



金銀業貿易場
The Chinese Gold & Silver Exchange Society
since 1910

[Press Release]

CGSE signs agreement with Finemetal Asia for membership by invitation

Membership by invitation offered to a Swiss proprietary physical precious metal company

Hong Kong, 24 September, 2013

As part of the active efforts to expand physical precious metal businesses in recent year, Chinese Gold & Silver Exchange (hereinafter referred to as “CGSE”) has decided to issue up to five memberships by invitation to international metal companies. CGSE announced that it has granted the invitation-based membership to Finemetal Asia – the first Swiss-based precious metal company which was incorporated in Hong Kong. Finemetal Asia will provide CGSE with 999.9 fine kilobar (gold) accredited by the London Bullion and Market Association (LBMA).

Having launching the scheme of membership by invitation, CGSE could enlarge and enrich its membership base with the recruitment of international bullion and silver dealers and precious metal fabricators. These new international members of CGSE will have instant access to a broader Asian platform of precious metal trading, and the new-found opportunity to forge a closer relationship with the Mainland China investors. Meanwhile, the invited members are able to provide an additional and larger quantity of physical gold and silver on the supply side of the Hong Kong precious metal market.

Mr. Haywood Cheung, President of CGSE, said: “In the past, CGSE has ever submitted a proposal for cooperative development of precious metal businesses at Shenzhen Qianhai Development Zone. And last year, CGSE announced the scheme of membership by invitation. Since then, we have received quite a lot of enquiries and requests for membership. The warm response bears testimony to the fact that Hong Kong is an indispensable gateway between the international and Chinese markets, and numerous bullion dealers worldwide are actively seeking the opportunity to develop their business in the Mainland China.”

Finemetal AG, the parent company of Finemetal Asia, has long been the sole distributor of Argor Heraeus - world-renown gold fabricator. Last year, Finemetal AG and Argor Heraeus partnered to issue the Asia's first one-tael gold coin with 999.9 fineness. "We are pleased to have obtained the CGSE membership after stringent vetting process. It is also our honour to be part of this century-old, reputable precious metals exchange. We see that Asia has a strong, vibrant demand for gold, and China has already established its status of the world's largest gold buyer, accounting for 30%-40% of global demand. These are underlying reasons for our joining CGSE. Furthermore, for multinational companies, Hong Kong serves as a window for their investments in Asia and China. So we take Hong Kong as first priority to develop our Asian business," said Mr. Domenic Parli, President of Finemetal Asia.



From Left: Padraig Seif, COO of Finemetal Asia Limited、Domenic Parli, President of Finemetal Asia Limited, Haywood Cheung, President of CGSE, Jason Li, Legal Advisor and Steven Chan, Vice-President of CGSE.



From Left: Benny Lui Sales & Marketing Director of Finemetal Asia, Erwin Luethi, Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Switzerland Hong Kong, Susanne Sahli, President Swiss Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong, Daniel Fluri, President of Finemetal Asia Limited, Adolf Schild, President of Finemetal Asia Limited, Pdraig Seif, COO of Finemetal Asia Limited, Domenic Parli, President of Finemetal Asia Limited, Haywood Cheung, President of CGSE, Steven Chan, Vice-President of CGSE, Wilson Cheng, President of CGSE, Jason Li, Legal Advisor of CGSE and Victor Tsang, General Manger (Operation) of CGSE.



From Left: Pdraig Seif, COO of Finemetal Asia Limited, Domenic Parli, President of Finemetal Asia Limited, Haywood Cheung, President of CGSE.



Finemetal Asia presents the traditional Swiss giant "cow bell" to CGSE.

About the CGSE

Founded in 1910, the Chinese Gold and Silver Exchange Society ("CGSE") has 103 years of history. Run on a membership-based system, the CGSE now has 171 Members and is managed by the Executive and Supervisory Committees, which comprise 21 Directors and Supervisors. The CGSE is the sole exchange in Hong Kong which trades spot gold. The CGSE trades 99 Tael Gold and Kilobar through an open outcry system; and Loco London Gold / Silver Contract through "Electronic Trading Platform". "Transaction Code" is also provided to parties in the transactions. In 2011, the CGSE launched the world's first offshore Renminbi-denominated gold product - "Renminb Kilobar Gold" and established Hong Kong Precious Metals Assay Centre to provide independent and professional gold assay service. In addition, the CGSE launched 9999 5-tael gold bar and 9999 kilo silver bar in 2013. In order to tie in with the implementation of "Practitioners' Registration System", the CGSE has conducted course on "Certificate in Gold and Silver Markets" in collaboration with the Hong Kong Securities Institute to enhance practitioners' professional knowledge about precious metals markets and their integrity.

About Finemetal AG

Finemetal AG was established in Zurich in 2009 and is an owner-managed company, which trades exclusively in the physical precious metals of gold, silver, platinum or palladium for investment and investment share protection. Finemetal is the perfect way for you to purchase or sell physical precious metals on favorable terms, close to the material value and via perfectly managed transactions. Securitization by means of certificates, options and metals accounts in the field of precious metals always entails a counter party risk. We don't think these are suitable, unlike investing in physical metals. In the event of a crisis, certificates can be lost in the issuing bank's insolvency estate and in the longer term expire worthless, as there is no entitlement to delivery of precious metals. Our clients include wealthy individuals, family offices, asset managers, banks, funds and precious metals traders, with whom we maintain audited and contractually regulated business relationship.

About Argor-Heraeus SA

Argor-Heraeus is one of the world's largest processors of precious metals. With a global perspective and strong Swiss identity, we generate value for our customers at every step of the production chain thanks to state-of-the-art technology, quality, financial stability and responsibility.

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