



PRECIOUS METALS CONSORTIUM
PLATINUM GROUP METALS WORK GROUP
STEP 2B: REQUEST FOR SPECTRA ON PGM SOLUTIONS

Brussels, 21st of April 2008

Dear Members,

Subject: Invitation to produce Raman spectra for PGM solutions (Step 2b of 3).

On behalf of Mr David Boyd, Chair of the PGMs Work Group, and following my requests dated 25th of February (*Request for particle size data on solid PGM's (Step 1 of 3)*) and 10th of March (*Request to produce and submit spectra for solid PGMs (Step 2a of 3)*), which were both due for today, please find here below, an invitation to produce Raman spectra for PGM solutions.

An *ad hoc* task force composed of David Boyd (Johnson Matthey), Peter Grohnert (W.C. Heraeus) and Roland Winde (Umicore) has been formed in order to launch a feasibility study. The aim of this exercise was to compare IR, UV Visible and Raman spectra of four PGM solutions (Chloroplatinic Acid, Ruthenium trichloride, Platinum nitrate and Palladium nitrate) in order to identify the most suitable method to be used at Consortium level.

A number of exchanges within the task force and with other participants of the PGMs Work Group and the Technical Advisory Panel (11th of February, 4th and 18th of March, 1st of April), allowed to conclude that the most suitable method to produce comparable spectra is the Raman spectroscopic technique. Moreover, it was recommended to use the following parameters in order to obtain high quality, standardised, and comparable spectra:

- Resolution: 4 cm⁻¹
- Frequency of reading/Interval: 0,5
- Wavelength: 3500 - 100 cm⁻¹
- Power/Laser: 500 mW
- Sample scans: 100
- Wavenumber on peaks: required

Following the above conclusion we hereby kindly request you to produce Raman spectra (under the conditions specified above) for all your PGM solutions appearing more than once in the PGMs indicative list. Please kindly send your spectra to the Trustee by the 19th of May 2008.

If you are unable to submit the required data, please inform me without delay. Thank you in advance for your contribution!

With kindest regards,

Caroline Braibant
Secretariat & Trustee
Precious Metals Consortium

On behalf of: **David Boyd**
Chair of the PGMs WG
Precious Metals Consortium