

ENGELHARD... THE FIRST INGOTS

TOP LOGO = TOP DOLLAR

By **AGWire™**

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The very first variety of the world's most innovative and artistic human creations, whether it be a Ford Model T™, a Remington 870 Wingmaster™ shotgun, or Whammo Frisbee™, were of very simple and clean design, and all with some slight production variation. Engelhard Top Logo ingots were no different. Introduced in the mid-1960's and riding the coattails of Engelhard's successful run of London Kilo and Half Kilo ingots (relatively speaking as production was very slim on those) Engelhard Top Logo ingots were of simple design and proportion, with a production platform through the late 1960's in varied sizes of 3oz, 4oz, 5oz, 7oz and 10oz weight class. Top Logo ingot production totaled only about 2000 units, relatively nothing by today's standards, but at a time when silver spot price was barely north of \$1.00 per troy ounce, silver bullion was not yet in favor quite like it is today. In fact, until only in the past decade, these ingots were considered "crude" or "junk" bars, and most were melted down for repurposing. Recent survival studies suggest less than 15% of these ingots may actually exist today, so doing the simple math suggests $<2000 \times .15 = <300$ exist today, and that's ALL varieties. Below are estimated mintages of various sizes produced:

3oz [350] **4oz** [400] **5oz** [500] **7oz** [400] **10oz** [350]

Recent auctions for Engelhard Top Logo ingots show sales at the following prices. No, these aren't gold ingot sale prices, yet the numbers would certainly suggest otherwise!

3oz	Serial Number 00016	Price: \$3,000.00	8-14-13	[Non-plus variety]	iCollector
4oz	Serial Number 3177	Price: \$3,500.00	8-12-12	[CLEANED... yikes!]	eBay
4oz	Serial Number 00261	Price: \$3,900.00	8-16-12	[Non-plus variety]	iCollector
5oz	Serial Number 02716	Price: \$795.00	1-31-13	[Nice Toning]	eBay
7oz	Serial Number 02779	Price: \$2,250.00	3-25-13	[Nice Toning]	eBay
10oz	Serial Number 3085	Price: \$1200.00	4-6-14	[Mint Fresh]	Private Sale

AllEngelhard.com refers to these ingots as ICR Tier 1 examples, the most rare and sought after of the Engelhard production run. Seldom are they seen for sale, and asking prices confirm this. Yet, we still hear occasional stories from collectors who have happened upon these rare gems at their local coin shops. The word is out only to those who are in the know. As Uncle Joe used to say, "keep your eyes peeled," and you may just stumble upon one of these gems in your own backyard! Happy collecting!

AGWire™ is a conduit of the AllEngelhard Society. All representations are opinion and not to be taken as financial advice. Visit AllEngelhard.com for more specific information on Engelhard bars and ingots. Additional readings are available at this link to the AllEngelhard.com website: <http://allengelhard.com/community-links/ae-in-the-news-2/>