ANTIMONY IS A METAL THAT OCCURS NATURALLY IN THE EARTH'S CRUST. THE PRODUCT IS MOSTLY SOLD COMMERCIALLLY AS METAL INGOTS OR AS ANTIMONY TRIOXIDE POWDER.

ANTIMONY PRICES
23 JULY 2001 - 23 AUGUST 2013

ANTIMONY HAS INCREASED IN PRICE OVER 500% IN THE LAST 11 YEARS

ANTIMONY USES
ANTIMONY HAS A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT USES, BUT IS PRIMARILY USED AS A FLAME RETARDANT.

- Lead alloyed with antimony is stronger and harder - especially useful in the lead-acid batteries found in cars.
- Antimony acts as a decolourizing agent when added to optical glass. This is useful in cameras, binoculars, and iPad screens.
- When mixed with antimony, plastics and electronics can be used in applications where they would otherwise MELT OR CATCH FIRE.
  - Furniture upholstery, insulation and decorative foams, and building materials
  - Optical cables, main adaptors, portable electronics
  - Plastic casings, resin circuit boards, switches and components
  - Clothing and hospital linen
  - Seats, cables, and plastic in motor vehicles
  - Forest fire flame retardants

Some of antimony's current minor uses could be the major drivers behind an unprecedented jump in demand. This includes its use in semiconductors and recordable media.
Global production of antimony is dominated by China, and reserves will be exhausted by 2019 at current rates.

Global reserves: 1,831,000 tonnes

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<td>Mine production</td>
<td>203,500 tonnes</td>
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That is just 7 years left at current production rates.

17% of global antimony supply is currently sourced from many small, polluting, and illegal antimony mining operations in China.

Regulators are beginning to identify and close down these operations - if successful, global antimony supply could be significantly reduced.

While China accounts for nearly half of all remaining antimony reserves, it has nearly exhausted its supply of high grade antimony ore.

The only antimony mine in production in North America is located in Central Newfoundland, Canada.

Outlook

World: Antimony demand and supply forecast 2005-2016 (T SB)

Actual production dependent on how many illegal mines in China are shutdown.

Midas Gold

As the world saw with graphite and rare earth elements, supply deficits can lead to large opportunities for investment. The price of antimony is expected to increase in response to the supply gap.

Roskill Information Services Ltd. - Antimony: Changes in the pattern of supply and demand