

August 4, 2011

Tanaka Precious Metals
TANAKA HOLDINGS Co., Ltd.

Tanaka Precious Metals First to Obtain ISO/IEC17025 Accreditation for Platinum and Palladium Analysis Technology in Japan

*Unifying analysis to international standards with an eye to increased supply recycled
from spent auto catalyst and used jewelry*

TANAKA HOLDINGS Co., Ltd. (a company of Tanaka Precious Metals, Head office: Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Hideya Okamoto) today announced that the TKG Laboratory Center of Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K. (Head office: Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; President & CEO: Hideya Okamoto), which operates the Tanaka Precious Metals' manufacturing business became the first company in Japan to acquire ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accreditation for platinum and palladium analysis technology.

The accreditation recognizes that Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo's techniques and repeatability of analytical results concerning the quantitative analysis of trace metals in platinum and palladium are compliant with international standards, and this is the first time this kind of accreditation has been awarded in Japan. ISO/IEC 17025 is an international standard specifying the general requirements concerning the ability to perform testing and calibration, and it requires not only the operation of management systems such as those specified in ISO 9001, but also very strict and appropriate analyzing ability.

With the acquisition of accreditation, Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo is able to produce solid standard reference materials^(*) for analyzing platinum and palladium with analysis levels compliant with international standards. Client companies and organizations performing analysis, such as smelters, will be able to analyze platinum and palladium with an even higher level of reliability than in the past.

■ Current state of Precious Metal Analysis

In August 2010, Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo achieved ISO/IEC17025 accreditation for the analysis of trace metals in gold ahead of that for platinum and palladium, and has established a system providing reference materials for the analysis of gold. However, looking at the precious metals industry as a whole, despite efforts aimed at establishing a global standard for analysis techniques, a standard is yet to be finalized, and there are still outstanding issues such as analysis of precious metals being based upon the reference materials of each company or organization.

In particular, the price of precious metals such as platinum and palladium have continued to rise in recent years, and in addition to supply from mines, there is a growing trend of sourcing supplies from recycling of items such as used automotive catalyst and used jewelry. Ingot refined from such products requires higher reliability with regard to quality assurance due to factors such as the need to analyze the concentration of contamination by more elements.

■ Facing the Challenge of Global Standards

As a company nominated by the LPPM^{(*)2} as a Good Delivery Referee, Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo has provided an extremely high level of analysis technology for platinum and palladium until now. This accreditation signifies recognition of such analysis techniques on an international level, and is expected to contribute to the establishment of global standards for the quality assurance of platinum and palladium.

Platinum, which is used in automotive catalysts, LCD glass, fuel cells and jewelry, and palladium, which is used in automotive catalysts, condensers and dental materials, are currently maintaining high levels of demand in both industrial use and jewelry. Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo has placed the highest priority on improving techniques for analyzing gold, platinum and palladium, for which there is particularly high demand among precious metals, and will continue to improve quality in an effort to establish global standards for analysis technology and quality assurance for all precious metals in the future.

*1 Standard reference materials

A uniform material with a single or multiple attributes used for calibrating equipment, assessing measurement methods and evaluating (analyzing) material being measured. In addition to serving as a quantitative benchmark in various forms of chemical analysis, it also plays a role in correcting differences caused by equipment usage conditions and characteristics, along with personnel performing analysis.



Standard reference materials for platinum (left) and palladium (right)

*2 LPPM

The London Platinum & Palladium Market (LPPM) was established with the objective of ensuring fairly trading platinum and palladium, and is the world's only authoritative body providing accreditation to authorized smelters. There are currently five Good Delivery Referees, and Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo is the only one in Japan.

ISO/IEC17025 Certificates

Testing Laboratory
Accreditation Certificate
Accreditation No. RTL0540

TANAKA KIKINZOKU KOGYO K.K.
TKG Laboratory Center Planning & Development Office
1-75, Shiminachi, Hiratsuka-shi, Kanagawa, 254-0076 Japan

meets the following criteria. On the basis of this, Japan Accreditation Board (JAB) grants accreditation to the said testing laboratory.

Applicable accreditation criteria : JIS Q 17025:2005 (ISO/IEC 17025:2005)
Scope of accreditation : **Chemical testing**
(As described in the appendix.)
Premises covered by accreditation : As described in the appendix.
Expiry date of accreditation : August 2, 2014

This accreditation demonstrates technical competence for a defined scope and the operation of a laboratory quality management system.
The management system requirements to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 meet the principles of ISO 9001:2008 and are aligned with its pertinent requirements.

Revised (1) June 30, 2011
Initial accreditation August 3, 2010

T. Nitta
T. Nitta, Chairman
Laboratory Accreditation Committee

H. Kume
H. Kume, Chairman of Board
Japan Accreditation Board

Accreditation Certificate
Appendix
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Accreditation No. RTL0540

TANAKA KIKINZOKU KOGYO K.K.
TKG Laboratory Center Planning & Development Office

TANAKA KIKINZOKU KOGYO K.K.
TKG Laboratory Center Planning & Development Office
1-75, Shiminachi, Hiratsuka-shi, Kanagawa, 254-0076 Japan
Scope of accreditation :

M26 Chemical testing
M26.3 Analytical test classified by products
M26.3.1 Iron and steel, alloy and material of reactor
M26.3.1.4 Non-ferrous metal
-Gold (Au)
JIS H 6310 & JIS K 0116 (except 6)
Standard of simultaneous analyzing elements in gold by ICP-OES (LCI-50401)
-Platinum (Pt)
JIS H 6312 & JIS K 0116 (except 6)
Standard of simultaneous analyzing elements in platinum by ICP-OES (LCI-50405)
-Palladium (Pd)
JIS H 6313 & JIS K 0116 (except 6)
Standard of simultaneous analyzing elements in palladium by ICP-OES (LCI-50406)
-Sampling
JIS H 0301 3.4

Accreditation Certificate
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Accreditation No. RTL0540

TANAKA KIKINZOKU KOGYO K.K.
TKG Laboratory Center Planning & Development Office

Scope of accreditation :

Test object : Gold (Au)
Determination range
Ag 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Al 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
As 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg B 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Bi 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Ca 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Cd 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Co 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Cr 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Cu 5 mg/kg to 1200 mg/kg
Fe 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg Ga 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ge 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg In 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ir 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Mg 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Mn 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Mo 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ni 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg P 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Pb 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Pd 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg
Pt 20 mg/kg to 1200 mg/kg Re 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Rh 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg Ru 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Sb 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Se 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Si 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Sn 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Te 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Ti 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Tl 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg V 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Zn 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Zr 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg

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Accreditation No. RTL0540

TANAKA KIKINZOKU KOGYO K.K.
TKG Laboratory Center Planning & Development Office

Scope of accreditation :

Test object : Platinum (Pt)
Determination range
Ag 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg Al 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
As 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Au 10 mg/kg to 2000 mg/kg
B 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Bi 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ca 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Cd 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Co 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Cr 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Cu 5 mg/kg to 1200 mg/kg Fe 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg
Ga 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Ge 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
In 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Ir 10 mg/kg to 1000 mg/kg
Mn 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Mo 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ni 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg Ni 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
P 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Pb 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Pd 10 mg/kg to 1600 mg/kg Re 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Rh 5 mg/kg to 1600 mg/kg Ru 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Sb 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Se 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Si 20 mg/kg to 1000 mg/kg Sn 10 mg/kg to 1000 mg/kg
Ta 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Te 50 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ti 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Tl 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
V 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg W 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Zn 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Zr 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg

Accreditation Certificate
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Accreditation No. RTL0540

TANAKA KIKINZOKU KOGYO K.K.
TKG Laboratory Center Planning & Development Office

Scope of accreditation :

Test object : Palladium (Pd)
Determination range
Ag 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg Al 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
As 30 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Au 5 mg/kg to 2000 mg/kg
B 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Bi 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ca 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Cd 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Co 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Cr 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Cu 5 mg/kg to 1200 mg/kg Fe 5 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg
Ga 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Ge 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
In 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Ir 10 mg/kg to 1000 mg/kg
Mn 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Mo 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ni 10 mg/kg to 800 mg/kg Ni 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
P 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Pb 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Pd 20 mg/kg to 1200 mg/kg Re 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Rh 5 mg/kg to 1600 mg/kg Ru 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Sb 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Se 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Si 20 mg/kg to 1000 mg/kg Sn 20 mg/kg to 1000 mg/kg
Ta 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Te 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Ti 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Tl 10 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
V 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg W 20 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg
Zn 1 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg Zr 5 mg/kg to 400 mg/kg

Revised (1) June 30, 2011
Initial accreditation August 3, 2010

T. Nitta
T. Nitta, Chairman
Laboratory Accreditation Committee
Japan Accreditation Board

<Press inquiries>

GD Referee Office, Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K.

e-mail: referee@ml.tanaka.co.jp

■**TANAKA HOLDINGS Co., Ltd. (Holding company of Tanaka Precious Metals)**

Headquarters: 22F, Tokyo Building, 2-7-3 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Representative: Hideya Okamoto, President & CEO

Founded: 1885

Incorporated: 1918

Capital: 500 million yen

Employees in consolidated group: 3,441 (FY2009)

Net sales of consolidated group: 710.2 billion yen (FY2009)

Main businesses of the group:

Manufacture, sales, import and export of precious metals (platinum, gold, silver, and others) and various types of industrial precious metals products. Recycling and refining of precious metals.

Website: <http://www.tanaka.co.jp>

■**Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K.**

Headquarters: 22F, Tokyo Building, 2-7-3 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Representative: Hideya Okamoto, President & CEO

Founded: 1885

Incorporated: 1918

Capital: 500 million yen

Employees: 1,599 (FY2009)

Sales: 388.8 billion yen (FY2009)

Businesses:

Manufacture, sales, import and export of precious metals (platinum, gold, silver, and others) and various types of industrial precious metals products. Recycling and refining of precious metals.

Website: <http://pro.tanaka.co.jp>

<About the Tanaka Precious Metals>

Established in 1885, the Tanaka Precious Metals has built a diversified range of business activities focused on the use of precious metals. On April 1, 2010, the group was reorganized with TANAKA HOLDINGS Co., Ltd. as the holding company (parent company) of the Tanaka Precious Metals. In addition to strengthening corporate governance, the company aims to improve overall service to customers by ensuring efficient management and dynamic execution of operations. Tanaka Precious Metals is committed, as a specialist corporate entity, to providing a diverse range of products through cooperation among group companies.

Tanaka Precious Metals is in the top class in Japan in terms of the volume of precious metal handled, and for many years the group has developed and stably supplied industrial precious metals, in addition to providing accessories and savings commodities utilizing precious metals. As precious metal professionals, the Group will continue to contribute to enriching people's lives in the future.

The eight core companies in the Tanaka Precious Metals are as follows.

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| - TANAKA HOLDINGS Co., Ltd. (pure holding company) | - Tanaka Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K. |
| - Tanaka Kikinzoku Hanbai K.K. | - Tanaka Kikinzoku International K.K. |
| - Tanaka Denshi Kogyo K.K. | - Electroplating Engineers of Japan, Limited |
| - Tanaka Kikinzoku Jewelry K.K. | - Tanaka Kikinzoku Business Service K.K. |