

mission for the joint venture was granted by the competition regulator in 2005.

The two airlines claim that the two latest entrants to the route, Etihad and Qatar Air-

lines are expected to have double the amount

March. Shares in Qantas rose 6¢ to \$2.72 yesterday.

Gold pattern points to move up to \$US1300 an ounce: analyst



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GOLD cracked the ceiling of \$US1100 an ounce over the weekend.

The rise took it to a historical high but, according to a technical analysis of its price movement, it could go higher.

This week's guest technical analyst, director of Total Trading Concepts and certified financial technician Rob Shelley, said gold's climb was being driven by high demand, increased access to the precious metal and the right political and economic conditions.

He pointed out that gold vending machines were installed in German airports earlier this year. "You can put your dollars in and get a gold ingot—like a bag of chips," he told businessday.

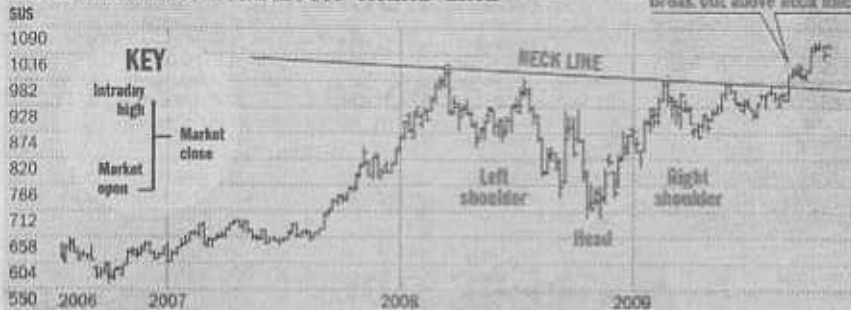
The gold price jumped last week after the International Monetary Fund announced it had sold 200 tonnes of gold to India's Reserve Bank. Then on Friday night in northern-hemisphere trading it reached \$US1101.42 an ounce.

Another factor in its rise in US-dollar terms has been the slide in the value of the greenback, though gold has recently risen in all currencies.

Mr Shelley said gold had recently finished a technical pattern called an "inverted head and shoulders", which indicated it was heading towards \$US1300.

"You take the price from the head of the pattern up to the neck-line, roughly \$US307,

GOLD TECHNICAL ANALYSIS TREND LINE



[and] you add the \$US307 on to the break-out level," he said. "If it does get to \$US1300, then I will know that is a completed pattern and I'm happy."

Technical analysis maps movements in the price of shares, indices, commodities or currencies, and gives traders a theoretical framework to

analyse whether prices are following an upward or downward trend. It removes sentiment and "gut feelings" from trading by looking purely for technical trends. Technical analysts, or chartists as they used to be called, believe that company and economic news are already built into prices.

Mr Shelley noted that the price of goldmining shares had not risen in line with the gold price, apart from a US-based producer, Barrick Gold. Nor were other metal prices rising as much as gold had in recent months.

Unfortunately, technical analysis offers no

predictions about what the gold price will do if it reaches Mr Shelley's target. "There are a whole series of different patterns that can happen when it gets up to the top, but at the initial stage it is \$US1300," he said.

On Monday last week, when the S&P/ASX 200 Index had finished at 4540.4, Robert Brain said it looked ready to retrace as much as 350 points to 4290 points. He acknowledged, though, a slight chance that it would turn and head upwards in the short term.

The index fell to a low of 4502.5 on Thursday, but strong performances on Friday and yesterday have lifted it 172.4 points from that low to close yesterday at 4674.9.

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