

Appendix 14. Letter from Geoffrey Otterman of Johnson Matthey to Nikolay Kharkov about the results of the 2003 JM test.



Johnson Matthey

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Dear Mr Kharkov

In a pilot study in 2003/04 Johnson Matthey provided three samples that contained target materials for the "tracking procedure" developed by Norilsk Nickel (NN). The samples were "masked" by the addition of a mixture of process intermediates from JM's own refining circuit. The "tracking procedure" was then employed to evaluate the samples by NN without prior knowledge of which target material was present in each sample. The procedure impressively, correctly identified the presence of, and approximate quantity of, the "target material" in each case.

The results obtained from this preliminary test of the "tracking procedure", demonstrated that it showed some promise. Since then JM have been broadly supportive of the method and have recommended:

- further development of the techniques within the procedure take place to reflect "best available technology";
- that consensus for implementation of the procedure should be sought from experts within the member companies of the International Platinum Association and
- that a more thorough validation of the "tracking procedure" be designed where a much wider range and variability of the target materials be reflected in the library and more comprehensive masking techniques be employed.

This support remains in place today and JM are willing to proactively participate in discussions through the offices of the IPA in order to promote the next steps in development and ultimate implementation.

Yours sincerely

Geoffrey P. Otterman
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