

Van Eck Merk Gold Trust
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Van Eck Merk Gold Trust

Gold Monthly Commentary

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Gold's Breakout Continues

By Joe Foster

Portfolio Manager and Strategist

Key Takeaways as of February 29, 2016

Gold stocks rose 36% in February, outperforming the metal (+10%), as we typically expect in a rising gold environment.

Since the U.S. rate hike, a number of market changes have occurred that help support our belief that the gold bear

market has ended.

Although its top down allocation is unchanged, the portfolio adapted to market conditions by becoming more diversified.

[Read Joe's full Commentary](#)

Joe Foster discusses gold's encouraging start to 2016 and why the bear market may have finally reversed in his latest video.

[Watch Video: Gold Rebounds in 2016](#)

[Investing in Gold Shares with VanEck](#)

[Van Eck International Investors Gold Fund \(INIVX\)](#)

An actively managed portfolio with a over 40 year track record of investing in gold miners. Geologist Joe Foster has been a part of the investment team since 1996.

[Market Vectors Gold Miners ETF \(GDX\)](#) and [Market Vectors Junior Gold Miners ETF \(GDXJ\)](#) offer convenient and cost-effective access to gold miners.

[Van Eck Merk Gold Trust \(OUNZ\)](#) offers investors exposure to gold with

the ability to take physical delivery of gold if desired.

IMPORTANT DISCLOSURE

Please note that the information herein represents the opinion of the portfolio manager and these opinions may change at any time and from time to time. Not intended to be a forecast of future events, a guarantee of future results or investment advice. Historical performance is not indicative of future results; current data may differ from data quoted. Current market conditions may not continue.

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About Van Eck International Investors Gold Fund: You can lose money by investing in the Fund. Any investment in the Fund should be part of an overall investment program, not a complete program. The Fund is subject to the risks associated with concentrating its assets in the gold industry, which can be significantly affected by international economic, monetary, and political developments. The Fund's overall portfolio may decline in value due to developments specific to the gold industry. The Fund's investments in foreign securities involve risks related to adverse political and economic developments unique to a country or a region, currency fluctuations or controls, and the possibility of arbitrary action by foreign governments, including the takeover of property without adequate compensation or imposition of prohibitive taxation. Van Eck International Investors Gold Fund is subject to risks associated with investments in debt securities, derivatives, commodity-linked instruments, illiquid securities, asset-backed securities, CMOs, and small- or mid-cap companies. The Fund is also subject to inflation risk, short-sales risk, market risk, non-diversification risk, leverage risk, credit risk, and counterparty risk. Please see the prospectus and summary prospectus for information on these as well as other risk considerations.

About Market Vectors Gold Miners ETF (GDX) and Market Vectors Junior Gold Miners ETF (GDXJ): These ETFs are subject to various risks including those associated with making investments in gold-mining companies including competitive pressures and fluctuations in the price of gold bullion. In times of stable economic growth, the value of gold and other precious metals may be adversely affected. Index returns are not Fund returns and do not reflect any management fees or brokerage expenses.

About Van Eck Merk Gold Trust: This material must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus for the Van Eck Merk Gold Trust (the "Trust). Before investing, you should carefully consider the Trust's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. This and other information is in the prospectus, a copy of which may be obtained by visiting vaneck.com/ounz or calling 800.826.2333. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.

Investing involves risk, including possible loss of principal. The Trust is not an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 or a commodity pool for the purposes of the Commodity Exchange Act. Shares of the Trust are not subject to the same regulatory requirements as mutual funds. Because shares of the Trust are intended to reflect the price of the gold held in the Trust,

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the market price of the shares is subject to fluctuations similar to those affecting gold prices. Additionally, shares of the Trust are bought and sold at market price, not at net asset value ("NAV"). Brokerage commissions will reduce returns.

The sponsor of the VanEck Merk Gold Trust is Merk Investments LLC (the "Sponsor"). Van Eck Securities Corporation and Foreside Fund Services, LLC, provide marketing services to the Trust.

ETF shares are not individually redeemable and will be issued and redeemed at their Net Asset Value (NAV) only through certain authorized broker-dealers in large, specified blocks of shares called "creation units" and otherwise can be bought and sold only through exchange trading. Creation units are issued and redeemed principally in kind. Shares may trade at a premium or discount to their NAV in

the secondary market. You will incur brokerage expenses when trading Fund shares in the secondary market.

Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against loss. Please call 800.826.2333 or visit vaneck.com for performance information current to the most recent month end and for a free prospectus and summary prospectus. An investor should consider a Fund's investment objective, risks, and charges and expenses carefully before investing. The prospectus and summary prospectus contain this and other information. Please read the prospectus and summary prospectus carefully before investing.

Van Eck Securities Corporation, Distributor for INIVX, GDX, and GDXJ

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