## ALL ENGELHARD'S 10K EPIPHANY!

## RECONSTRUCTING HISTORY

By **AG**Wire™ February 13, 2016

In the early 2000's, precious metals were insanely cheap, and although most astute metals investors pursued forms of generic silver and gold, some of us were allured to and overwhelmingly fascinated by all things Engelhard. There was something intriguing about these ingots and bars that made them unlike any other bullion product, and as such, there became a brewing buzz in our then small collector community. As our interest grew, so did our increasing curiosity and desire for Engelhard production and mintage information. Despite years of exhaustive research and numerous interviews with former employees and industry affiliates to locate any records or notes on serial numbers and mintages of Engelhard bullion, all efforts led us right back to the start -- no Engelhard mintage or serial number information was saved, or perhaps ever even created or logged in the first place. So, what do you do when you don't have the critical information to support and validate your hobby? You spend several years meticulously reconstructing history, by hand.

At AllEngelhard, we have been recording Engelhard bar and ingot serial numbers for over a decade now, and we are quite proud, actually more like ecstatic, to report that we hit a milestone last month in recording our 10,000<sup>th</sup> serial number for Tier 1 through Tier 4 bars and ingots to our proprietary serial number registry. Of the projected 1.4 million estimated Tier 1 through Tier 4 bars and ingots produced by Engelhard US and Canada over the span of nearly 3 decades, we estimate that 80% of these have been melted, leaving only about 20%, or 140,000 surviving examples. So, therefore, 10,000 logged and photo-verified serial numbers (and counting) represents over 7% of the surviving Engelhard population worldwide. Compare this to the Nielsen Ratings for television, the most influential determinant for viewer polling, media placement and advertiser pricing, which use a 1% of population polling system. Comparatively, our serial number registry is more than 7x as comprehensive and accurate as the Nielsen Ratings. Our information clearly defines date ranges and sequence of production, individual ingot ranges and shared ranges, sub-varieties, and idiosyncrasies and anomalies within ranges, all of which are extrapolated into our Definitive Pages. Our goal from the onset was to log 10% of all surviving Engelhard serial number examples, so we clearly still have our work cut out for us, however, we are now at such a significant point in our research that we rarely come across any new surprises as we often did only a few years ago. This is truly an exciting time for Engelhard collectors, and we sincerely hope that you enjoy, utilize and benefit from this information as much as we are with our own collections. As our team reviews and digests this milestone work over the next several weeks, expect to see some subtle, and perhaps notable mintage updates in our Definitive Pages.

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NOTE: If you have any Engelhard Tier 1 though Tier 4 bar or ingot photos you would like to share with us for our Serial Registry, we would graciously welcome your photo submittals to <a href="mailto:allengelhard@gmail.com">allengelhard@gmail.com</a> or secure direct upload to our site at <a href="mailto:AE Image Upload">AE Image Upload</a>. Your information will be kept confidential.

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