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**Abstract: The Evolving Uranium Market: Challenges and Opportunities  
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In the post-Fukushima environment, a state of oversupply and soft demand have placed downward pressure on both spot and term market prices in the uranium market. These historically low prices resulted in prolonged supply-side contraction, as evidenced by an increased number of mergers, acquisitions, and suspensions of exploration and mining operations. By 2017, the largest suppliers had announced reductions to planned production. Additionally, in certain jurisdictions, politicians have co-opted supply-side reductions and the decline in the uranium price as evidence of broken economics in the nuclear power sector, thereby justifying attempts to codify opposition to further uranium project development.

Further, inventories in the largest markets today average over three and one-half years of fuel supply (traditionally, these markets averaged around one and one-half to two years of supply) and storage at conversion, enrichment, and fabrication facilities is in short supply. This condition owes largely to the Fukushima accident in 2011, which fundamentally altered the supply and demand balance by removing significant demand from the industry in both the short and long terms.

However, significant opportunities exist for today's suppliers, including recent increases in long-term contracting, the return to service of the Japanese reactor fleet, and forecasted growth in installed capacity in emerging markets.

In this report, TradeTech examines the current state of the uranium market, with attention paid to several specific challenges and how they relate to the future supply and demand dynamic, including:

- supply-side contraction, which has concentrated bargaining power and reduced consumer choice (setting the industry up for a steep price inflection should a supply deficit emerge);
- attracting investment in emerging production, as well as new US Securities and Exchange Commission rules and how they relate to investor confidence and perceived risk;
- survival tactics: hedging and protecting revenues by leveraging foreign exchange; and
- trends in contracting with attention paid to regional developments in contractual coverage and emerging demand.

An evaluation of several noteworthy emerging development projects follows, with a focus on how these projects could impact future supply fundamentals. Collectively, the issues covered in this study aim to inform assumptions as to which projects are best positioned to respond to uranium price recovery consistent with TradeTech projections.