

NEWS RELEASE

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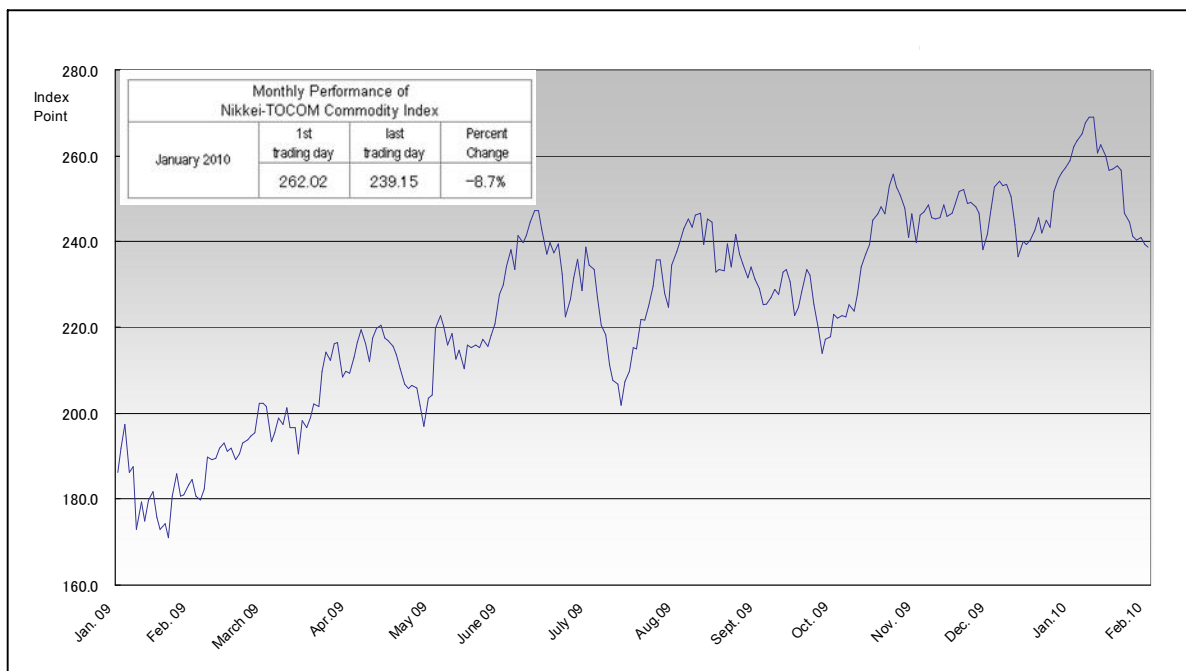
Summary of January 2010 Activities at TOCOM

Tokyo Commodity Exchange today announced that January trading volume averaged 143,863 contracts per day, up 0.2 % from December 2009. The average monthly volume tops the previous month for the 6th consecutive month, which shows that market liquidity is on a recovery trend. Despite the fact that the volume in gold standard futures, TOCOM's most actively traded product, decreased by 14.0% from the previous month to 67,592 contracts per day, platinum standard was up 70.8% averaging 24,941 contracts per day. Platinum mini also increased by 77.5% to 2,041 contracts per day, palladium increased by 84.5% to 689 contracts per day and rubber grew by 23.5% to 15,417 contracts per day.

TOCOM – Trading Volume Breakdown

Contract	Monthly Trading Volume			Monthly Average Daily Volume			
	Jan 10	Dec 09	Share	Jan 10	Dec 09	Jan 10/ Dec 09	Jan 10 / Jan 09
Gold	1,284,255	1,650,395	54.74%	67,592	78,590	86.01%	146.51%
Gold Mini	277,924	370,727	12.30%	14,628	17,654	82.86%	39.90%
Silver	14,084	12,299	0.41%	741	586	126.57%	153.19%
Platinum	473,886	306,640	10.17%	24,941	14,602	170.81%	193.37%
Platinum Mini	38,780	24,148	0.80%	2,041	1,150	177.50%	95.69%
Palladium	13,092	7,842	0.26%	689	373	184.52%	216.18%
Crude Oil	65,225	69,977	2.32%	3,433	3,332	103.02%	179.24%
Gasoline	181,434	216,445	7.18%	9,549	10,307	92.65%	103.04%
Kerosene	91,729	94,505	3.13%	4,828	4,500	107.28%	97.36%
Aluminum	61	62	0.00%	3	3	108.74%	12.82%
Rubber	292,927	262,155	8.69%	15,417	12,484	123.50%	73.25%
Gold Options	0	0	0.00%	0	0	-	-
Total	2,733,397	3,015,195		143,863	143,581	100.20%	105.90%
Trading Days	19	21					

Performance of Nikkei-TOCOM Commodity Index (January 2009-today)



Two ETFs and One Investment Trust linked to TOCOM to be Launched in February

One investment trust and two Exchange Traded Fund (ETF), which invest directly in TOCOM's precious metals market, will be launched this month in Japan. These are the first Japanese investment trust and ETFs linked to the Japanese commodity futures market.

On February 15, 2010, two ETFs will be listed on the Osaka Securities Exchange. One of them is set up and managed by Mizuho Asset Management Co. Ltd., and tracks the settlement price of gold futures. And the other is set up and managed by Nomura Asset Management Co. Ltd., and tracks the performance of the Nikkei-TOCOM Platinum Index.

The investment trust, which invests directly in TOCOM's gold futures contract, is set up and managed by ITC Investment Partners Corporation, an asset management subsidiary of Itochu Corporation, is to be launched on February 17, 2010. Astomax Co. Ltd., an independent commodity trading advisor, will be entrusted to perform part of its fund management and Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd. and Daiwa Securities Capital Markets will distribute the product.

Reflecting a growing interest in the commodity investment, the launch of this type of commodity investment products is expected to benefit TOCOM through an increase in trading activity.

TOCOM to Introduce Block Trading

TOCOM has decided to introduce block trading once it receives approval from the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry. Block trading allows for transactions to be concluded apart from the market, avoiding for large orders to impact market prices. TOCOM aims to facilitate the participation in the TOCOM markets by investors involved in investment funds and ETFs, which is expected to also enhance the link with financial markets.

TOCOM Redesigning the Contract Specification for Gas Oil Futures

TOCOM is redesigning the contract specification for the gas oil futures, which is scheduled for re-opening on May 6, 2010, so as to enable a wider group of industry businesses to participate in the physical delivery process, while responding to the risk-hedging needs of oil companies.

Eligible sellers for delivery will now also include “exclusive agents” in addition to petroleum wholesalers and eligible buyers for delivery will newly include “consumers” and “distributors” in addition to oil wholesalers and their exclusive agents (exclusive agents will be required to register with the Exchange whether they are the seller or buyer in the delivery process)

In recent years, there has been a growing need for hedging risk and benchmark prices in the light of the increase in gas oil exports, high volatility in crude oil prices and the introduction of market price-linked formula in oil refiners’ new wholesale pricing. The Exchange will increase its marketing operations to help secure a sufficient level of market liquidity for the gas oil futures contract, in order to respond to these needs.

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