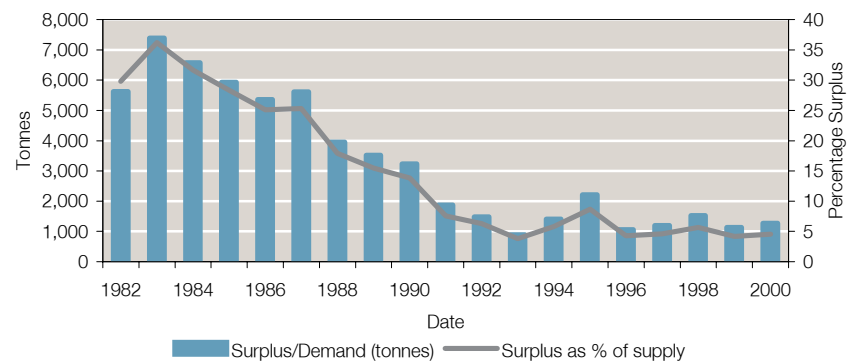
Source: Reuters Ecowin

This question we set out to answer by re-examining the silver industry from scratch, putting together an independent supply/demand imbalance going back to 1980. In line with the statistical methodology we apply to all commodities – metals, energy and agri-business – our supply/demand balances do not balance. Each sub-sector identifies what we **can** measure or proffer model-based estimates, the difference between any annual overall supply and demand being an indication of either a surplus or a deficit. These surpluses or deficits represent what we **cannot** measure (e.g. investment demand) or measure with any degree of certainty (e.g. dishoarding). Our residual therefore represents – in Donald Rumsfeld’s memorable phrase – the *known unknowns*; the inference being that this is metal either available (surplus) or not available (deficit) for investment. Markets in annual deficit rely on above ground stocks to alleviate the shortage in the underlying commodities. Markets in annual surplus see the levels of above-ground inventories rise.

Thus a supply/demand balance in large deficit, with anecdotal evidence of strong investment interest, could be expected to result in strong upward price pressure. Conversely, the price of a commodity whose market remains in surplus, with scant investment interest, might be expected to show a tendency to price weakness. This we believe is exactly what the status quo happened to be in the silver market for the years 1985-2003.

This next chart shows our calculated annual silver surplus for the period 1982-2000. The left hand axis shows it in tonnes and the right hand axis shows the surplus as a percent of annual supply. Interestingly, it shows a declining surplus over the period.

¹ Ted Butler’s www.gold-eagle.com

Surplus/deficit of silver supply

Source: VM Group

What we are saying is that precious metals investors asking the question posed at the start of this argument should turn the question on its head. What they really need to be asking is – given the fact that the silver price has remained so low, how come the data shows this was a market in deficit?

In the first instance our answer is posited on some reconsideration of fundamental supply data. We believe that the recycling of silver from the photographic industry has always been more efficient than claimed. Our development of a detailed recycling model supported this and our methodology is discussed in more detail in the next section. Unlike e-waste, this industrial process tends to be concentrated geographically. Collection of the waste is much simpler and hence more efficient than with e-waste. Contrast the position of a recycler collecting photographic waste from film processors and hospitals with that of one faced with the task of collecting personal computers from millions of individual homes. Second, although there are high collection losses largely associated with low silver prices, there has always been an awareness of the potential value in photographic waste; a phenomenon which shows a high degree of price sensitivity.

Secondly, we also believe that silver jewellery offtake in many parts of the world, especially countries of the Indian subcontinent like Pakistan and throughout much of the Middle East, has been underestimated. Our analysis reveals a relationship between the volumes (as opposed to values) of gold jewellery and the silver jewellery bought in various countries and regions. In many parts of the Indian subcontinent silver is the first point of market entry with households intending to upgrade to gold, when and as soon as they can afford to. This implies that the ratio of silver to gold jewellery purchases in volume terms is high. It also implies that silver jewellery is readily sold back and recycled. Our analysis supports both these implications. These higher jewellery figures go some – but not all – of the way to mop up the higher recycling figures.

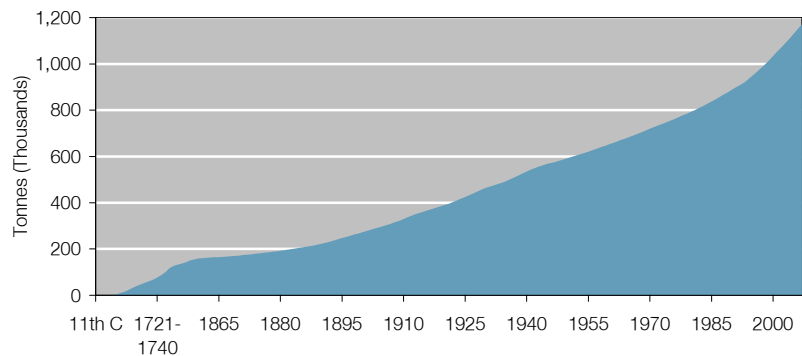
Thirdly, as a direct consequence of higher jewellery offtake in a sector which exhibits a high degree of price sensitivity, our jewellery recycling figures are higher than public domain figures.

Taking all these factors into account we conclude that the silver market during the period 1985-2003 was substantially more liquid than might have been the case. Our analysis suggests an inferred physical surplus which would be available for investment. But of course we know that for long periods the investor was conspicuously absent, and it therefore follows that the silver price showed such sluggish behaviour.

Should this come as a surprise?

Not at all. With kind assistance from Tim Green, we have computed the total amount of silver we believe has been mined over time. Going back to the eleventh century, we estimate that this figure totals 1.17 million tonnes (Mt) of which the great majority was in the last 100 years.

Cumulative tonnes of silver mined



Source: Virtual Metals extrapolated from various historical sources

Given the relative value of silver and gold, we assume that losses of silver stocks are far greater than those of gold. If one accepts that at least 40% of the silver mined has over the years been lost, then above-ground stocks today can be estimated to amount to 700,000 tonnes of metal². A good deal of this metal has been recycled many times over.

But what of the future?

Since 2000, market circumstances have changed. Because of the levels of above-ground stocks, the silver market has and continues to be prone to surplus, in exactly the same way gold is. We must accept this as a chronic feature of the silver market. What has made the difference since 2000 is that the investor, like the Terminator, is back. Thus, in the midst of one of the strongest resource booms on record, investment interest could have easily absorbed surplus silver and asked for more, hence the recovery of the silver price and its upward trajectory.

We believe therefore that while the investment boom in commodities remains intact, the silver price is likely to remain high, in the \$10-15/oz range. This is despite the fact that we believe that the silver market remains in surplus.

In addition to the initial comments we note the following market features:

- Mine supply of silver is very largely dictated by the production of copper, lead and zinc and gold, the silver being recovered as a by-product to the other metals. This has always been the case and it is unlikely to change. The implication then is that silver mine production will remain largely insensitive to movements in the price of the metal.
- Industrial recycling computes at much higher levels than public domain data. Not only do we calculate that silver recovered from photographic waste is more efficient than previously thought, there is also recycling from electronic waste which is likely to become of increasing importance especially in the next three to four years. Our photographic recycling model is considered in more detail later in this report but of importance is the fact that the volumes of recycling from this sector will decline in future years in line with declining usage of traditional photographic film. This is the one supportive side-effect of the move to digital technology.

² Compared with our total of 154,000 tonnes of gold. See The Yellow Book, October 2006 edition.

- There are a number of new industrial end uses of silver beginning to emerge as commercially viable. These in general are predicated on silver's place as an effective biocide, and its conductivity. Our supply/demand balance to 2007 computes demand from these sectors at either zero or nominal volumes – essentially just setting the scene as a precursor of things to come. We expect many of them to grow rapidly from this zero base line and therefore any forecasting ought to take them into account. While collectively they are unlikely to take over where photography has left off in volume terms, their potential contribution to supporting the silver supply/demand profile should not be underestimated. Most important is that these end uses are unlikely to become the source of large amounts of future recycling of the metal.
- The VM Group acknowledges that it does not have a complete data series for silver coinage (now a relatively small sector), producer hedge positions (also relatively low figures) and the most recent official disposals of silver. These figures, especially the official sales, are difficult to obtain with any complete reliability; but we will update our data as and when we obtain more accurate information. This lack of data does not materially affect our conclusions, since much of the official disposals of silver (for example from the USA) occurred during the 1960s and 1970s and sales since then have been at much reduced levels. The country of most importance now remains China, which officially came off the silver standard in 1935. Other official holders of silver also appear to be Russia and India. As far as we are aware, there is no public domain data covering the levels of official silver inventories in these countries.

Four people were particularly helpful with this exercise of modelling the silver market. We thank in the first instance Rosemary Van Musschenbroek and Robin Adams formerly associated with MMRS and Martin Fewings of Xstrata. But we also extend very grateful thanks to Tim Green who scoured his attic; a veritable Aladdin's Cave of silver data.

Silver recycling in photography – waste not, want not

Analyst

Jessica Cross

Tel: +44 20 7487 3600

Email: jessica@virtualmetals.co.uk

Students the world over find part time employment to financially tide them over their years of study, and I was no exception.

In the late 1970s I worked for a veterinary practice in the eastern suburbs of Johannesburg. The lead vet, Bill Warnes, was a very kindly man, treating his animal patients with respect and gentleness. He was, however, known for the occasional bout of ill-temper, invariably triggered by some financial misdemeanour – most commonly but not always unpaid bills on the part of pet owners. One incident in particular remains indelibly etched into my memory. One Saturday afternoon Dr Warnes ambled into the X-Ray room to find a newly appointed trainee nurse tidying up and looking rather pleased with herself as she emptied the mucky-looking contents of two large drums down the drain.

Warnes erupted and bellowed: “You silly girl! Don’t you know there is money in those drums?”

The nurse dissolved into tears, not understanding that the murky looking liquid sitting in two 20-gallon drums was the wash water from our X-Ray plates, awaiting collection by the suppliers of the practice’s X-Ray hardware. Every three months a van would appear, the drums would be loaded and taken away, and the practice would be credited for the contained silver.

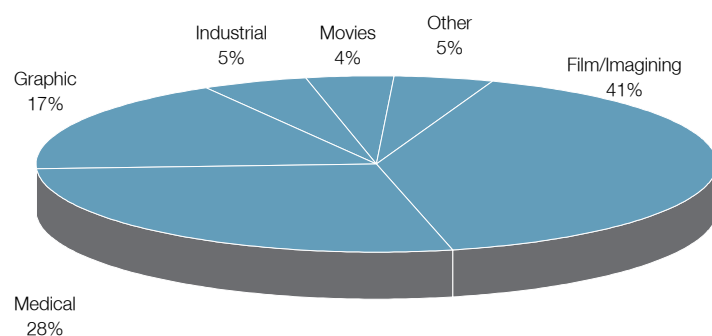
I did what I normally did in the wake of a grumpy elderly man – I made Bill Warnes a cup of coffee, a remedy that never failed to restore his humour. But that was, essentially, my first experience of the photographic recycling industry. As a student of physical geography, economics and archaeology, this incident had little relevance for me but, with hindsight, it was a precursor of much more to come. It demonstrated that collection networks of photographic scrap have been efficient and well established for decades.

This anecdote has some relevance to this inaugural issue of The Silver Book, where we model the recycling of silver from the photographic industry. In doing this, a number of factors need to be considered.

More to the photographic sector than meets the eye

First, we are dealing with six discrete end uses: the largest being film and imaging, followed by medical applications, graphic, industrial X-Rays, the movie industry and a catch-all, termed “other”, which includes all those more minor end users who do not fit into any of the previously mentioned categories.

Breakdown of photographic recycling by sector



Source: VM Group

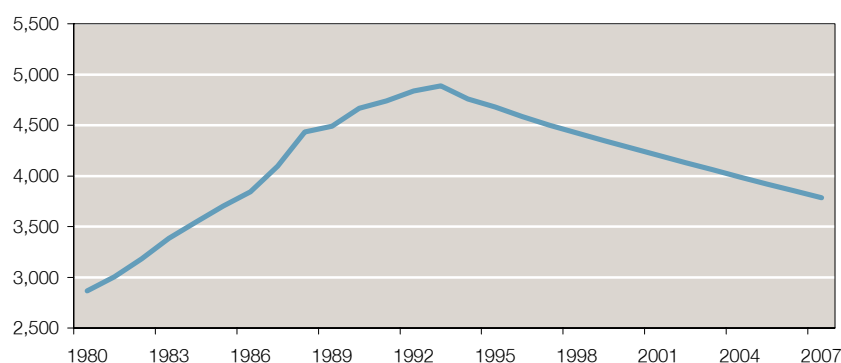
Second, in each of these sectors, we are also dealing with different products, namely, paper and film, both of which can either be black and white or colour, hence a total of four different products.

Third, the end products have different life lengths, some terminating in recycling sooner than others. The silver-rich residue from film and imaging is recycled almost immediately on film processing and therefore enters the secondary chain swiftly. Medical X-Rays tend to be kept on file in patients' records for some years and, therefore, there can be considerable lags before this type of silver scrap is returned.³ But we also note that the process of film/X-Ray development results in recyclable silver residues – the murky liquid in 20-gallon drums.

And finally, there are recycling losses at every stage of the chain. In photo finishing, we have posited a massive 50%-60% loss of silver. It is historically the case since the low silver prices of the 1980s and 1990s, discouraged colour film processors from installing recovery systems into their processing plants. In other products, we assume that 40% of the contained silver goes down the drain and this again has much to do with the price of the metal. On top of that we make allowances for refining losses of between 5% and 10% which are standard throughout the precious metals secondary supply chain.

The global results of our analysis are shown in the following chart:

Total photographic tonnes recycled

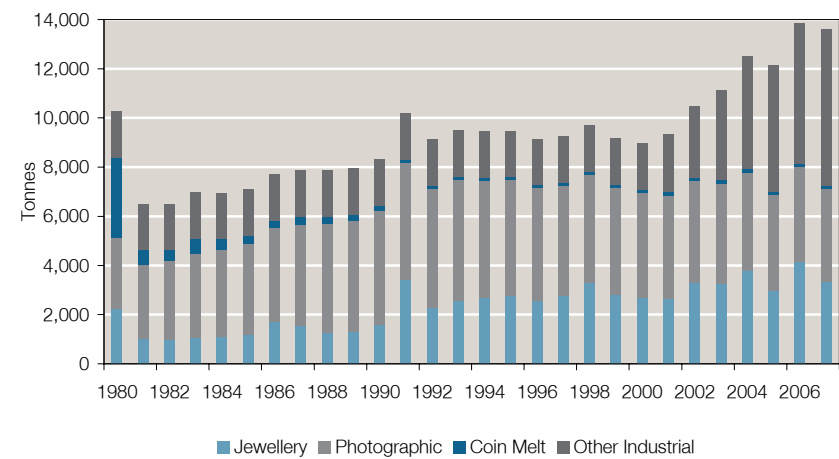


Source: VM Group

The volumes of silver returned to the market from the photographic industry have been declining since they peaked in the mid-1990s. Moreover, as the next chart shows, the share of recycled silver from this sector has been declining relative to industrial and jewellery recycling. This trend is likely to remain – an indirect consequence of the growth of digital photography reducing the amount of silver now going into the industry on an annual basis. While off its peaks, however, the recovery of silver from the photographic industry in general will still represent around 10% of total annual supply of the metal.

³ This is true for human medicine. At the vet, we did not keep X-Rays for long. Once we had established inbred spinal degeneration in a dachshund or hip displacement in a golden retriever, the treatment options were limited.

Recycling supply by segment



Source: VM Group

The data

The methodology

Some general comments we would like to make are that, in an industry characterised by large and permanent above-ground stocks, a silver supply/demand balance only attempts to record the additions made to those stocks in a calendar year, the destination of that new supply and the mobilisation of the existing stocks largely through recycling.

Furthermore, it has to be recognised that there are large swathes of the silver market which are largely unmeasurable and unverifiable.

These supply/demand balances are designed therefore to give overall general flows of metal between regions and sectors.

The data sources

Our historical data sources include:

- Simba and Krishnan: The Saga of Silver, The Institute of Financial Management and Research, Madras, 1980.
- Tim Green, The Silver Millennium, electronic copyright, Virtual Metals Research & Consulting.
- The Samuel Montagu & Co Annual Bullion Reviews, 1968-1989 on which Tom Butler, a member of the VM team, worked for many years.
- Bullion imports into India compiled by Janet Long, covering 1925 to 1949.
- Raw Materials Group, Stockholm.
- The MMRS Silver Market Fundamentals Report compiled in August 1994.
- Stephen Fry, The Great Silver Bubble, Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1982.
- Eduard Kann, The Currencies of China, Kelly & Walsh, Shanghai, 1926.
- Benjamin White, Silver its History and Romance, Waterlow & Sons, London, 1920.
- Roy Jastram, Silver the Restless Metal, John Wiley and Sons, 1981.
- US Geological Annual Surveys, various years, archived.
- Silver Trade Data back to the early 1990s.
- Mine supply – data collated from Raw Materials Group, company reports, ABARE, USBM, China Gold Association and newswires.
- Scrap recycling – Data from refineries and industry participants. The VM Group has modelled the recycling of photographic and electronic waste and has made estimates of jewellery recycling based on silver price movements and market information.
- Photographic – Base data from the MMRS Silver Report 1994, with permission and extrapolated using market information and the analysis of annual reports of major manufacturers of film and photographic products.
- Jewellery consumption – Base data from the MMRS Silver Report 1994, with permission. Individual country data series further estimated by the VM Group from our understanding of the individual markets, discussions with the bullion banks active in various physical markets, jewellery wholesalers, hallmarking figures where available, and trade data, which is subject to interpretation but gives direction of physical flows.
Data further derived from the comparison of gold and silver jewellery data and an analysis of country-by-country and regional gold/silver volumes in this sector.
- Electrical/Electronics – Data series derived by the VM Group, based on work relating to the electronics industry when studying the pgm industry and the recycling of electronic scrap.

- Exchange traded funds – Data series from published data.
- Brazing Alloys and Bearings – Base data from the MMRS Silver Report 1994, with permission and modelled by the VM Group.
- Batteries – VM Group primary research commissioned by The Silver Institute.
- New Industrial End Uses – VM Group primary research commissioned by The Silver Institute.

The residual

The overall supply/demand balance does not balance. The difference between supply and demand (negative is demand exceeding supply), we term the residual. The residual is an acknowledgement that a) omniscience about this market is impossible, and to pretend otherwise is misleading b) there are silver flows of considerable magnitude associated with the unofficial market, such as smuggled or stolen metal which cannot be verified and c) there are sectors which cannot be measured and therefore we do not pretend otherwise; these include “investment” or “bar hoarding”, which is the purchase of silver in bar form.

The residual also does not reflect the net long or short positions held by the hedge funds or the speculators over year-end. While CFTC data gives an indication of outstanding positions on COMEX, it is not possible to put a number on the net longs or shorts in the OTC market.

Physical supply and demand, world total and by region, 2001-2007f

World total supply/demand imbalances (tonnes, 2001-2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Supply							
Mine supply	18,950	18,833	18,874	19,342	19,910	20,911	20,896
Recycling - Jewellery	2,659	3,302	3,285	3,800	2,961	4,164	3,348
Recycling - Photographic	4,204	4,132	4,060	3,990	3,921	3,852	3,785
Recycling - Coin Melt	137	135	134	133	131	130	129
Recycling - Other Industrial	2,336	2,920	3,650	4,563	5,124	5,722	6,360
Government disposals	500	500	500	500	500	500	500
Total supply	28,785	29,823	30,504	32,327	32,548	35,280	35,017
Demand							
Jewellery and Silverware	11,458	10,666	10,265	10,491	11,142	8,659	8,801
Photographic	5,832	5,747	5,664	5,582	5,501	5,421	5,343
Electrical/Electronics	4,258	4,479	4,711	4,956	5,640	5,901	6,207
Brazing Alloys	1,122	1,143	1,164	1,187	1,209	1,232	1,255
Catalysts	1,414	1,428	1,442	1,457	1,471	1,486	1,501
Others:	1,964	2,183	2,429	2,721	2,878	3,031	4,019
- Solar Panels	478	562	661	778	840	907	980
- Water Purification	382	449	529	622	672	726	784
- Wood Preservatives	0	0	0	0	0	0	778
- Batteries	439	448	457	467	476	485	495
- Mirrors/Reflective Glass	439	448	457	467	476	485	495
- Plasma Screens	191	225	264	311	317	324	330
- Food Hygiene	5	10	10	16	23	35	52
- Medical Applications	15	15	20	25	31	39	49
- Radio Frequency Tags	0	10	15	21	27	14	25
- Bearings	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
- Detox, chemical	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
- Fibre/Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ETF	0	0	0	0	0	3,768	2,000
Coins	275	326	285	299	261	310	255
Total demand	26,323	25,971	25,961	26,692	28,103	29,809	29,381
Residual (supply less demand)	2,463	3,851	4,543	5,635	4,445	5,471	5,636

Source: VM Group

Note: Because of rounding of individual items the total might not equal the sum of the subtotals

Mine production (tonnes, 2001 – 2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Morocco	279.3	276.8	200.5	210.0	230.0	230.0	230.0
South Africa	109.4	113.1	80.0	73.0	75.0	75.0	75.0
Congo (Dem Rep)	35.7	69.7	69.7	69.7	45.6	45.6	45.0
Zambia	6.0	6.0	7.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Ghana	3.4	1.6	1.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Tunisia	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Algeria	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Zimbabwe	1.8	2.6	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total Africa	440.6	474.3	364.3	370.2	368.1	368.1	367.5
China	1,450.0	1,400.0	2,000.0	2,450.0	2,500.0	2,540.0	2,600.0
Indonesia	348.0	220.0	260.0	262.0	270.0	270.0	270.0
Japan	80.5	100.0	100.0	86.0	70.0	70.0	70.0
North Korea	50.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Mongolia	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Thailand	1.2	18.1	15.0	10.9	14.3	15.0	15.0
Philippines	33.6	8.8	9.3	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Myanmar	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Total Asia	1,989.3	1,812.9	2,450.3	2,884.9	2,930.3	2,971.0	3,031.0
Australia	1,970.0	2,120.0	1,870.0	1,373.0	1,300.0	2,407.0	2,500.0
Papua New Guinea	69.6	64.0	62.0	53.8	51.3	51.3	50.0
New Zealand	27.1	29.0	25.0	30.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Fiji	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Total Australasia	2,068.8	2,215.0	1,959.0	1,458.8	1,393.3	2,500.3	2,592.0
Russia	650.0	770.0	850.0	1,000.0	1,200.0	1,200.0	1,200.0
Kazakhstan	900.0	900.0	700.0	708.0	800.0	800.0	800.0
Bulgaria	25.0	25.0	25.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0
Uzbekistan	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Romania	35.0	35.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0
Macedonia	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Serbia	6.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Total Eastern Europe	1,686.0	1,805.0	1,680.0	1,883.0	2,175.0	2,175.0	2,175.0
Poland	1,231.0	1,230.0	1,250.0	1,300.0	1,373.0	1,300.0	1,300.0
Sweden	306.0	320.8	330.0	319.6	310.0	310.0	300.0
Turkey	188.0	124.0	120.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0
Yugoslavia	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Portugal	23.1	24.0	24.0	24.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Finland	10.0	15.0	15.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Greece	62.4	74.8	70.0	50.0	40.0	20.0	20.0
Ireland	8.7	15.0	15.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Spain	52.1	10.0	5.0	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5
France	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Total Western Europe	1,942.2	1,874.3	1,889.7	1,947.8	2,002.2	1,909.2	1,899.2
India	57.7	59.5	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Total Indian sub-continent	57.7	59.5	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Mexico	3,030.0	3,146.0	2,946.0	3,093.0	3,213.0	3,212.0	3,200.0
Peru	2,673.0	2,686.6	2,921.0	3,060.0	3,060.0	3,193.0	3,000.0
Chile	1,349.0	1,210.0	1,313.0	1,275.0	1,360.0	1,380.0	1,375.0
Bolivia	408.0	450.0	450.0	425.0	411.3	420.0	400.0
Argentina	152.8	135.0	150.0	155.0	160.0	160.0	160.0
Honduras	46.8	52.9	51.0	48.2	53.6	53.6	50.0
Colombia	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Brazil	10.0	10.0	10.0	6.2	5.0	5.0	5.0
Nicaragua	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Total Latin America	7,680.1	7,701.5	7,852.0	8,073.4	8,273.9	8,434.6	8,201.0
Iran	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0
Saudi Arabia	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Total Middle East	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0
USA	1,740.0	1,420.0	1,240.0	1,250.0	1,300.0	1,300.0	1,300.0
Canada	1,275.6	1,401.0	1,309.0	1,344.0	1,337.5	1,123.0	1,200.0
Total North America	3,015.6	2,821.0	2,549.0	2,594.0	2,637.5	2,423.0	2,500.0
World total	18,950.3	18,833.5	18,874.3	19,342.1	19,910.3	20,911.2	20,895.7

Source: VM Group

Photographic recycling (tonnes, 2001 – 2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Imaging	1,919.8	1,844.9	1,772.9	1,703.8	1,637.5	1,573.7	1,512.5
Medical	993.4	1,008.4	1,023.5	1,038.9	1,054.5	1,070.4	1,086.6
Graphic	729.0	718.4	708.0	697.7	687.6	677.6	667.8
Industrial	196.8	193.9	191.1	188.3	185.6	182.9	180.2
Other	195.4	192.5	189.7	187.0	184.3	181.6	179.0
Movies	169.2	173.4	175.2	174.5	171.4	166.2	158.7
Total	4,203.6	4,131.6	4,060.4	3,990.2	3,920.9	3,852.4	3,784.9

Source: VM Group

Jewellery recycling (tonnes, 2001 – 2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Algeria	10.0	13.0	13.0	13.5	10.0	20.4	11.2
Tunisia	6.5	7.3	6.9	7.1	7.6	8.2	5.0
Total Africa	16.5	20.3	19.9	20.6	17.6	28.6	16.2
Thailand	500.0	539.1	538.2	537.3	508.5	521.5	406.8
Indonesia	44.6	73.7	73.1	79.7	97.9	173.8	141.4
Japan	140.0	135.0	132.1	128.7	129.5	155.7	109.8
China	60.9	82.9	79.4	81.2	57.0	70.6	77.9
South Korea	50.0	60.0	60.0	66.7	50.0	101.7	59.0
Malaysia	31.3	45.0	45.0	45.0	54.6	54.9	34.9
Singapore	18.8	30.0	30.0	37.5	25.0	46.0	29.5
Philippines	18.8	30.0	26.3	26.3	26.5	26.8	17.1
Hong Kong	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.3
Total Asia	864.6	996.4	984.4	1,002.8	949.2	1,151.5	876.6
Australia	7.5	7.5	7.5	10.0	7.5	9.4	8.8
Total Australasia	7.5	7.5	7.5	10.0	7.5	9.4	8.8
Russia	50.0	56.3	56.3	56.3	65.6	66.3	56.3
Total Eastern Europe	50.0	56.3	56.3	56.3	65.6	66.3	56.3
Italy	219.8	299.4	299.0	328.2	244.0	296.5	276.7
Turkey	293.7	327.6	287.1	335.6	186.7	519.0	256.0
Germany	44.2	53.8	43.4	50.8	37.2	50.5	53.2
Spain	34.9	34.2	35.4	50.7	41.0	50.2	40.2
France	8.7	10.5	10.6	11.6	9.0	11.0	9.6
Sweden	3.3	4.7	4.7	9.5	6.7	8.1	7.3
Switzerland	5.0	6.0	5.0	5.7	4.3	5.7	5.3
UK & Ireland	3.2	5.1	4.7	4.8	3.7	4.4	4.2
Austria	3.0	3.9	3.9	4.2	2.9	3.5	3.6
Belgium	2.0	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.9	3.5	3.4
Greece	3.3	3.9	3.9	4.8	3.2	0.0	3.0
Denmark	1.4	4.5	4.4	4.4	2.7	3.2	2.7
Portugal	2.0	2.4	2.4	3.9	2.0	2.4	2.1
Cyprus	1.7	2.0	2.0	3.3	1.7	2.1	1.5
Norway	1.4	1.4	1.4	2.6	1.3	1.6	1.3
Yugoslavia	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.2
Netherlands	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.5
Total Western Europe	628.8	763.5	712.0	825.7	550.6	963.5	672.1
India	399.0	546.6	594.3	738.0	510.4	722.7	723.5
Pakistan	66.0	111.0	109.7	151.9	93.4	109.3	120.2
Bangladesh	7.5	20.0	20.0	35.5	18.8	35.8	20.3
Sri Lanka	2.5	7.5	7.5	10.0	7.5	7.5	4.5
Total Indian sub-continent	475.0	685.1	731.5	935.4	630.1	875.3	868.5
Brazil	33.3	46.7	46.7	66.7	40.0	52.8	49.0
Mexico	33.3	53.3	53.3	53.3	33.3	49.0	36.9
Chile	25.1	28.1	30.8	31.1	31.1	31.5	27.0
Peru	28.2	28.2	28.2	28.2	29.2	29.6	25.2
Colombia	14.4	14.9	15.4	15.9	15.9	16.1	13.5
Argentina	22.7	22.7	22.7	22.7	22.7	22.7	8.5
Venezuela	10.7	10.7	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.8	7.6
Total Latin America	167.8	204.6	205.9	226.6	180.9	210.6	167.6
Saudi Arabia	146.7	172.4	145.3	177.8	156.9	278.3	222.5
Iraq	33.7	51.2	94.0	148.3	97.6	121.8	107.4
Egypt	52.7	77.3	74.8	81.3	50.6	101.2	65.0
Iran	18.2	26.8	26.7	49.3	36.0	54.3	49.0
Kuwait	37.5	54.3	49.9	61.0	51.3	65.6	47.3
Arab Emirates	15.6	27.8	24.2	34.9	25.3	47.4	30.2
Lebanon	13.1	15.1	13.4	19.6	11.9	23.9	15.6
Israel	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.7	3.7	2.8	3.2
Total Middle East	321.2	428.1	431.7	575.9	433.2	695.4	540.1
USA	102.7	115.6	111.5	117.4	102.2	133.0	115.2
Canada	24.9	24.7	24.6	29.2	24.4	30.4	26.6
Total North America	127.6	140.3	136.0	146.5	126.6	163.4	141.8
World Total	2,658.9	3,302.1	3,285.2	3,799.8	2,961.3	4,164.0	3,348.0

Source: VM Group

Jewellery consumption (tonnes, 2001 – 2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Morocco	22.6	22.6	22.0	22.0	22.3	20.5	20.5
South Africa	11.7	12.4	13.1	14.7	14.5	22.6	13.0
Libya	12.6	13.1	13.3	13.0	13.3	13.4	8.0
Algeria	13.9	13.9	13.3	13.3	13.5	13.7	8.0
Tunisia	8.1	8.6	8.2	7.9	8.4	8.6	5.3
Total Africa	68.9	70.5	69.8	70.9	71.9	78.8	54.8
China	635.7	609.7	585.9	582.0	680.5	633.5	648.8
Thailand	600.0	599.0	598.0	597.0	565.0	440.0	452.0
Indonesia	202.8	204.6	203.2	205.0	207.1	144.3	146.8
Japan	153.3	150.0	146.8	143.0	143.9	121.5	122.0
South Korea	175.0	125.0	125.0	125.0	130.0	78.0	78.7
Afghanistan	78.5	75.3	68.8	70.0	77.3	79.9	63.6
Vietnam	50.0	62.5	62.5	62.5	62.5	51.8	62.5
Afghanistan	65.4	62.7	57.3	58.3	64.4	51.3	53.0
Malaysia	92.2	92.0	69.2	69.0	72.8	46.3	46.5
Singapore	60.1	60.0	47.3	47.2	48.6	32.5	32.8
Taiwan	32.9	31.1	29.3	27.5	27.3	22.4	22.4
Myanmar	30.3	31.3	29.1	31.6	31.6	20.0	20.5
Philippines	32.3	203.0	29.2	29.2	29.5	18.8	19.0
Cambodia	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	15.3	15.3
Hong Kong	11.3	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	6.5	6.5
Nepal	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	5.3	5.5
Total Asia	2,253.3	2,347.3	2,092.7	2,088.3	2,181.7	1,767.1	1,795.7
Australia	15.0	12.5	12.5	12.5	13.8	11.8	11.8
Total Australasia	15.0	12.5	12.5	12.5	13.8	11.8	11.8
Russia	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	87.5	74.5	75.0
Uzbekistan	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.4	1.5	1.3
Croatia	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.4	1.5	1.3
Bulgaria	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Estonia	3.1	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.4	0.5	0.5
Total Eastern Europe	85.1	84.2	83.3	82.5	95.5	78.8	78.8
Italy	1,178.5	1,050.1	922.3	847.0	851.0	811.0	804.0
Germany	552.8	541.8	589.8	584.5	574.0	501.2	507.0
Turkey	407.0	403.5	560.5	642.5	688.0	445.5	465.5
Spain	172.6	151.0	149.6	148.6	136.9	130.0	130.3
France	98.4	91.2	86.7	79.8	87.2	83.2	82.8
Switzerland	64.7	65.9	72.9	72.7	71.7	63.7	64.4
Portugal	58.1	57.8	57.5	57.4	57.2	57.2	57.6
UK & Ireland	69.9	64.4	59.5	59.9	56.9	56.9	57.0
Greece	34.8	32.3	33.3	34.3	36.0	29.4	29.7
Sweden	22.0	20.0	18.1	15.7	16.7	16.7	16.0
Austria	10.9	10.1	9.4	8.5	9.3	9.0	9.0
Belgium	9.1	8.7	8.2	8.0	8.7	8.5	8.6
Finland	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.0	8.0
Netherlands	9.6	9.0	8.4	7.8	7.7	7.4	7.4
Poland	6.3	6.5	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.8
Denmark	8.4	7.7	7.0	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.0
Norway	8.4	7.7	7.0	6.4	6.7	6.7	6.0
Cyprus	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	5.0	5.0
Yugoslavia	3.4	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Hungary	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5
Malta	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Czechoslovakia	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.1	2.1
Romania	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Total Western Europe	2,738.6	2,554.7	2,623.6	2,612.4	2,647.5	2,263.2	2,282.1
India	3,065.5	2,524.5	2,413.5	2,628.5	2,857.5	2,009.0	2,067.0
Pakistan	510.3	450.1	444.9	471.9	501.0	333.5	343.5
Bangladesh	245.0	203.8	177.5	185.0	164.5	107.5	110.0
Others	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.9	18.0
Sri Lanka	25.0	25.0	12.5	12.5	12.5	7.5	7.5
Total Indian sub-continent	3,863.3	3,220.9	3,065.9	3,315.4	3,553.0	2,475.4	2,546.0

Continued overleaf

Jewellery consumption (tonnes, 2001 – 2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Mexico	182.4	182.4	182.4	182.4	182.7	155.3	158.7
Brazil	73.1	73.1	73.1	73.3	80.0	68.0	70.0
Chile	27.9	31.2	34.3	34.5	34.7	29.3	30.0
Peru	31.3	31.3	31.3	31.3	32.7	28.0	28.0
Dominican Republic	28.4	28.4	28.4	28.4	28.4	24.0	24.0
Bolivia	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.3	18.0	18.0
Colombia	19.2	19.9	20.5	21.2	21.3	18.0	18.0
Venezuela	17.9	17.9	14.5	14.5	14.7	12.7	12.7
Ecuador	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	13.3	11.3	11.3
Argentina	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.7	10.7
Total Latin America	426.5	430.5	430.9	432.1	439.7	375.3	381.3
Saudi Arabia	335.4	327.9	298.6	300.7	400.0	286.0	296.8
Egypt	222.5	222.6	184.5	188.9	214.5	137.0	144.5
Iraq	100.0	120.3	130.4	123.5	139.0	110.0	113.0
Iran	117.5	117.5	138.8	128.5	150.8	94.8	98.0
Arab Emirates	79.2	79.1	87.8	94.0	107.8	72.8	75.5
Lebanon	66.3	71.8	71.4	74.8	95.3	60.0	62.3
Syria	67.5	63.8	74.0	80.5	86.0	55.8	58.3
Yemen	67.2	67.7	65.1	67.2	83.3	55.5	58.0
Kuwait	61.2	61.3	64.4	67.6	77.0	48.0	49.8
Jordan	59.7	59.3	64.0	68.3	72.5	45.5	47.5
Israel	4.5	4.2	4.2	4.6	4.5	3.8	4.0
Total Middle East	1,181.1	1,195.5	1,183.2	1,198.5	1,430.5	969.0	1,007.5
USA	732.0	658.3	615.7	592.3	620.3	556.2	558.0
Canada	94.0	91.2	88.0	86.0	88.5	84.0	85.0
Total North America	826.0	749.5	703.7	678.3	708.8	640.2	643.0
World Total	11,457.7	10,665.5	10,265.4	10,491.0	11,142.5	8,659.5	8,800.9

Source: VM Group

Photographic demand (tonnes, 2001 – 2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Japan	1,594.1	1,570.2	1,546.7	1,523.5	1,500.6	1,478.1	1,455.9
China	90.1	91.5	92.8	94.2	95.6	97.1	98.5
Total Asia	1,684.2	1,661.7	1,639.5	1,617.7	1,596.3	1,575.2	1,554.5
Belgium	592.8	583.9	575.2	566.5	558.0	549.7	541.4
Germany	416.5	410.2	404.1	398.0	392.0	386.2	380.4
UK & Ireland	363.3	357.9	352.5	347.2	342.0	336.9	331.8
France	319.9	315.1	310.4	305.7	301.1	296.6	292.2
Italy	69.1	68.1	67.1	66.1	65.1	64.1	63.1
Spain	68.2	67.2	66.2	65.2	64.2	63.3	62.3
Total Western Europe	1,829.8	1,802.4	1,775.3	1,748.7	1,722.5	1,696.6	1,671.2
Total Latin America	280.9	276.7	272.5	268.4	264.4	260.5	256.5
USA	1,774.0	1,747.4	1,721.2	1,695.4	1,669.9	1,644.9	1,620.2
Canada	263.2	259.2	255.3	251.5	247.7	244.0	240.4
Total North America	2,037.2	2,006.6	1,976.5	1,946.9	1,917.7	1,888.9	1,860.6
World Total	5,832.1	5,747.4	5,663.9	5,581.7	5,500.8	5,421.2	5,342.8

Source: VM Group

Electrical/Electronic demand (tonnes, 2001 – 2007)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
Japan	1,018.6	1,069.5	1,123.0	1,179.2	1,341.9	1,409.0	1,479.4
Taiwan	295.7	310.5	326.0	342.3	389.5	409.0	429.5
China	237.0	255.9	276.4	298.5	339.7	366.9	396.3
South Korea	147.8	155.2	163.0	171.1	194.8	204.5	214.7
Others	73.9	77.6	81.5	85.6	97.4	102.3	107.4
Total Asia	1,773.0	1,868.8	1,969.9	2,076.7	2,363.3	2,491.6	2,627.2
Germany	470.5	494.1	518.8	544.7	619.9	650.9	683.4
France	250.0	262.5	275.6	289.4	329.3	345.8	363.1
Others	167.1	175.4	184.2	193.4	220.1	231.1	242.7
Italy	165.8	174.0	182.7	191.9	218.4	229.3	240.7
UK & Ireland	165.8	174.0	182.7	191.9	218.4	229.3	240.7
Total Western Europe	1,219.1	1,280.1	1,344.1	1,411.3	1,606.0	1,686.3	1,770.6
India	307.5	323.7	340.8	358.7	408.2	397.5	417.4
Total Indian sub-continent	307.5	323.7	340.8	358.7	408.2	397.5	417.4
USA	919.7	965.7	1,013.9	1,064.6	1,211.6	1,272.1	1,335.8
Canada	38.8	40.7	42.7	44.9	51.1	53.6	56.3
Total North America	958.4	1,006.4	1,056.7	1,109.5	1,262.6	1,325.8	1,392.1
World Total	4,258.1	4,479.0	4,711.4	4,956.2	5,640.2	5,901.2	6,207.3

Source: VM Group

Brazing Alloys demand (tonnes, 2001 – 2007f)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007f
China	172.2	176.5	180.9	185.4	190.0	194.8	199.6
Japan	139.4	142.2	145.1	148.0	150.9	153.9	157.0
South Korea	46.9	47.8	48.8	49.7	50.7	51.7	52.8
Taiwan	30.3	30.9	31.5	32.2	32.8	33.5	34.1
Others	12.2	12.5	12.8	13.1	13.4	13.8	14.1
Total Asia	400.9	409.9	419.0	428.4	437.9	447.7	457.7
Germany	164.0	167.3	170.7	174.1	177.6	181.1	184.7
UK & Ireland	76.2	77.7	79.2	80.8	82.4	84.1	85.8
Switzerland	73.8	75.3	76.8	78.3	79.9	81.5	83.1
Italy	69.1	70.5	71.9	73.4	74.8	76.3	77.8
Total Western Europe	383.1	390.8	398.6	406.6	414.7	423.0	431.5
India	87.9	89.6	91.4	93.3	95.1	97.0	99.0
Others	36.3	37.0	37.8	38.5	39.3	40.1	40.9
Total Indian sub-continent	124.2	126.7	129.2	131.8	134.4	137.1	139.9
USA	191.7	193.6	195.5	197.5	199.4	201.4	203.5
Canada	21.7	21.9	22.1	22.3	22.5	22.8	23.0
Total North America	213.3	215.5	217.6	219.8	222.0	224.2	226.4
World Total	1,121.6	1,142.8	1,164.5	1,186.5	1,209.1	1,232.1	1,255.5

Source: VM Group

Inflation-adjusted silver price (in 2006 dollars)

	Nominal silver price (\$/oz)	US CPI (2006=100)	Real silver price (2006 dollars)
1980	15.2	42.77	35.54
1981	8.125	46.58	17.44
1982	10.93	48.36	22.60
1983	8.91	50.20	17.75
1984	6.385	52.18	12.24
1985	5.8	54.16	10.71
1986	5.2815	54.76	9.65
1987	6.7015	57.19	11.72
1988	6.05	59.71	10.13
1989	5.2165	62.49	8.35
1990	4.1925	66.30	6.32
1991	3.86	68.33	5.65
1992	3.6695	70.32	5.22
1993	5.115	72.25	7.08
1994	4.85	74.18	6.54
1995	5.142	76.07	6.76
1996	4.7975	78.59	6.10
1997	5.995	79.93	7.50
1998	5.005	81.22	6.16
1999	5.33	83.40	6.39
2000	4.575	86.22	5.31
2001	4.52	87.56	5.16
2002	4.665	89.64	5.20
2003	5.965	91.33	6.53
2004	6.815	94.30	7.23
2005	8.83	97.52	9.05
2006	12.9	100.00	12.90

Source: Reuters Ecowin

Silver prices in various currencies (average, 1994-2006)

	\$/oz	Euro/oz	Yen/gr
1997	4.90	4.34	19.07
1998	5.54	4.95	23.30
1999	5.22	4.90	19.08
2000	4.95	5.37	17.15
2001	4.37	4.88	17.05
2002	4.60	4.87	18.49
2003	4.88	4.31	18.14
2004	6.66	5.35	23.11
2005	7.31	5.90	25.97
2006	11.55	9.17	43.16
Jan-06	9.15	7.55	33.96
Feb-06	9.53	7.99	36.14
Mar-06	10.38	8.63	39.16
Apr-06	12.61	10.26	47.37
May-06	13.45	10.52	48.29
Jun-06	10.80	8.52	39.77
Jul-06	11.23	8.85	41.77
Aug-06	12.18	9.51	45.37
Sep-06	11.68	9.17	43.97
Oct-06	11.56	9.16	44.06
Nov-06	12.93	10.03	48.74
Dec-06	13.36	10.11	50.35
Jan-07	12.84	9.89	49.71
Feb-07	13.91	10.63	53.83
Mar-07	13.18	9.95	49.71
Apr-07	13.74	10.16	52.53
May-07	13.15	9.73	51.05

Source: Reuters Ecowin

Lease Rates (%)

	1-month	3-month	6-month	12-months
1999	3.1	4.0	4.9	5.7
2000	1.0	1.6	2.4	3.6
2001	0.6	1.2	1.3	1.5
2002	(0.2)	0.9	1.3	1.6
2003	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9
2004	0.2	0.4	0.6	1.1
2005	0.5	0.7	1.2	2.1
2006	1.1	1.8	2.5	3.4
Jan-06	1.9	2.5	3.0	3.7
Feb-06	2.2	2.9	3.5	4.4
Mar-06	2.4	3.8	4.9	5.8
Apr-06	1.2	2.3	3.5	5.2
May-06	1.4	3.8	4.9	6.2
Jun-06	2.4	3.4	4.0	5.0
Jul-06	0.4	0.9	1.6	2.7
Aug-06	0.3	0.6	1.2	2.4
Sep-06	0.3	0.5	1.2	2.2
Oct-06	0.3	0.5	1.0	1.8
Nov-06	0.3	0.5	0.9	1.7
Dec-06	0.1	0.5	0.7	1.4
Jan-07	0.1	0.4	0.7	1.5
Feb-07	0.0	0.2	0.7	1.3
Mar-07	(0.0)	0.1	0.5	1.1
Apr-07	0.0	0.1	0.6	1.0
May-07	(0.0)	0.1	0.5	0.9

Source: Reuters Ecowin

Silver ETFs offtake, tonnes

	US ETF ETF offtake	Change	UK & Swiss ETFs ETF offtake	Change
2006	3,768	n/a		
Apr-06	653	653		
May-06	2,146	1,493		
Jun-06	2,580	434		
Jul-06	2,874	294		
Aug-06	3,122	247		
Sep-06	3,245	123		
Oct-06	3,259	14		
Nov-06	3,413	154		
Dec-06	3,768	355		
Jan-07	3,642	(126)		
Feb-07	3,920	277		
Mar-07	4,104	184		
Apr-07	4,195	91	14	
May-07	4,225	29	106	91

Source: Company websites and data requests

COMEX silver (tonnes)

	Open interest	Futures net long Large speculators	Small speculators	Options net long Large speculators	Small speculators	Total	Change
2001	9,838	3,587	1,620	(58)	387	5,536	
2002	12,584	4,958	3,580	66	706	9,309	3,773
2003	15,985	8,013	3,900	760	373	13,046	3,737
2004	15,438	5,864	3,661	231	325	10,081	(2,965)
2005	20,999	9,517	3,482	(580)	202	12,620	2,539
2006	15,729	5,366	2,601	(607)	326	7,686	(4,934)
Jan-06	20,724	8,749	3,490	(428)	(27)	11,784	
Feb-06	19,881	6,940	3,202	(172)	151	10,120	(1,664)
Mar-06	20,929	8,143	3,389	(274)	25	11,282	1,163
Apr-06	19,790	5,607	3,739	(125)	269	9,490	(1,792)
May-06	17,012	4,101	3,507	(226)	312	7,694	(1,796)
Jun-06	16,955	3,085	2,820	(581)	258	5,582	(2,112)
Jul-06	15,347	3,785	3,111	(635)	265	6,525	943
Aug-06	17,472	4,582	3,001	(719)	346	7,210	685
Sep-06	15,594	2,872	2,704	(478)	294	5,392	(1,818)
Oct-06	17,144	4,370	2,890	(554)	292	6,998	1,606
Nov-06	17,086	6,072	3,010	(307)	238	9,013	2,015
Dec-06	15,729	5,366	2,601	(607)	326	7,686	(1,326)
Jan-07	17,468	6,065	3,026	(587)	326	8,830	1,144
Feb-07	19,478	8,458	2,903	(422)	241	11,180	2,350
Mar-07	17,317	4,989	3,091	(494)	359	7,946	(3,234)
Apr-07	16,968	4,934	3,392	(266)	373	8,433	488
May-07	17,378	4,307	2,992	(96)	379	7,581	(852)

Source: CFTC

Weights and measures

Chemical properties

Atomic weight	107.87
Atomic number	47
Chemical symbol	Ag
Melting point deg C	961.78
Hardness (mohs)	2.5
Boiling point deg C	2,162
Specific gravity gr/cubic cm	10.49
Hardness	24.5
Tensile strength psi	21,000

Source: VM Group

Measures

1 troy ounce	= 31.103 grammes = 408.6 grains = 1.097 oz avoirdupois = 20 pennyweights
1 metric tonne	= 32.151 troy ounces = 1.102 short tons
1 short ton	= 0.893 long tonnes = 2,000 Pounds
1 pound	= 14.58 troy ounces
1 grain	= 0.0648 grammes = 0.002083 troy ounces
1 gramme	= 14.43 grains
1 pennyweight	= 24 grains
1 kilogramme	= 32.1507 troy ounces
1 oz avoirdupois	= 0.9115 troy ounces

Source: VM Group

Notes

Notes

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For further details, please email info@virtualmetals.co.uk or call us on +44 (0) 20 7487 3600. Visit our websites: www.virtualmetals.co.uk and www.minelife.org.

Fortis commodities contact list

Commodities

Ian Downes (Head)	+44 20 7444 8741
John King (Head of Base & Precious Metals)	+44 20 7444 8330
Gerry Schubert (Director, Precious Metals)	+44 20 7444 8600
Jonathan Parkman (Director, Agricommodities)	+44 20 7444 8407

Global Commodities Group

Piet-Hein Ingen Housz (Global Head of Metals)	+31 10 401 67 93
Rotterdam	Silvan Doorenspleet +31 10 401 97 83
London	Michael Rolfe +44 20 7444 8450
New York	Edward Aldrich +1 203 705 57 25

Structured Commodity Finance

Carl Shipman	+44 20 7444 8785
Singapore	Ng Chuey Peng +65 65 394 923
Hong Kong	Lee Mei +852 28 47 94 20
Shanghai	Steven Jin +862 15 049 88 33

Global Markets Sales Contacts

Johan Beckers +32 2 565 98 93
(Global Head Sales & Marketing Group)

Investment Products Sales

Paul Wagner (Head Investment Products Sales) +352 42 10 44 50

Institutionals

Belgium	Marc Sollié	+32 2 565 74 70
The Netherlands	Bert Veenstra	+31 20 535 74 54
Luxembourg	Paul Wagner	+352 42 10 44 50
France	François Girod	+33 1 55 67 90 56
UK-Ireland	Steven Harnie	+32 2 565 86 35
Italy	Franco Mora	+39 02 57 53 24 61
Spain	Jean-Louis Degand	+34 91 436 56 27

Retail and Private Banking

Belgium	Alain Cadron	+32 2 565 75 50
The Netherlands	Bert Veenstra	+31 20 535 74 54
Luxembourg	André Wagner	+352 42 10 49 07

Equities Sales

Institutionals

Johan van Megesen (Head)		+32 2 565 96 22
Belgium	Alain Adam	+32 2 565 76 50
France	Philippe Barroso	+33 1 55 67 90 82
Luxembourg	André Wagner	+352 42 10 49 07
The Netherlands	Nils Ten Berg	+31 20 535 73 32
Spain (Domestic Sales)	Manuel Torres	+34 91 436 56 51
Spain (International Sales)	Luis Broto	+34 91 436 56 52
United Kingdom	Nils Ten Berg	+31 20 535 73 32
United States	Francis Grevers	+1 212 418 87 14

Fixed Income/New Issues

Katherine Dior (Head)		+32 2 565 63 08
Syndication	Tom Thyssens (Head)	+32 2 565 86 15
Origination Corporate	Olivier Tasnier (Head)	+32 2 565 16 38
Origination Financials	Jacques Massin (Head)	+32 2 565 62 37
MTN Desk	Jacques Massin (Head)	+32 2 565 62 37
Commercial Paper	Marie-Jose Rodriguez (Head)	+32 2 565 60 98

Structured Products

Ludovic Plas (Head) +33 1 55 67 90 56

Interest Rate Derivatives

Bernard Van Gils (Head) +32 2 565 87 61

Forex Derivatives

Johann Barchéchath (Head) +32 2 565 12 27

Equity Derivatives

Fabian de Prey (Head) +32 2 565 78 82
+32 2 565 91 05

Credit Derivatives Structuring

Frédéric Monneret (Head) +32 2 565 77 20
+33 1 55 67 90 58

Structured Product Services

Emmanuel Grimée (Head) +352 42 42 49 65
+352 42 42 49 25

Sales Treasury Products

Kris De Zeure (European Head Sales Treasury) +32 2 565 60 81

Corporate

Matthias Locker (Head)		+32 2 565 85 64
Belgium		+32 2 565 72 05
The Netherlands	Alfonso Vera Evertman	+31 20 535 71 66
Luxembourg	Manfred Hawelka	+352 42 10 49 42
France	David Alfandari	+33 1 55 67 90 05
Italy	Francesco Scotto	+39 02 57 53 24 64
Spain	Louis Veldman	+34 91 43 26 726
United Kingdom	Tim Kirkham	+44 20 73 98 93 53
Norway	Bjorn Kaaber	+47 23 11 49 60

Financial Institutions

Laurent Leveque (Head)		+33 1 55 67 90 67
Belgium	Alex Devroye	+32 2 565 61 03
Fiduciaries		+32 2 565 72 60
Institutionals & Banks		+32 2 565 72 70
The Netherlands	Ronald Riko	+31 20 535 70 93
Luxembourg	Dominique Chaumaz	+352 42 10 47 00
Italy	Francesco Scotto	+39 02 57 53 24 64

Mid-Caps

Belgium	Conrad Fieremans	+32 2 565 19 77
O/W Vlaanderen	Gerrit Bauwens	+32 2 565 78 57
Sud	Stéphane Christiaens	+32 2 565 78 56
Brussels/Public	Filip Moens	+32 2 565 70 40
VL Brabant/Limburg	Herwig Jaspers	+32 2 565 73 10
Antwerpen/Kempen	Jef Van Camp	+32 2 565 78 48
The Netherlands	Bart Solleveld	+31 20 535 71 84
Luxembourg	Thomas Kraemer	+352 42 10 46 00
Germany	Reinhold Beisler	+49 22 11 61 12 25
Austria	Alfred Buder	+43 181 10 43 81 58
Rest of Europe	Geert Blancke	+32 2 565 16 05
France	Muriel Flasse	+33 1 55 67 80 84
Spain	Jose Bravo Galisteo	+34 91 43 26 767
Portugal	Rui Lopes	+35 12 13 13 93 03
Italy	Marco Toja	+39 02 57 53 23 72
Poland		+48 225 66 99 04
Hungary	Attila Toth	+36 14 83 81 09
Czech Republic	Tomas Blazejovsky	+42 02 25 43 60 10
Denmark	Flemming Warhol-Rasmussen	+45 32 71 19 09
Sweden	Mats Cardemo	+46 732 02 08 59
Greece	Marinos Danalatos	+30 210 9544 370
Switzerland	Patrick Schaerer	+41 58 322 09 70
Turkey	Bahar Bezmez	+90 212 274 42 80
United Kingdom	Tim Kirkham	+44 20 73 98 93 53

Automated Trade and Service Desk

Marc Vidts		+32 2 565 71 10
ATS Desk		+32 2 565 73 00
Service Desk		+32 2 565 74 90
Netherlands	Wim Verwaal	+31 20 535 72 39

Energy & Environmental Markets

Philippe Arickx (Head)		+32 2 565 75 60
Energy Europe, Brussels		+31 20 535 73 67
Energy Europe, Amsterdam		+31 20 535 72 02
Carbon Banking		

Global Markets Research Contacts

Paul Gennart +32 2 565 60 45
(Global Head Research & Strategy)

Economic Research

The Netherlands

Guy Verberne (Head) +31 20 535 73 25
Joost Beaumont +31 20 535 74 31
Peter de Bruin +31 20 535 70 38
Nick Kounis +31 20 535 71 06
Aline Schuiling +31 20 535 71 31

Spain

Estefanía Ponte (Head) +34 91 436 55 37
Diego Fernández +34 91 436 55 00

Strategy

Françoise Bernard (Head) +32 2 565 83 02
Frédéric Atlan (Fixed Income) +33 1 55 67 72 81/+32 2 565 86 06
Arnaud Bornet (Forex & Money Markets Quant) +32 2 565 63 27
Alexandre Dieudonné (Forex & Money Markets) +32 2 565 69 67
Philippe Gijssels (Equities) +32 2 565 16 37
Sébastien Gillis (Fixed Income) +32 2 228 69 47
Nancy Verret (Forex & Money Markets) +32 2 565 55 63
Filip Wyseur (Fixed Income) +32 2 565 82 31

Technical Analysis

Françoise Bernard (Head) +32 2 565 83 02
Karel De Bie (Fixed Income/Forex/Commodities) +32 2 565 85 46

Modelling

Peter Cauwels, Ph.D. (Head) +32 2 565 47 90
Philippe Brimmel +32 2 565 40 29
Alain Cram +32 2 565 60 52
Vincent Guffens, Ph.D. +32 2 565 90 91
Pieter Pels, Ph.D. +32 2 228 78 20
Dries Stragier +32 2 565 60 86
Herman van der Sluis +31 20 535 72 98
Amjed Younis +32 2 565 31 00

Rating Advisory Services

Peter Cauwels, Ph.D. (Head) +32 2 565 47 90
Gerda Cabus +32 2 565 85 91
Yves Clarenne +32 2 565 35 60

Credit Research

Credit Bonds

Hélène Séré (Head/Utilities & Energy) +33 1 55 67 72 83/+32 2 565 75 87
Benoit Felliho (Banks) +33 1 55 67 72 95
Christine Passieux (Banks) +33 1 55 67 72 87
Karine Petitjean (Consumer Non-Cyclical) +33 1 55 67 72 88
Bertrand Rocher (Automotive) +33 1 55 67 72 84
Olga Zubkova (Building & Basics/Utilities & Energy) +33 1 55 67 72 80

ABS/CDO

Helmut Van Ginderen (Head) +32 2 565 60 10
Sabrina Marchal +32 2 565 86 82

Equity Research

Marc Pauwels (Head) +31 20 527 13 55

Benelux

Michel Aupers (Head) +31 20 527 28 62
Wim Lewi, CFA (Co-ordinator Belgium) +32 2 565 62 61
Felix Oberdorfer (Co-ordinator The Netherlands) +31 20 527 23 28
Paul Andriessen (Mid & Small Caps) +31 20 527 21 82
Maarten Bakker (Mid & Small Caps) +31 20 527 23 32
Kenn Curt Daniël, Ph.D. (Biotech) +31 20 527 34 17
Kurt De Baenst (Banks/Retail) +32 2 565 60 42
Justin De Meersman (Shipping) +32 2 565 12 45
Mariska Douwens (Media) +31 20 527 23 23
Mark Gevens (Industrials) +32 2 565 60 71
Tim Heirwegh (Mid & Small Caps) +32 2 565 87 60
Bart Jooris, CFA (Telecom/Mid & Small Caps) +32 2 565 60 99
Klaas Kruijer (Banks) +31 20 527 91 44
Geraldine O'Keeffe (Biotech) +31 20 527 91 50
Sebastiaan Schreijen (IT Software & Services) +31 20 527 22 30
Teun Teeuwisse (Temporary Employment) +31 20 527 13 01
David Vagman (Holdings) +32 2 565 67 25
René Verhoef (Mid & Small Caps) +31 20 527 91 45
Robert Jan Vos (Food Producers/Food Retail) +31 20 527 91 47

France

Philippe Ezeghian (Head) +33 1 55 67 72 29
Séverine Blé (Food) +33 1 55 67 72 41
François Deliot (IT Services) +33 1 55 67 72 46
Claire Deray (Transport/Consumer Goods/Retail) +33 1 55 67 72 43
Marc Huberty (Industrials) +33 1 55 67 72 30
Bertrand Laport (IT Hardware) +33 1 55 67 72 31
Olivier Macquet (Industrials & Services) +33 1 55 67 72 42
Olivier Moral (Media) +33 1 55 67 72 32
Gilles Raffort (Leisure & Services) +33 1 55 67 72 45

Spain

Antonio López (Head/Utilities) +34 91 436 56 50
Diego Barrón (Banks/Insurance) +34 91 436 56 29
Fernando Cordero (Mid & Small Caps/Technology/Media) +34 91 436 56 16
Luis Padrón (Telecom/Media) +34 91 436 56 07
Rafael Rico, CFA (Oil/Basic Materials/Mid & Small Caps) +34 91 436 56 84
Emilio Rotondo (Construction/Real Estate) +34 91 436 56 12
Francisco Ruiz (Mid & Small Caps/Retail) +34 91 436 56 76
Manuel Zayas (Mid & Small Caps) +34 91 436 55 41

US

David Garrett (Biotech) +1 212 340 54 94
Gregory Lewis, CFA (Oil Services & Shipping) +1 212 340 54 95
Patrick Moriarty, Ph.D. (Biotech) +1 212 340 54 97
Biju Perincheril (Energy) +1 212 340 54 76

Retail Banking and Private Banking Research

Koen Van de Steene (Head/Healthcare) +32 2 565 86 14
Christel Bosch (Energy/Industrials/Utilities) +32 2 565 82 34
Bart Ingels (Basic Materials/Consumer Non-Cyclicals) +32 2 565 44 07
Geert Ruysschaert (Co-ordinator Top-Down/Telecom/Media) +32 2 565 19 58
Alain Servais (Editor) +32 2 228 92 30
Tom Vermeiren (Technology/Consumer Cyclicals) +32 2 565 44 05
Kristof Wauters (Fixed Income/Forex) +32 2 565 51 35

Economic, Fixed Income, Forex & Money Markets Research
www.merchantbanking.fortis.com/forpro
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Fortis Bank S.A./N.V.

Montagne du Parc 3
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium
Tel: +32 2 565 11 11

Fortis Bank Germany

Christophstrasse 33-37
50670 Cologne
Germany
Tel: +49 221 161 13 30

Fortis Bank Polska S.A.

P.O. Box 15
02-676 Warszawa
Poland
Tel: +48 22 566 90 00

Fortis Bank Turkey

Yıldız Posta Caddesi
No: 54 Gayrettepe
34353 Istanbul
Turkey
Tel: +90 212 274 42 80

Fortis Bank Nederland N.V.

Rokin 55 (visiting address)
P.O. Box 243
1000 AE Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 20 527 91 11

Fortis Bank Hong Kong

27/F, Fortis Bank Tower
77-79 Gloucester Road
Hong Kong
Tel: +852 28 23 04 56

Fortis Bank Portugal

Rua Alexandre Herculano 50-6 Andar
1250-011 Lisboa
Portugal
Tel: +351 213 13 93 16

Fortis Bank UK

Camomile Court
23 Camomile Street
London EC3A 7PP
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 207 247 80 00

Fortis Banque Luxembourg

50, avenue J.F. Kennedy
L-2951 Luxembourg
Luxembourg
Tel: +352 42 42 1

Fortis Bank Italy

Via Cornaggia 10
I-20123 Milano
Italy
Tel: +39 02 57 53 24 61

Fortis Bank Singapore

63 Market Street #21-01
Singapore 048942
Tel: +65 65 38 03 90

Fortis Bank USA

520 Madison Avenue, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10022
United States
Tel: +1 212 418 87 00

Fortis Bank, Succursale en France

30, quai de Dion Bouton
F-92824 Puteaux Cedex
France
Tel: +33 1 55 67 72 00

Fortis Bank Norway

Haakon VII's gate 10
0161 Oslo
Norway
Tel: +47 23 11 49 50

Fortis Bank S.A., Sucursal en España

Serrano 73
28006 Madrid
Spain
Tel: +34 91 436 56 00

Fortis Securities LLC

520 Madison Avenue, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10022
United States
Tel: +1 212 418 87 14

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With a market capitalisation of EUR 42 billion (30/09/2006), Fortis ranks among the twenty largest financial institutions in Europe. Our sound solvency position, our presence in 50 countries and our dedicated, professional workforce of 58,000 enable us to combine global strength with local flexibility and provide our clients with optimum support.

Fortis

Merchant Banking
Montagne du Parc
Warandeberg 3
B-1000 Brussels
Belgium
www.merchantbanking.fortis.com