

## MITSUBISHI MATERIALS CORPORATION

### GOLD BAR MANUFACTURER IN JAPAN

**Mitsubishi Materials Corporation**, one of the world's largest materials companies, has its headquarters in the Chiyoda-ku area of Tokyo.

Gold refining and bar manufacture take place at the Naoshima Smelter in Kagawa, Kagawa Prefecture, about 600 km from Tokyo.

The company issues a standard range of 4 cast and 3 minted bars:

Cast: 400 oz, 1000 g, 500 g, 100 g

Minted: 20 g, 10 g, 5 g

A representative range of the company's bars has been included in the Industry Collection.

#### BACKGROUND

Mitsubishi Materials Corporation was established in 1990 through the merger of Mitsubishi Metal Corporation and Mitsubishi Mining & Cement Co Ltd.

The former Mitsubishi Metal Corporation, established in 1950, had absorbed the pre-war non-ferrous mining, smelting and refining interests of Mitsubishi.

Although the main source of its newly-mined gold output is the by-product of large copper smelting operations, the company had been involved in the mining of gold from 1870 until the Sado gold mine at Niigata was closed in 1989.

Between 1893 and 1989, all gold refining took place at the company's Osaka Refinery. In 1989, gold refining operations were transferred to the Naoshima Smelter, originally established in 1917.

The company has manufacturing plants in more than 20 countries. Its businesses, apart from metals, include cement, advanced materials and tools, aluminium, electronic materials and components, energy and recycling.

Annual gold refining capacity at the Naoshima Smelter is around 60 tonnes.

Number of employees: 19,000 (consolidated).

#### Accreditation

- 1981 London Bullion Market Association
- 1980 New York Mercantile Exchange, COMEX Division
- 1982 The Tokyo Commodity Exchange
- 2007 Dubai Multi Commodities Centre

Website: [www.mmc.co.jp/english/index.html](http://www.mmc.co.jp/english/index.html)



Mitsubishi Materials Corporation, established in 1990, can trace its origins back to the 1870s.



The Naoshima Smelter has manufactured the company's gold bars since 1989.



London Good Delivery bars have been issued since 1981.



**TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION**

Weight	Type	Fineness	Shape	Dimensions mm	First Made
400 oz	Cast	999.9	Rectangular	245 x 80 x 40 235 x 70 (base)	1976
1000 g	Cast	999.9	Rectangular	117 x 52 x 9	1976
500 g	Cast	999.9	rectangular	86 x 38 x 8.5	1976
100 g	Cast	999.9	Rectangular	45 x 25 x 5	1976
20 g	Minted	999.9	Rectangular	31.3 x 18.3 x 2	1980
10 g	Minted	999.9	Rectangular	25.5 x 15.5 x 1.5	1980
5 g	Minted	999.9	Rectangular	23 x 14 x 1	1980

Source: Mitsubishi Materials Corporation



Pouring gold.

**HISTORY OF GOLD BAR MANUFACTURE**

Although the gold mining operations of Mitsubishi Materials Corporation date back to 1873, all gold was sold in monme-denominated bars suitable for industrial purposes, the earliest known cast bar recorded as having been made in 1917.

In 1976, 4 cast bars were issued: 400 oz, 1000 g, 500 g and 100 g.

In 1980, 3 minted bars were issued: 20 g, 10 g and 5 g.

From 1991 until 2005, two smaller minted bars, now historical, were issued: 3 g and 1 g.

The company is renowned for its manufacture of Fine Gold Cards with decorative designs. Current weights in 999.9 fineness range from 1 g to 20 g. They were first issued in 1988.



Kilobars have been manufactured since 1976.



The company offers a Gold Accumulation Plan to enable purchases of gold in monthly installments of Yen 3,000 or more.

Since the 1980s, the "My Gold Plan" has attracted more than 400,000 members.



Stamping kilobars.



EXAMPLES OF GOLD BARS



1000 g



500 g



100 g



10 g

OFFICIAL STAMP



On all bars issued by Mitsubishi Materials Corporation since 1976.

CERTIFICATION MARK



On all bars issued or manufactured by Mitsubishi Materials Corporation since 1976.





Mitsubishi Materials Corporation has its international headquarters in the Chiyoda-ku area of Tokyo.



The company is renowned for having pioneered the development of decorative Fine Gold Cards in the late 1980s.

The cards range in weight from 0.39 g up to 20 g.  
Fineness: 999.9.

**THE INDUSTRY COLLECTION OF GOLD BARS WORLDWIDE**

**The Industry Collection of Gold Bars Worldwide** is a worldwide effort to create a unique collection of standard, innovative and unusual gold bars to support the promotion of gold.

Since 1993, manufacturers from across the globe have supported this international project by making their bars available. Founder was **N M Rothschild & Sons (Australia) Limited**, associated with N M Rothschild & Sons Limited, London. Custodian and Official Location is **The Perth Mint**, wholly owned by the Government of Western Australia.

Curator is **Grendon International Research Pty Ltd (GIR)**. Apart from acting as a consultant within the gold industry, GIR has published several reference books on gold, including *The Industry Catalogue of Gold Bars Worldwide*.

Refer to disclaimer on website: [www.goldbarsworldwide.com](http://www.goldbarsworldwide.com)

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