



MERCURY: IMPORTANT BY-PRODUCT FROM PERU'S LARGE SCALE GOLD MINES

Consultation meeting on Waste and Storage

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- The productive activities that provide greater income to the country are manufacturing, followed by agriculture and mining.
- Peru ranks first in gold production in Latin America and sixth in world gold production. It is also a world leader in silver, zinc, copper, and tin production.

PERU's MERCURY IMPORTS



- Peru imports mercury for **artisanal mining**, chlor-alkali production, and dental amalgam. Mercury is also imported as a component of batteries, electronics, fluorescent lamps, medical equipment, and thermometers.
- Peru imported mercury: 180 t (2009), 119 t (2008) y 86 t. (2007)*

Source: *TRANSACTION



- Thanks to the environmental awareness and mercury stewardship in Peru's major international mining companies, Peru has become a leader in reduction of mercury emissions and by-product mercury recovery from their open-pit large scale mines.



- By-product mercury and calomel, which is recovered from precious metals processing in Peru , are exported to the United States for processing. The mercury might then re-sold into the world market, where it may be used for a variety of uses.

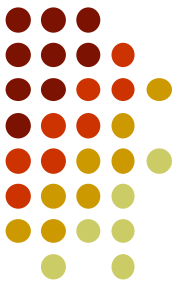
PERU's MERCURY EXPORTS



- Peru is also the greatest exporter of mercury in the region LAC:
107 t (2009), 86 t (2008), 60 t (2007)*, 22 t (2006), 128 t (2005), 0 t (2004), 19 t (2003), 0 t (2002), 29 t (2001), and 11 t (2000)**.
- The by-product recovery operations are done on the major gold mining companies. The main exporter is Minera Yanacocha SRL, with 63 % of the volume yearly (roughly); ranking second is Minera Barrick Misquichilca, with 36 %.



- Currently, the cost of mercury export is very cheap (< \$1,00/Kg). However, the export is expected to become more expensive, since companies will be charged higher fees for the treatment and disposal services provided at storage facilities.



creasing amount of mercury
by Peru reflects a big capacity
cing elemental mercury from
other metal mines.

gold has a 7,7% contribution
worldwide international markets:
nd (57%), Canada (25%) and
%).

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