



press release

Many mining juniors miss out as gold hits all-time new high

- Wide spreads and liquidity issues on AIM and PLUS still hinder small caps
 - *Sharemark for Miners* campaign addresses the problem head on
 - A dual trading, order-driven platform is the way ahead

Last week, the price of gold reached a new all-time high. However, despite gold's popularity, many small cap mining companies and their investors simply aren't benefiting from the boom.

Sophie Douglas, manager of Sharemark and the driving force behind the *Sharemark for Miners* campaign, comments on how mining juniors and their investors can benefit from the popularity of gold.

"It's significant to see gold reaching record levels right now. And it's a sign of the times when an investor like John Paulson is so intent on increasing his exposure to gold that he plans to launch a fund in the New Year to invest \$250 million of his own money in the price of gold.

"News of the increase in the price of gold and Paulson's timely investment certainly make gold mining companies an interesting opportunity for many investors.

"However, despite FTSE 100 miners gaining 0.7 per cent last week, and mid and small cap stocks gaining an average of 2.9 per cent, mining juniors and their investors continue to be victims of wide spreads and liquidity issues on the AIM and PLUS Markets.

"The *Sharemark for Miners* campaign was specifically established to combat issues such as these. With Sharemark, not only can mining juniors benefit from an additional liquidity pool on an order-driven market that works with existing AIM and PLUS quotes, their shareholders also enjoy a simple and transparent trading mechanism – free from the wide spreads indicative of the major markets.

"It is these benefits which we hope will prove the way ahead for small cap mining companies. They are the principles upon which the *Sharemark for Miners* campaign is built."

Launched in October 2009 by Sharemark and Catalyst Strategies, *Sharemark for Miners* is a campaign designed to address the liquidity problems associated with mining juniors by providing a dual trading, order-driven platform.

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About Sharemark

Sharemark is a periodic auction-based dealing facility designed primarily for either the single or dual trading of emerging or smaller companies. Its website www.sharemark.com shows bids to buy and offers to sell. The price is set at each auction by calculating the single price at which as many orders as possible will be filled. Auction frequency is generally determined by the number of shareholders a company has and the likely trading volumes.

The investments and/or services referred to in this document may not be suitable for every investor and if in doubt you should contact a financial adviser. It may be difficult for investors to buy and sell investments referred to and/or obtain reliable information about their value or the extent of risks to which the price is exposed. Share prices on Sharemark may be subject to sudden and large falls in value given the restricted marketability of the shares/units and you may not get back the amount you originally invested.

Sharemark constitutes a Multilateral Trading Facility and is not a Recognised Investment Exchange, Clearing House or Regulated Market within the meaning of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive. Sharemark is a trading division of The Share Centre Limited, which is a member of the London Stock Exchange and authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority under reference 146768. Sharemark is a registered trademark.

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About Catalyst Strategies

Catalyst Strategies is a specialist business strategy company founded by business efficiency and risk specialist, Value Generation Limited.

The company is an appointed representative of The Share Centre Limited and is working with Sharemark to develop and promote a range of creative trading solutions designed to improve trading liquidity for companies within the small cap mining, exploration and resources sector.