

Your Excellency, President Putin,
Drazyuietcha (Greetings) from California USA. Merry Christmas!!! this day 1/7/06.

As Russia has a virtual monopoly lock on worldwide palladium production, particularly through Norilsk Russia and Stillwater USA, it seems that Russia could exploit this position for vast profits and governmental monetary security. I would like to suggest several moves orchestrated through Moscow and implemented through Norilsk.

- 1) Russia should increase, as a side supplement to central bank gold reserve increases, its palladium reserves, as the metal complex usually moves in tandem, and as such, Russia has available supplies within Russia at moderate prices, to provide Russia additional financial security in the event of a US dollar collapse.
- 2) Russia should greatly increase within Russia the production of finished palladium goods, that is, finished jewelry items for internal consumption and direct foreign export. This should increase employment at both the Russian mines as well as the jewelry private sector industry in Russia. The added value to palladium jewelry, as well as the inherent cost of the metal itself, should bring into Russia sought after foreign exchange reserves and well as increase employment income for many Russians in need of new industry to sustain Russian economic growth into the out years.
- 3) Russia should develop internal catalytic converters for an automobile produced in Russia that is affordable by the Russian masses, that is, a low cost practical Russian produced automobile enhanced with palladium based converters, in part in compliance with the Kyoto convention emission control requirements. This would be a triple boost to Russian employment, in terms of production of palladium ore, palladium jewelry, and catalytic converters, all within Russia.
- 4) Russia should not starve nor dump palladium onto open markets so as to provide a low, stable, and sustain modest price in palladium into the out years. Currently, palladium is 1/4 the price of the alternative platinum, and as long as palladium remains substantially lower than platinum, such as less than 1/2, there would be a propensity to shift to palladium, such as the Chinese jewelry market is now doing, and as Detroit USA is now considering.
- 5) Russia should initiate an advertising campaign, firstly in Russia and China, highlighting the low cost, inherent value, attractiveness, and durability of palladium jewelry to diminish the poor-man metal attitude of most Russians, and to increase the appeal for palladium jewelry in Russian as well as China. This will be the seed of a second worldwide palladium jewelry expansion into western markets in the out years to Russia's great profit. This promotion should be based on the highlighting the inherent value of the precious metal as an alternative investment and savings mechanism in Russia for the Russian peoples.
- 6) Russia should mint 1 and 10 kopecki (penny) palladium coins and 1 and 10 ruble palladium coins. As 1 kopecki coins are virtually thrown away in Russia, and as Russia plans a bi-currency with gold back rubles, low cost palladium coinage would serve this gold bi-currency with lesser valued coinage for mass use.

Russia has the palladium resource, the market monopoly power, the labor force, and a need for increased employment in catalytic converters manufacture and stylish jewelry manufacture for increased employment, to promote Russian financial prosperity. The price should not accelerate too much, but should be sustained, with a limited yearly price increase, say no more than 25% per year, and should be gauged relative to gold and platinum prices. In these ways, you increase financial reserves, employment, investment, savings, and prosperity in Russia.

Very Truly Yours
Derrick Michael Reid
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