



9<sup>th</sup> of July 2008

Dear Rhenium Members,

Since 2006, the European Precious Metals Federation in Brussels has launched the creation of a Consortium in order to assist the precious metals industry in REACH compliance.

The need to form consortia under REACH is triggered by the fact that compliance towards the REACH Regulation should be done jointly, in accordance with the OSOR principle (One Substance, One Registration). According to this principle, one unique reference Registration Dossier must be submitted to the European Chemicals Agency by an appointed Lead Registrant for each individual substance. The other registrants of the same substance who have shared the efforts and the costs of producing the reference Registration Dossier have then, the right to refer to the applicable part of that Dossier submitted by the Lead Registrant, when submitting their own registration to the Agency.

In light of the above principle, in September 2007, a Consortium Agreement had been drafted, agreed and signed by 25 companies and a few weeks later, a 26<sup>th</sup> company had joined us. The Agreement initially covered pure silver, gold, platinum group metals and some of their compounds, substances and intermediates under REACH.

Although we had been in contact with the Minor Metals Traders Association (MMTA), who was trying to find a home for some of its materials under REACH, it was not until we noticed that two Members of the Consortium had interest in rhenium that we raised an official proposal to the Assembly of the Consortium to include rhenium in the scope of activity of the Consortium.

The proposal was accepted by the Assembly who acknowledged the existence of some similarities between rhenium and some platinum group metals, especially as regards some of their uses, their small tonnages and their associated high value and price. In light of this scope adjustment, it was therefore agreed to revise the Consortium Agreement so rhenium members could identify themselves throughout the adjusted version. We would like to thank you for your patience while waiting for the finalised Agreement.



PRECIOUS METALS CONSORTIUM  
Welcome letter to Rhenium Members

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2008, the Assembly of the Consortium approved the application for membership of five rhenium companies. We are very glad to welcome you on board! As a clarification, please note that by joining the Consortium, you do not become a Member of the European Precious Metals Federation; the Consortium and the Federation are two different organisations.

Today, we are inviting you to continue this REACH journey with us and enter our working environment. We have put all our efforts in respecting confidentiality and Competition Law and we are very proud of what we have achieved until now. We are sure you will be great contributors to this journey! Should you have any suggestion or question, we would be very please to hear it.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and trust.

Kind regards,

Dr Andrew Griffiths  
Chair, Management Committee

& Caroline Braibant  
Secretariat & Trustee