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Jewellery and precious metals — Specifications for 1 kilogram gold bar

Joaillerie, bijouterie et métaux précieux — Spécifications pour les lingots d'or de 1 kilogramme

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Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 174, *Jewellery and precious metals*.

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Introduction

The 1 kilogram gold bar (also named gold kilobar) is the most manufactured and traded small gold bar. As the premium associated with this product is generally very low, it is popular not only among institutional and private investors, but also among jewellery manufacturers and industries.

Unlike 400 troy ounces (approximately 12,5 kg) bars, for which a recognized standard is published by the LBMA (London Bullion Market Association) in its Good Delivery Rules, there is no internationally recognized standard for 1 kilogram gold bars. Each market (e.g. COMEX in New York, SGE in Shanghai, TOCOM in Tokyo) has its own rules for accepting those bars, which can include specifications for mass tolerance, dimensions, markings and even chemical composition. Hence, a gold kilobar accepted by one exchange may be rejected by another.

Furthermore, different standards for specification of impurities are co-existing, including SGEB2-2004 used in Chinese market and ASTM B562-95 used by jewellery manufacturers and industries. This ISO standard creates a specification with specification for impurities that will be compatible with those two most commonly used references.

The purpose of this document is hence to propose a set of specifications, which could serve as reference for the exchanges and the industrial markets and favour the usage of gold kilobars.

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