

Table 3.7

Estimates of world platinum production, 1981 - 1992

Country/ period	Individual annual production for the six-year period, kg							Annual growth/ decline, %
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Average	
Australia 1981-86 1987-92	65 130	74 106	59 100	66 100	95 100	115 100	75 106	+11,20 - 4,16
Canada 1981-86 1987-92	4 610 4 354	2 788 5 393	2 668 4 244	4 251 4 829	4 146 4 384	5 252 4 381	3 951 4 598	+ 6,79 - 1,31
Colombia 1981-86 1987-92	460 638	370 815	320 973	314 1 319	362 1 590	447 2 000	379 1 223	- 0,65 +18,13
Ethiopia 1981-86 1987-92	4 1	4 1	4 2	4 2	5 2	2 2	4 2	- 7,65 +17,17
Finland 1981-86 1987-92	50 120	129 54	68 60	33 60	35 60	120 60	73 69	- 0,74 - 8,61
Japan 1981-86 1987-92	327 753	479 647	667 1 031	607 1 425	691 988	663 1 129	572 996	+13,85 +10,89
South Africa 1981-86 1987-92	55 986 78 353	54 106 80 591	58 329 80 402	66 885 85 846	75 156 86 157	73 530 91 830	63 999 83 863	+ 7,36 + 3,87
Russia 1981-86 1987-92	24 886 29 050	26 015 29 654	26 752 29 872	27 286 30 886	30 176 30 118	28 285 29 586	27 233 29 861	+ 3,21 + 0,49
USA 1981-86 1987-92	57 780	37 1 240	49 1 430	114 1 810	144 1 730	182 2 100	97 1 515	+35,86 +19,33
Yugoslavia 1981-86 1987-92	15 24	13 23	6 23	6 21	6 15	33 14	13 20	+ 4,75 -10,97
Zimbabwe 1981-86 1987-92	72 18	53 28	53 25	24 21	19 20	26 20	41 22	-22,59 - 1,86
World total 1981-86 1987-92	86 532 114 221	84 068 118 552	88 975 118 162	99 590 126 319	110 835 125 164	108 645 131 222	96 441 122 273	+ 6,12 + 2,67

South Africa. The same applies to the emerging Commonwealth of Independent States, and certainly Russia in particular. At some future time, either the continuity of supply of the PGM or their existing trading patterns are bound to be threatened as a consequence of such unrest and economic disruption. Although no threat of disruption or perturbations of supply can be perceived at present, upsetting political events within the two major PGM suppliers of the world cannot be

ruled out when formulating strategies for future industrial or economic planning scenarios.

Finally, Table 3.10 provides the percentage of world production of platinum, palladium, and the platinum-group metals for the three periods 1981 to 1986, 1987 to 1992 and 1990 to 1992. In each period, South Africa's production has increased, while that of Russia has decreased. It must be reiterated that the table applies to actual mine production and the available data for



Drilling in a UG2 stope at Western Platinum Mine
(courtesy Lonrho Plc)