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## MEDIA RELEASE

### **PERTH MINT AWARDS LAKHOO METALS EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTION AGREEMENT**

The Perth Mint, Australia's specialist precious metal mint, has appointed Dubai-based gold trading company Lakhoo Metals DMCC as the exclusive distributor of its Australian Nugget Gold Bullion Coin Series in the UAE and Oman.

Under the agreement, Lakhoo Metals will market Australian Nugget coins to its extensive list of wholesale clients, including retailers such as gift shops and duty free outlets.

Perth Mint Chief Executive Officer Ed Harbuz welcomed Lakhoo Metals' appointment, which further strengthens the Mint's growing reputation in the Gulf Region.

"The Mint recently won a contract to produce precious metal coins on behalf of the State of Qatar in celebration of the 15th Asian Games Doha 2006. This prestigious contract, together with our latest regional marketing agreement demonstrate the strength of The Perth Mint brand in the Middle East gold market," he said.

First issued in 1986, Australian Nuggets have a reputation for being among the highest quality in the world. Struck from 99.99% pure gold, each Australian legal tender coin is backed by a Government guarantee of purity and weight.

Sought by investors as a trusted and cost-effective way of acquiring physical gold, the series offers eight coins ranging from 1 kilo to 1/20oz. The five smaller coins, which are subject to limited mintages, change their distinctive kangaroo designs annually, giving them significant collector appeal and the potential for numismatic appreciation over time.

#### **For further information**

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