**STUDY GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

This report provides the industry executives with strategically significant competitor information, analysis, insight and projection on the competitive pattern and key companies in the industry, crucial to the development and implementation of effective business, marketing and R&D programs.

**REPORT OBJECTIVES**

◆ To establish a comprehensive, factual, annually updated and cost-effective information base on market size, competition patterns, market segments, goals and strategies of the leading players in the market, reviews and forecasts.

◆ To assist potential market entrants in evaluating prospective acquisition and joint venture candidates.

◆ To complement the organizations’ internal competitor information gathering efforts with strategic analysis, data interpretation and insight.

◆ To suggest for concerned investors in line with the current development of this industry as well as the development tendency.

◆ To help company to succeed in a competitive market, and

**METHODOLOGY**

Both primary and secondary research methodologies were used in preparing this study. Initially, a comprehensive and exhaustive search of the literature on this industry was conducted. These sources included related books and journals, trade literature, marketing literature, other product/promotional literature, annual reports, security analyst reports, and other publications. Subsequently, telephone interviews or email correspondence was conducted with marketing executives etc. Other sources included related magazines, academics, and consulting companies.

**INFORMATION SOURCES**

The information sources include WIND and China Customs.
Abstract

As a kind of minor metal, tantalum finds very wide application. About half of the world’s tantalum resources are applied in capacitor.

The report highlights the following aspects:

- Reserves, output and price of tantalum ore worldwide; ongoing and expansion projects;
- Status quo of China tantalum industry, import & export, price and key applications;
- Chinese tantalum capacitor market and downstream consumption filed;
- Two world’s leading tantalum manufacturers and seven major China based tantalum and ore producers.

In 2010, the global output of tantalum ores reached 805 tons. In particular, the output of Brazil, as the world’s largest tantalum ore producer, accounted for 22.4% of the world’s total; while China had low output of tantalum concentrates, making up no more than 8% of the global total. As China imports 80% tantalum raw materials to meet its consumption, domestic tantalum processing businesses are mostly restricted by the uncertainty of raw material supply from overseas market.

For Ningxia Orient Tantalum Industry, as one of the leading tantalum manufacturers in the world, the global market occupancy of capacitor-grade tantalum powder exceeds 25%, while that of capacitor tantalum wire surpasses 60%. Ningxia Orient Tantalum Industry is almost fully reliant on the external purchase to meet its demand for tantalum raw materials, if the 20% contributed by the joint-stock project Ta-Nb mine in Nanping, Fujian province is excluded.
Ningxia Orient Tantalum Industry establishes long-term cooperative relationship with Yichun Tantalum & Niobium Mine, the largest mine in China; also, it inked long-term deal with the large Ta-Nb mine in South America, and with Africa-based small-sized Ta-Nb mine as supplement of spot supplies.

Generally speaking, the raw material source of Ningxia Orient Tantalum Industry can be primarily guaranteed. However, due to the fact that the company doesn’t possess its own mines, it is hard to keep the cost under control. As a result, it was forced to bear high risk in case of the short supply of raw materials. For example, the gross margin from the tantalum product business of the company in 2009 was just 13.9%.


Source: Ningxia Orient Tantalum Industry; ResearchInChina, Global and China Tantalum Industry Report, 2011
Presently, the Australia-based GAM features more competitive industry chain. GAM involving in the exploitation of tantalum ore announced in August 2011 to take over the tantalum processing plant under America-based Cabot, an international tycoon in the tantalum smelting field.

The report sheds lights on the tantalum ore reserves and key companies in China and beyond. Also it analyzes the tantalum electrolytic capacitor industry of China. As a very important component, tantalum electrolytic capacitor is commonly used in mobile phone (35%), digital camera (34%) and notebook computer (16%). The short renewal cycle of electronic products is bound to spur the consumption of tantalum capacitor.
1 Tantalum Industry Overview
  1.1 Definition & Classification
  1.2 Industry Chain

2 Global Tantalum Industry Development
  2.1 Reserves & Distribution
  2.2 Output & Distribution
  2.3 Price
  2.4 Projects

3 Tantalum Industry Development in China
  3.1 Status Quo
  3.2 Application Field
    3.2.1 Electronics Industry
    3.2.2 Mobile Internet & the Internet of Things
    3.2.3 Mechanization, Automation & Intelligence
    3.2.4 Aerospace Industry
  3.3 Import & Export
  3.4 Price
  3.5 Events in 2011-2012

4 Tantalum Capacitor Industry Development in China
  4.1 Profile of Tantalum Capacitor
  4.2 Market Development
  4.3 Downstream Consumer
    4.3.1 Mobile Phone
    4.3.2 Digital Camera
    4.3.3 Notebook Computer
    4.3.4 Other New Fields

5 Key Companies in China and the World
  5.1 GAM
    5.1.1 Profile
    5.1.2 Products
    5.1.3 Operation
    5.1.4 Acquisition of Cabot Corp.’s Supermetals business
  5.2 HCStarck
    5.2.1 Profile
    5.2.2 Operation
    5.2.3 Supply of Raw Materials
    5.2.4 Development Plan in 2012
    5.2.5 Development in China
  5.3 Ningxia Orient Tantalum Industry Co., Ltd
    5.3.1 Profile
    5.3.2 Operation
    5.3.3 Supply of Raw Materials
  5.4 Zhuzhou Cemented Carbide Group Co., Ltd
    5.4.1 Profile
    5.4.2 Operation
    5.4.3 Development Plan
  5.5 KING-TAN Tantalum Industry Ltd
  5.6 Changsha South Tantalum Niobium Co., Ltd
    5.6.1 Profile
    5.6.2 Operation
  5.7 Jiujiang Yizhong Non-Ferrous Co., Ltd
  5.8 Minning Tantalum & Niobium Mining Development Co., Ltd
  5.9 YiChun Tantalum & Niobium Mine
• Tantalum Powder & Tantalum Wire
• Classification of Tantalum Applications
• Tantalum Processing Industry Chain
• Upstream & Downstream of Tantalum Industry Chain
• Tantalum Reserves & Distribution Worldwide
• Supply Structure of Tantalum Raw Materials
• Global Tantalum Ore Output Distribution
• Global Tantalum Ore Output, 2000-2010
• Global Tantalite (30-35%) Price Trend, 2008-2012
• Main Projects of Tantalum and Niobium Mines Worldwide
• Applications of Tantalum
• Global Tantalum Market Pattern
• Tantalum Powder Capacity of Key Companies Worldwide
• Operating Revenue & Total Profit of China’s Semiconductor Discrete Device Manufacturing Industry, 2008-2011
• Price Trend of Tantalum Concentrates Worldwide and Development Stages of the Internet
• Number of Satellites Launched in China
• China’s Import Volume of Tantalum and Niobium Ores, 2011-2012
• China’s Import Volume of Tantalum & Niobium Ores, Jan. 2012 (by Country)
• Monthly Export Volume of Wrought Tantalum in China, 2011-2012
• Tantalum Oxide (≥99.95%) Price Trend in China, 2011-2012
• Tantalum Ingot (≥99.95%) Price Trend in China, 2011-2012
• Performance Comparison among Various Capacitors
• Main Applications of Tantalum Capacitor
• Capacitor Market Shares in China (by Output Value)
• Performance Comparison between Tantalum Capacitor and MLCC
• Tantalum Electrolytic Capacitor Output in China, 2008-2012
Selected Charts

- Consumption Structure of Tantalum Capacitor
- Mobile Phone Output in China, 2005-2011
- Digital Camera Output in China, 2005-2011
- Notebook Computer Output in China, 2008-2011
- Capacitor Powders of GAM
- Global Operations of GAM
- Sales of HCStarc, 2009-2011
- Employees of HCStarck, 2011 (by Region)
- HCStarck's Subsidiaries in China
- Business Structure of Orient Tantalum
- Operating Revenue & Net Income of Orient Tantalum, 2008-2011
- Operating Revenue of Orient Tantalum, 2009-2011 (by Product)
- Operating Revenue of Orient Tantalum, 2009-2011 (by Region)
- Tantalum Ore Suppliers of Orient Tantalum
- Raw Materials & Product Sales Distribution of Orient Tantalum
- Gross Margin of Orient Tantalum, 2006-2011
- Product Capacity of Orient Tantalum
- Main Investments with Raised Funds of Orient Tantalum
- Sales of Tantalum and Niobium & its Compounds of Hunan Nonferrous Metals Corp., Lt, 2010-2011
- Product Capacity of KING-TAN Tantalum Industry Ltd
- Tantalum Products of South Tantalum Niobium
- Sales of South Tantalum Niobium, 2010- H1 2011
- Export Value of South Tantalum Niobium, 2010- H1 2011
- Marketing Network of Jiujiang Yizhong Non-Ferrous in China
- Marketing Network of Jiujiang Yizhong Non-Ferrous in the World
- Operating Revenue & Total Profit of Minning Tantalum Niobium Mining, 2008-2011
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