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# Editorial

## Gold in 1999 and beyond

Another new year and another new volume of *Gold Bulletin*! To many people, this year is a little special as we approach the Millennium. I would like to think it will also be a special year for *Gold Bulletin* and for significant progress in new applications for gold. From where I stand, there is certainly renewed momentum in gold catalysis research as Professor Bond so eloquently put its case in this column in the last issue. Will 1999 see a breakthrough in gold's commercial exploitation as a catalyst? Will 1999 see further progress in the pharmaceutical uses of gold? New treatments for arthritis or cancer, perhaps?

I certainly sense that we are approaching advances of this type. Whether these happen in 1999 or 2000, I would not like to predict but I am sure these are not so far off. That is one reason why *Gold Bulletin* is devoting attention to these areas. Maybe the first decade of the new Millennium will see the rebirth of gold in terms of industrial and medical applications. We shall see!

But what about new applications for gold in metallic form? At present around 80% of all gold usage is channelled into jewellery production. Whilst gold plays vital roles in industrial and medical applications, in tonnage terms, gold jewellery dominates. Electronic applications are large in terms of number of devices but modest in tonnes. Dental use is also modest. What we need is an application for gold as an alloying addition in bulk alloys such as steels that will consume hundreds of tonnes of gold. That is possibly a pipedream but so was gold catalysis a few years ago. Who questions that dream now?



## World Gold Council and Gold Bulletin - your help please!

World Gold Council has undergone some re-organisation over the last year and by the time this issue appears, our Headquarters will be firmly relocated in London, from where *Gold Bulletin* has been published for more than 3 years. Please inform your library about this change of location. I get a lot of correspondence sent to Geneva from readers and particularly university

libraries over missing issues, some even addressed to Intergold, South Africa - our previous incarnation over 11 years ago! *Please update your records*.

Likewise, we get a large number of returns of *Gold Bulletin* from addressees where the named recipient has moved, changed employment or retired. This causes unnecessary hassle for our secretaries and wasted postage costs. If you retire or move location, does your company still want to continue receiving *Gold Bulletin*? If we are not informed, then we delete your company from our mailing list, not knowing who else might like to take over receiving your copy.

Can I ask you to please take the trouble and keep us informed of such changes or deletions to our mailing list before the next issue is due to be posted? Thank you. More readers will then have access to *Gold Bulletin*.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Corti". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends to the right.

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