VanEck Merk Gold Trust
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Free Writing Prospectus

Van Eck Merk Gold Trust

Gold Consolidates Amid Late Summer Doldrums

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Gold Monthly Commentary

Gold Consolidates Amid Late Summer Doldrums

By Joe Foster

Portfolio Manager and Strategist

Key Takeaways as of August 31, 2016

Both gold and gold equities cooled off in late August, declining 3.1% and 16.2% respectively.

The Federal Reserve's shifting stance on rate hikes has impacted gold, but a 2016 rate hike may be a benefit.

An analysis of recent gold bull markets shows that the current period is similar to 2001 to 2008, when gold stocks outperformed bullion.

Read Joe's full Commentary

Investing in Gold with VanEck

VanEck 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.

VanEck Vectors Gold Miners ETF (GDX) and VanEck Vectors Junior Gold Miners ETF (GDXJ) offer convenient and cost-effective access to gold miners.

VanEck Merk Gold Trust (OUNZ) offers investors exposure to gold with the ability to take physical delivery of gold if desired.

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About VanEck 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. VanEck International Investors Gold Fund is subject to risks associated with investments in debt securities, derivatives, commodity-linked instruments, illiquid securities, asset-backed securities, 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.

About VanEck Vectors Gold Miners ETF (GDX) and VanEck 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.

About VanEck Merk® Gold Trust: This material must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus for the VanEck 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, 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 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 <u>vaneck.com</u> 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 <u>prospectus and summary prospectus</u> carefully before investing.

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