

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

T.I.C. appoints David Knudson as Technical Officer

Brussels, Belgium, August 17, 2016

The Tantalum-Niobium International Study Center (or T.I.C.), the global trade association for the tantalum and niobium industries, is pleased to announce that it has confirmed the appointment of Mr David A. Knudson as Technical Officer.

Mr Knudson, a chemical engineer by training, has been in the tantalum industry for over 30 years and brings a wealth of technical knowledge and experience to the role. Mr Knudson started his career at Cabot Corporation's Boyertown plant in Pennsylvania, USA, as a research and development technician working on tantalum powder development projects. Subsequently he was promoted to Project Engineer. Mr Knudson spent 23 years at Cabot before joining Niotan Inc in Nevada, USA, in 2003, rising to become Vice President of Engineering. After Kemet bought Niotan in 2011 and renamed it Kemet Blue Powder Mr Knudson held the position of Engineering Manager.

The key focus of the T.I.C.'s Technical Officer is to ensure the execution of T.I.C.'s technically oriented goals and provide an appropriate and timely technical service for the benefit of the association's members and potential new members. This includes providing leadership in the development of global, credible, reportable industry statistics and trends in the tantalum and niobium supply chains and developing authoritative technical resources for the T.I.C.

Mr Knudson will report to the Director, Roland Chavasse, who said that Mr Knudson's appointment was a significant enabler for the T.I.C. to deliver increased value to members and represent the interests of the global tantalum and niobium industries. Mr Chavasse added that an individual of Mr Knudson's caliber would allow the association to be more proactive and responsive to needs of its members.

Mr Knudson will be based in Nevada, USA, and his email address will be tech@tanb.org.

About the Tantalum and Niobium International Study Center (T.I.C.)

Since its inception the Tantalum-Niobium International Study Center (T.I.C. or the Association) has grown and developed to encompass the changing nature of the tantalum and niobium industries and will continue in the same spirit in facing future challenges. After initially focusing on just tantalum, in 1986 niobium joined the association and today our membership represents every aspect of the global tantalum and niobium industries.

The Association:

- An international, non-profit association founded in 1974 under Belgian law.
- Around 90 member companies from 25 countries involved with all aspects of the tantalum and niobium industry supply chain (including mining, trading, processing, recycling, metal fabrication, capacitor manufacturing, medical...).
- The Association is run by its Executive Committee. This Committee reflects the range of activities of the members and covers the geographic spread of the membership, too. Presidents have been drawn from all sectors of the industry and from many parts of the world. Elections are held annually.
- The T.I.C.'s office is led by the Director, who is supported by the Technical Officer and the Secretary General.

Objectives:

- Increase awareness and promote the remarkable properties of tantalum and niobium in all their forms.
- To disseminate information on any matter affecting that industry, excluding price and related information and any other proprietary information.
- Address major issues and challenges facing its industry such as conflict minerals legislation, artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM), and the transport of naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM).
- Organize a General Assembly of the membership in October each year for business and technical presentations. Typically, the location is chosen to allow a tour of a member company or an associated

industry facility.

- Publish a quarterly Bulletin newsletter containing interesting and informative articles about the T.I.C. and the global tantalum and niobium industries.
- Collect statistics from member companies (via an independent company to ensure confidentiality) on tantalum and niobium production, shipments and consumption. Participating members receive quarterly statistics updates.

Contact:

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