

Cobalt, Platinum and Palladium - urgently needed

Cobalt is used in lithium-ion batteries. Platinum and palladium could become scarce in the market in 2019

The statement of Johnson Matthey, the world's largest platinum and palladium processor, made people sit up and take notice: He expects a supply deficit of 127,000 ounces of platinum for the current year. On the one hand, the reason lies in the increased demand of the automotive industry and, on the other hand, the investment demand is very high. Emissions regulations are becoming stricter, especially in India and China. And newer catalyst models devour more palladium. 809,000 ounces of palladium missing in 2019 is expected.

The World Platinum Investment Council, on the other hand, expects a surplus supply of platinum, albeit significantly lower than in 2018. Whatever the forecast, platinum and palladium are in demand as commodities.

Sibanye-Stillwater - https://www.commodity-tv.net/c/search_adv/?v=299128 - one of the largest platinum and palladium producers in South Africa, which is also active in North America, is also counting on this. In addition, Sibanye-Stillwater is one of the major gold producers in South Africa.

In addition to palladium in automotive catalysts, cobalt is used in lithium-ion batteries in electric vehicles. Cobalt, also known as the new gold, enables electricity to be stored in batteries and serves as electrical conductivity. There is still enough cobalt on the market at the moment, but experts predict that the supply of the raw material could become difficult in the coming years. Because electric vehicles are becoming more and more.

More than 50 percent of the cobalt produced still comes from the Democratic Republic of Congo. But there is also cobalt in Idaho in the Iron Creek cobalt property of First Cobalt - https://www.commodity-tv.net/c/search_adv/?v=298892 - This company is the 100 percent owner of the only fully licensed cobalt refinery in North America. In a few weeks, a study will make details of the cobalt project public.

Current corporate information and press releases from First Cobalt (<https://www.resource-capital.ch/en/companies/first-cobalt-corp/>) and Sibanye-Stillwater (<https://www.resource-capital.ch/en/companies/sibanye-stillwater-ltd/>).

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