

# THE X8 FACTOR

## REVISITED...

By AGWire™  
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It's time again to revisit one of our favorite articles from 2017, titled [THE X8 FACTOR](#). We thought this article would be time-appropriate given that recent examples of partial X8 prefix bars that have been, and currently are being offered for sale on Ebay, Instagram and other forums. These "X8's" error stampings occurred in 3oz, 5oz, 7oz, 10oz, 25oz, 50oz and even 100oz bars, basically all US production Engelhard ingots from the early 1970's.

The Engelhard X8 prefix stamp was actually an error stamp or malfunction of the rotary dial on the hand stamp, that in most cases caused an upper prefix displaying the bottom of an X8 and a lower prefix displaying the top of a Y9 (the next letter/number in dial sequence). The degree of partial stamp greatly varied throughout the error span, with some ingots showing only a minor trace of X8 or Y9 imprint, and others showing half of each or more. In very rare cases, a full X8 prefix has occurred, to date only in the 10oz 3rd series ingot (photo below).



First Series 25oz ingot serial number 25020 has a unique full Y9 prefix as shown below, although it is interestingly lower than the serial number with no trace of X8 above. There are likely other X8 and Y9 full prefix bars that we have yet to come upon, perhaps in the other size classes, but total production examples of these are a handful at best.



So, with8 further ado, we are X8ted to reacq8 you with this Xtroordinary reading.

Partially,  
^AE

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