

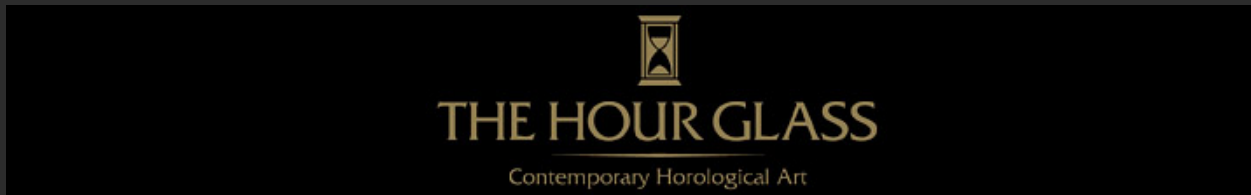
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Omega Press Trip Report:- Omega launches the new generation Calibre 8500 family, Deville Hour Vision watch and a Coaxial Automatic Central Tourbillon for auction!



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28-01-2007, 02:07 AM

#1



Jaw
 Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
 Posts: 926

Omega Press Trip Report:- Omega launches the new generation Calibre 8500 family, Deville Hour Vision watch and a Coaxial Automatic Central Tourbillon for auction!

Part 1: - 23rd January 2007, the tour of Central Tourbillon assembly at Omega Bienne and the auction of the first Coaxial Central Tourbillon.



photo by antiquorum, watch by omega.

Lot 290, Omega De Ville, "Co-Axial Central Tourbillon", No.1, Ref. BG 167.0110., Made in 2007: Exceptional, self-winding, water resistant, 18K pink gold gentleman's wrist chronometer with central one-minute tourbillon regulator, co-axial escapement, and 18K pink gold Omega deployant clasp. This watch is sold with original fitted box, Certificate of Authenticity, and 3-year Omega guarantee.

From 10.30 hrs on 24th January 2007 at La Cite du Temps Geneva, Omega announced to a group of invited international press the launch of a new generation 8500 calibre family of movements, the new 2007 Deville Hour Vision watch using the new movements and the biggest thematic auction ever (Omegamania) conducted by Antiquorum.

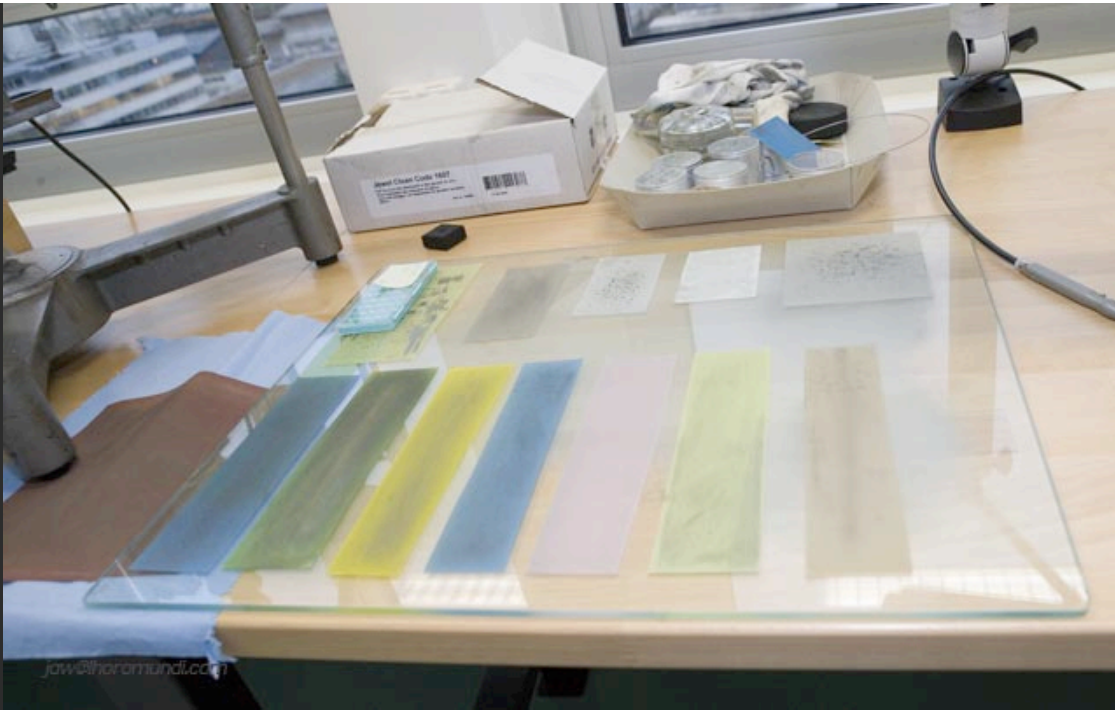


Jeanne Keller, International Press Office.



Marc-Andre Miche, Responsable Technique.

The Press kit was also released to the worldwide media at around the same time over the internet to those not invited to Geneva (password for registered press required, see [brief report](#) available to public).



Traditional movement hand polishing.



The Geneva stripes stripping machine.



Hand operated automatic geneva stripping tool.



Geneva "striped"!



Before Geneva "stripes".



After Geneva "stripes".

The Antiquorum "Omegamania" auction to be held at Geneva Mandarin Oriental Hotel du Rhone on 14th and 15th of April 2007 features the biggest collection of omega watches including one exclusive first piece of the new 2007 Coaxial Automatic Central Tourbillon to be unveiled at Basel 2007.



and the auction a little more at the later parts of this thread, and would like to go back in time for one day to 23rd January 2007: - The day we visited the "Cellule Haut de Gamme" Department at Omega Bienne, the same room where all the Omega Central Tourbillons are assembled.



Greeting us were the exceptionally charming Jeanne Keller (International Press office) and Marc-Andre Miche (Responsible Technique) from Omega who was guiding us for the day.



jaw@!horomundi.com

The Central Tourbillon movement was the only automatic winding Central Tourbillon composed of 320 movement parts. It is also the only flying Central Tourbillon which has been COSC Chronometer certified, according to Omega.



The project initiated in 1991 was first launched in Basel 1995. The model had its first facelift in the year 2002 and in the same year, the model started to be Chronometer certified by COSC.

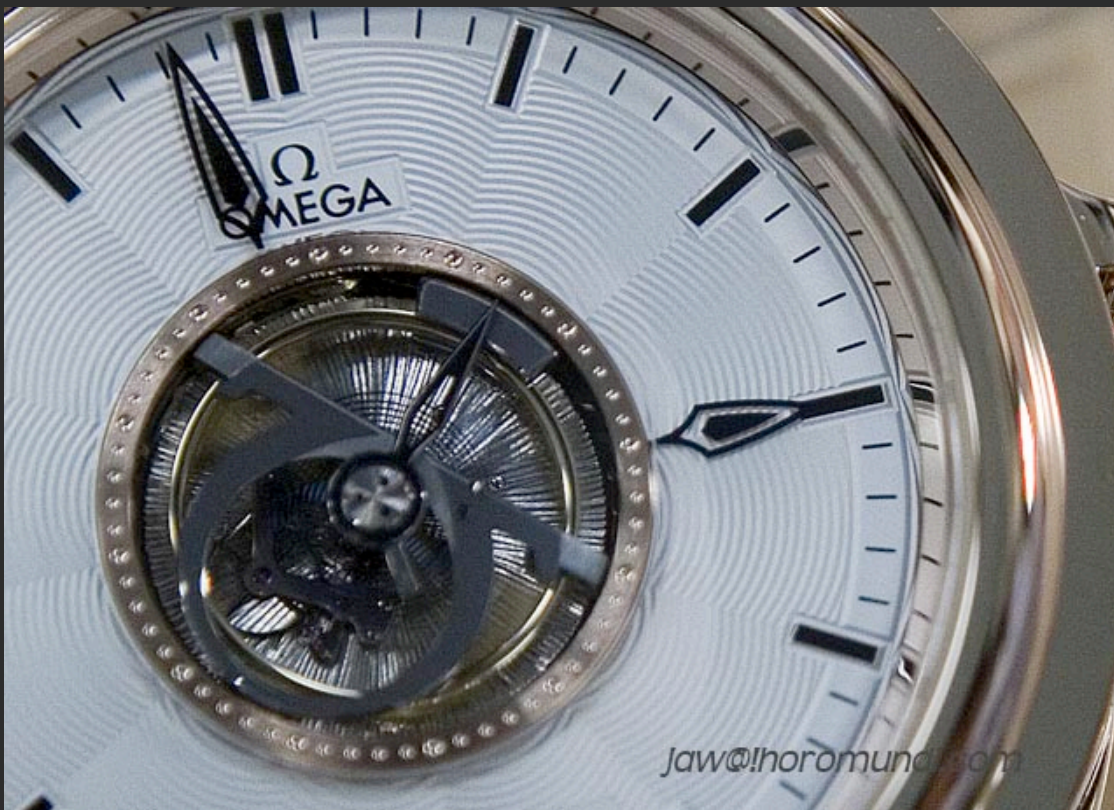


The relative sizes of a regular small screw and the minute stud screw.

Other than the 2004 skeletonised version, the model has not been updated until this year.



Solid case-back view, note the time setting crown.

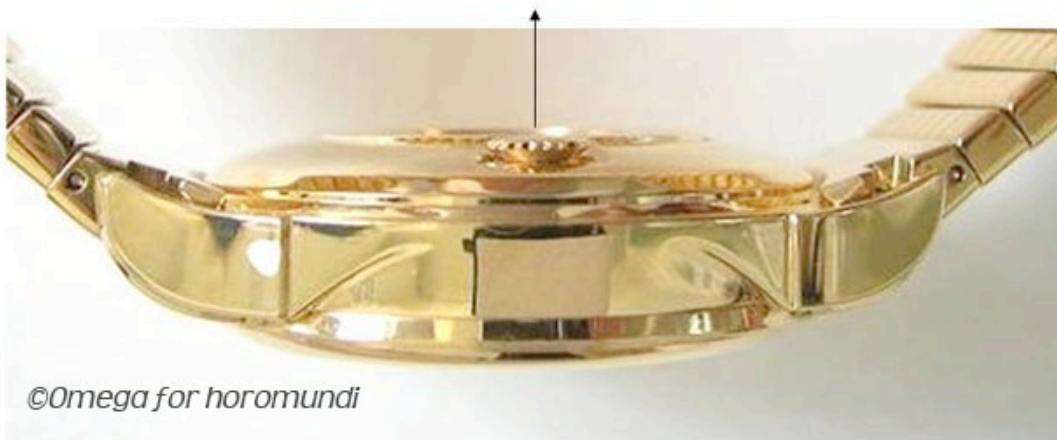


For the Central Tourbillon, the titanium Tourbillon cage has 41 parts and weighs only 0.46 gramme, the stud screw used weighs a mere 0.000364g, which means that a gramme of steel can be made into 2750 of such screws by Nivarox.



jaw@horomundi.com

Pull the crown with a slight rotation. Once the crown is pulled out the hands can be adjusted



©Omega for horomundi

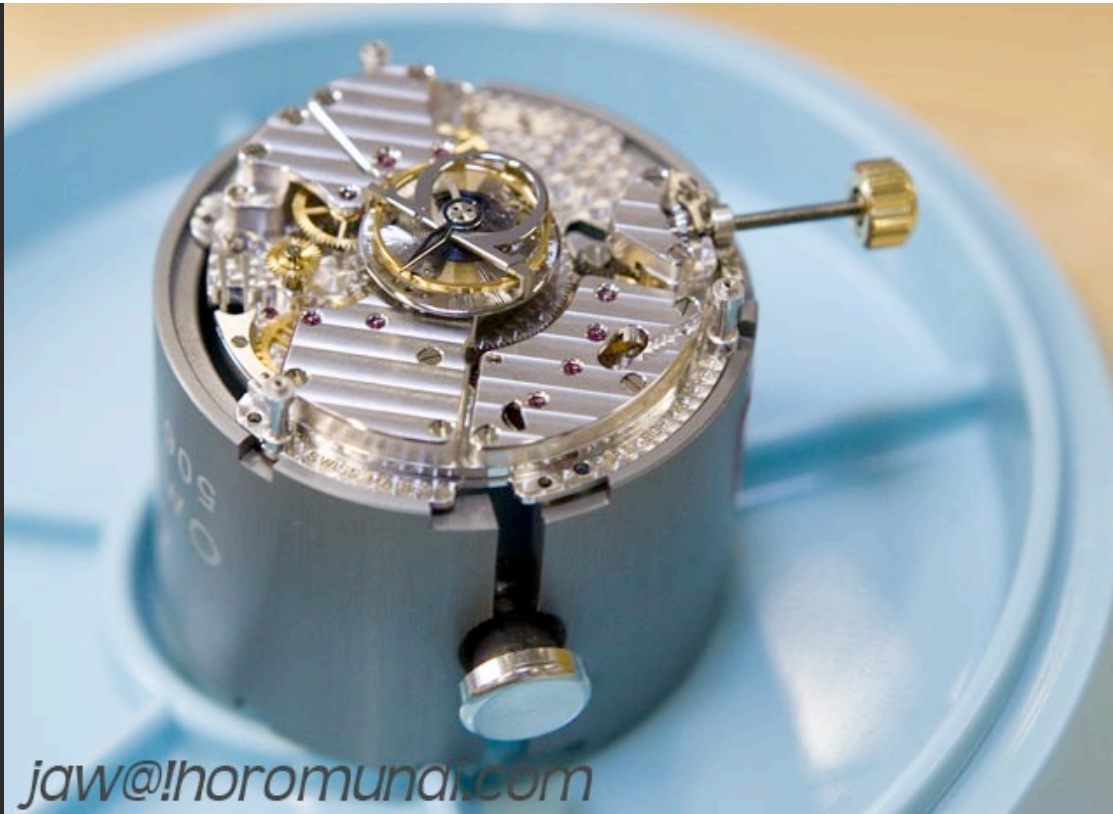
The time setting crown, self explanatory.

This year, Omega will introduce the coaxial version of the Central Tourbillon and the first piece carrying the Serial Number 1 will be auctioned off at the Omegamania auction on 15th April 2007 conducted by Antiquorum.

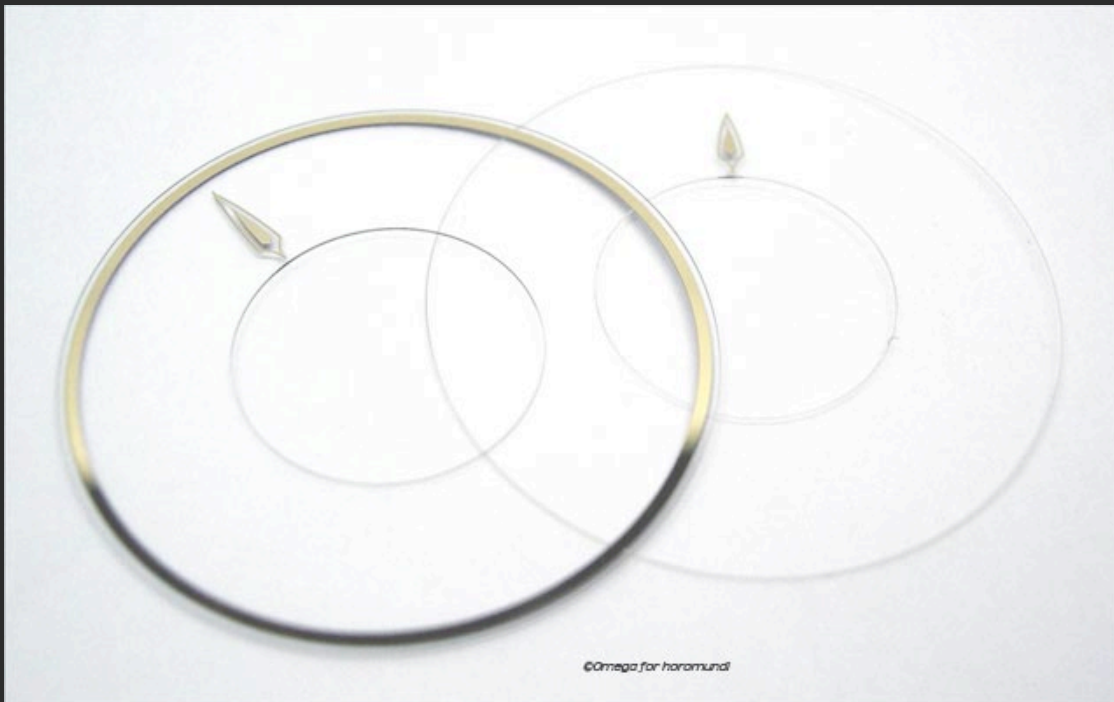


©Omega for horomundi





This new coaxial version with open dial concept and beautiful dark brown PVD coating plates and bridges is only 0.95mm thicker and has very high chronometric performance. The precision of the watch is close to absolute for the first 24 hours of running and the amplitude variation within one day is only 10 degrees, according to Marc-Andre Miche.



©Omega for horomundi

The minute and the hour sapphire discs.

Jaw
to be continued...


 **Quote**


28-01-2007, 02:54 AM

#2



Jaw
Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926


 **Part 2: - The Omega Hour Vision International Launch Welcome Dinner (23rd January 2007)**



This year, the winter came late in Switzerland, as we were cruising into Geneva from Omega Bienne, Geneva was beginning to snow for the first time this season.



We said goodbye to Omega Bienne.

The Hour Vision International launch Welcome Dinner was held at Mandarin Oriental Hotel Du Rhone ballroom, and the event was attended by Co-Axial inventor George Daniel and Omega VP, Head of Product Development Jean-Claude Monachon and about a hundred or

so International journalists.



Georg Daniel & Jean-Claude Monachon (Omega VP, Head of Product Development).



George Daniel, Co-Axial escapement inventor.



The Singapore/Malaysia gang, Eddy Koh from WOW, Grace from Nuyou and Dawn Chow (Omega Malaysia, Marketing & Sales).

It was a great dinner as international media got ready for the Hour Vision International launch the following day.







Jaw@horomundi.com

Jaw


 Quote

28-01-2007, 09:36 AM

#3

Jacky 
Member

Join Date: Dec 2006
Posts: 81

 Thats a nice watch...

Thanks for the report, Jaw. As usual its always a great pleasure to read your report. Will there be any new watches using that calibre? I hope i didnt miss any part from you report that says so.

Regards

 Quote

28-01-2007, 11:14 AM

#4



Jaw 
Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926



 Thanks Jacky.

Thanks Jacky,

I came back home only on the 26th Jan and the follow up report on Deville Hour vision will be up soon. In any case, as the Press kits were made available for media from 24th Jan 2007 onwards over the internet, I am certain the watch has been reported elsewhere.

We hope to give a little more details when our schedule permits, and it should be quite soon.

Thanks for your patience.

Jaw



28-01-2007, 11:47 PM

#5



Wei Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 346

Fantastic and fascinating

This has given me a new appreciation of the Central Tourbillon, thank you Jaw!

Cheers

Wei



29-01-2007, 12:35 AM

#6



Jaw Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926

Thank you Wei... it was snowing in Geneva

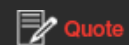
Beautiful Geneva, 23rd and 24th January 2007.







Jaw



29-01-2007, 05:34 PM

#7

**watchme**
MemberJoin Date: Jan 2007
Location: St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands
Posts: 62

Jaw, I saw a pic on a "Friends of Hormoundi" site, and the movement decoration looks very impressive. I sense that Omega is saying, "We can play the luxury watch game, too." What I appreciate is that Omega, like a couple other of my favorite brands, is doing these piece (and subsequent complications, I presume) in rose gold and in steel. I can't wait to see them in the metal.

-Dean



29-01-2007, 08:33 PM

#8

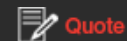
**watchculture**
ModeratorJoin Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 289 **Astounding piece.....**

thanks for the report Jaw. Just a question on the 2 discs. Since the discs are already guided by the dial in the centre how does the 3 bridges function in terms of providing guidance? It's not shaped like a matching gear or rack I supposed.

>>>>Zach T

01-02-2007, 03:37 PM

#9

**Jaw**
Editor and Chief ModeratorJoin Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926**Thanks, the prices are surprisingly affordable too!****Jaw**

02-02-2007, 02:55 AM

#10

**Jaw**
Editor and Chief ModeratorJoin Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926 **Part 3a: - Press Conference (Antiquorum Auction - Significant Omega Timeline)****24th January 2007, Cite du Temps, Geneva.**



From left, OMEGA CEO Steve Urquhart, Swatch Group CEO G. Nick Hayek & OMEGA VP, Head of Product Development Jean-Claude Monachon.

The Press Conference conducted by OMEGA CEO Steve Urquhart, Swatch Group CEO G. Nick Hayek and Omega VP, Head of Product Development Jean-Claude Monachon started at 10.30 hrs. proper.

Following his previous [article announcement](#) at our Revolution Blog on 26th September 2006, Antiquorum Chairman Osvaldo Patrizzi, at the press conference, announced the biggest ever thematic auction, featuring 300 lots of Omega timepieces.



Mr. Patrizzi stressed the historical and technological merits of Omega, and considering the

number and variety of the models produced, Osvaldo found a strong parallel between Omega's and Rolex's Products, although he admitted that the fact have not been noticed by the majority of collectors.

The Auction catalogue itself is more than 600 pages featuring a significant Omega timeline, amongst others.



Antiquorum Chairman Osvaldo Patrizzi.

Mr. Patrizzi then introduced his Watch Expert/Director Brandon Thomas...(to be continued).

TIMELINE as extracted from the Antiquorum Omegamania Auction catalogue.

©Antiquorum for horomundi

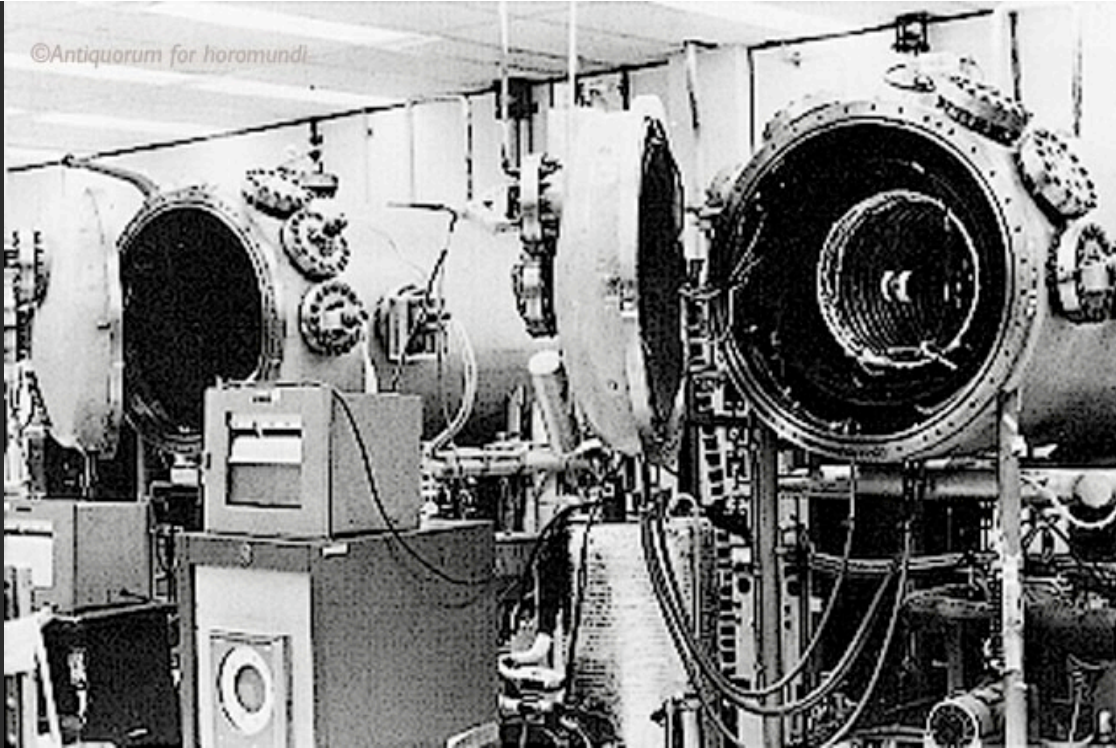


1848, Louis Brandt creates a pocket watch assembly workshop in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland.

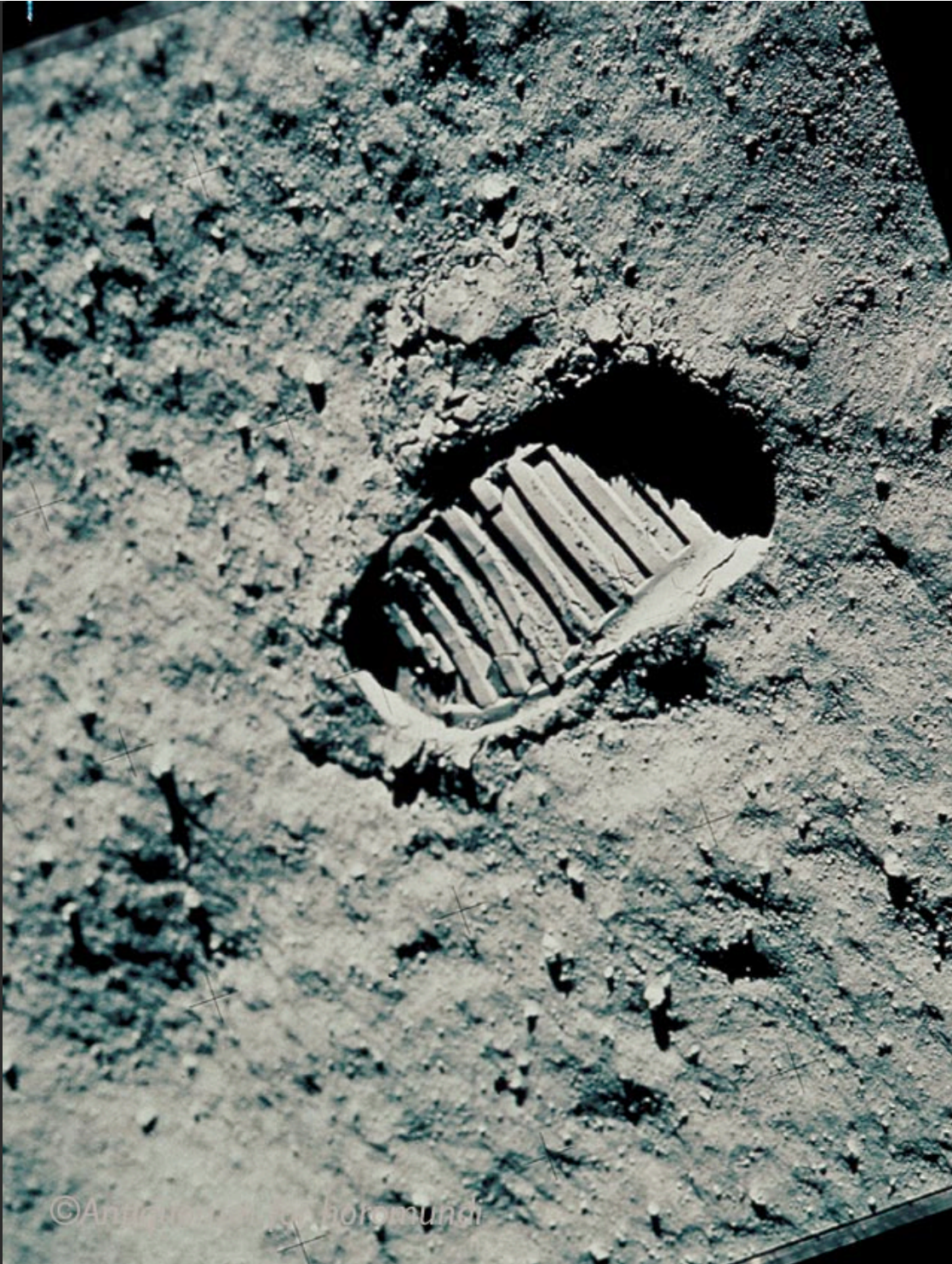


©Antiquorum for horomundi

1932, Omega times the Olympic Games for the first time, in Los Angeles. Since then the most important sports events throughout the world have been timed by Omega.



After rigorous testing of several brands, the NASA space program chooses Omega's Speedmaster chronograph as its official watch.

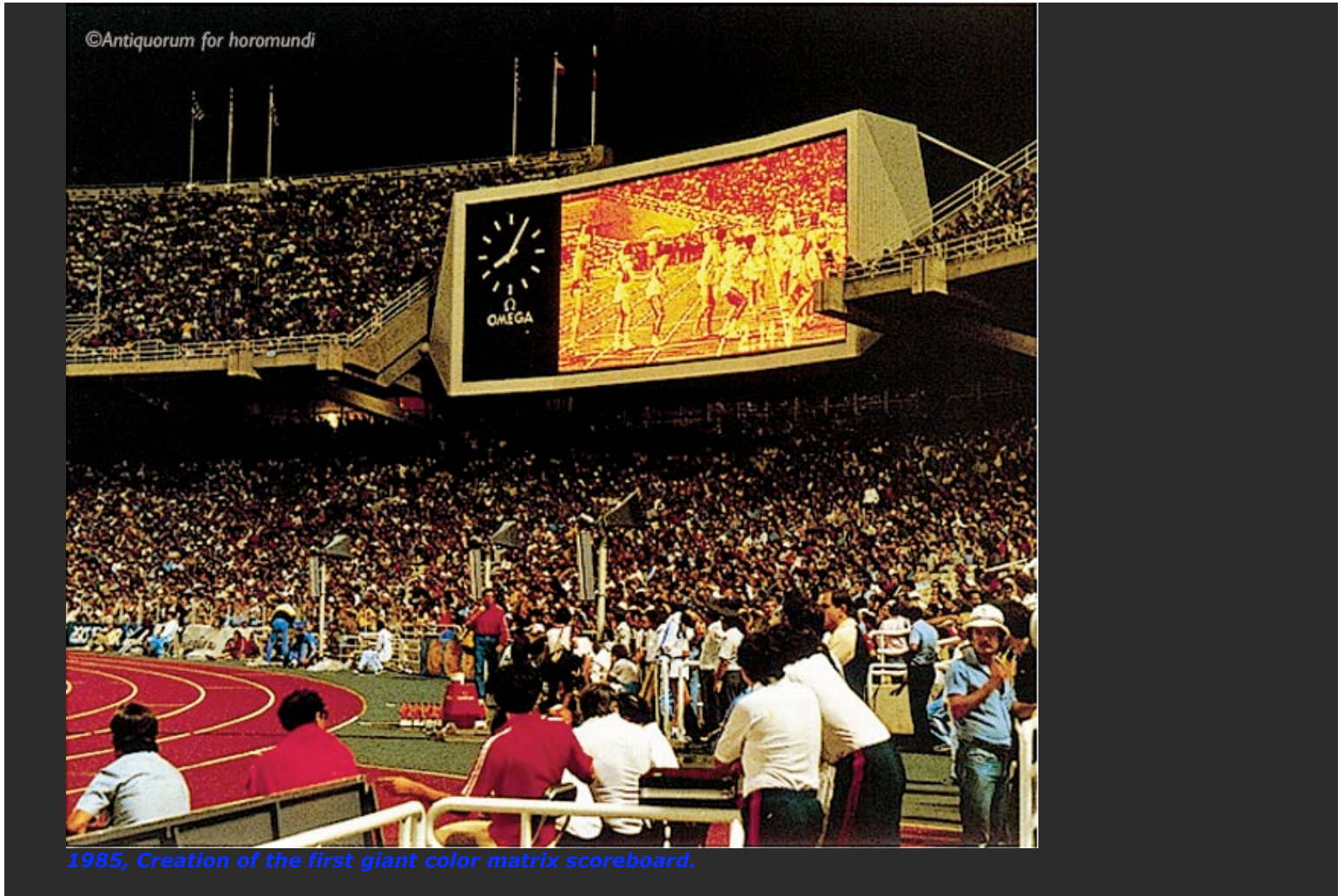


1969, On July 21st, the Omega Speedmaster Professional chronograph becomes the first watch ever worn on the Moon, as the world marvels at man's first steps on the Earth's natural satellite.



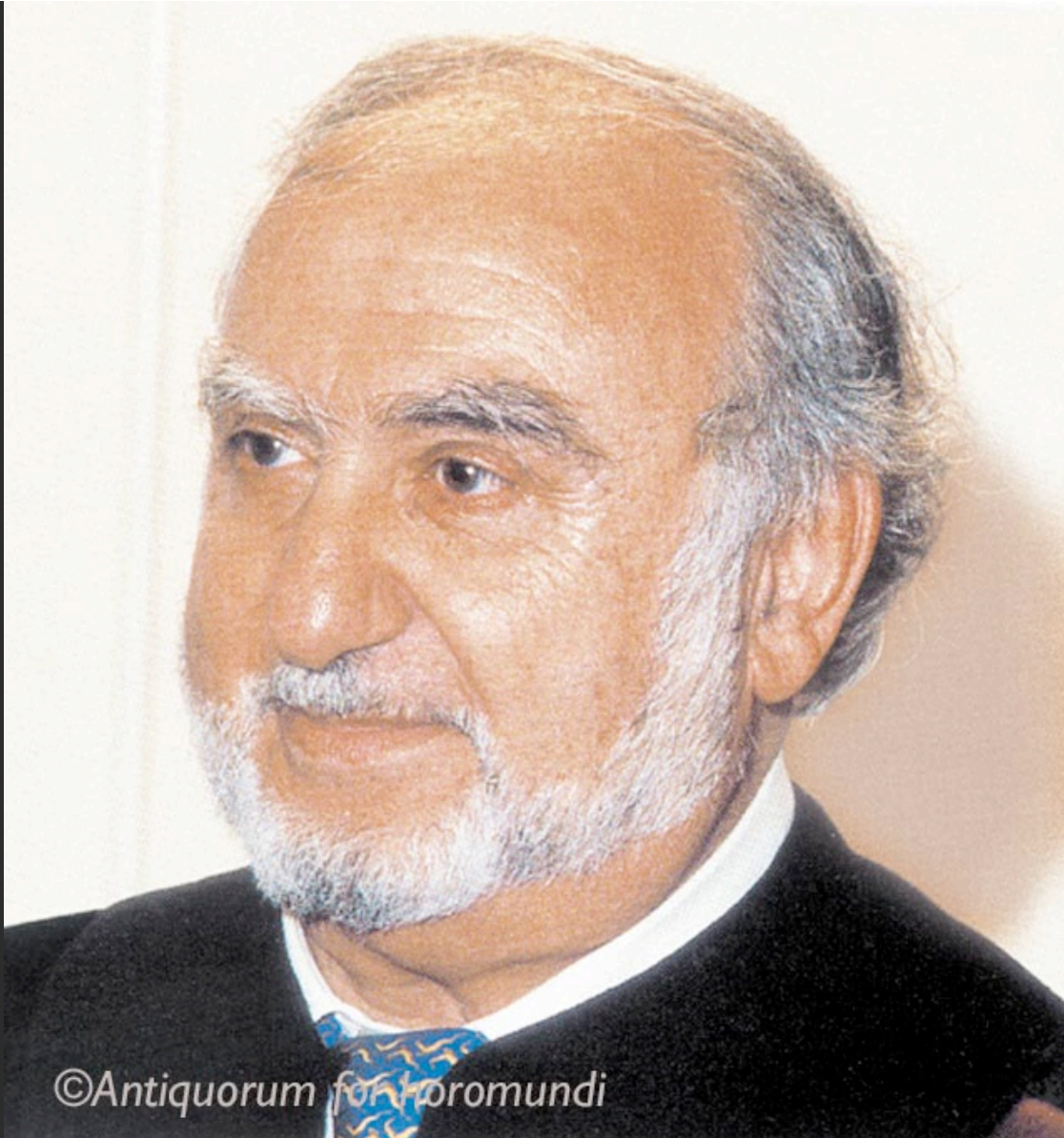
©Antiquorum for horomundi

1984, Omega presents La Rose des Temps, the most complicated table clock in the world (9,000 parts, 10,000 work hours, 32 functions the most perfected asymmetrical mobile tourbillon in the world), a masterpiece of imagination, precision, miniaturization and symbolism owing to the ingenious talent of Dominique Loiseau.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

1985, Creation of the first giant color matrix scoreboard.



©Antiquorum for Horomundi

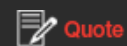
1985-1986, After having engineered and implemented the reorganization of the Asuag and SSIH watch companies over more than four years, finally bringing about their merger, Nicholas G. Hayek took over, with a group of Swiss investors, a majority shareholding in the new group in 1985. He became Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer in 1986.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

2000, Introduction of the world's first industrially produced Co-Axial Escapement movement in the Omega De Ville Co-Axial watch, providing long-lasting accuracy and requiring greatly reduced lubrication and servicing.

Jaw



Quote

02-02-2007, 03:32 AM

#11



Jaw
Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926



Part 3b: - Press Conference (Antiquorum Omegamania watches)

Antiquorum
AUCTIONEERS
SINCE 1974
©Antiquorum for horomundi

OMEGAMANIA

©Antiquorum for horomundi



Antiquorum Watch Expert/Director Brandon Thomas going through the significant OMEGA timepieces of the Omegamania auction.

All 300 lots are sold with 2-year OMEGA guarantee (except where stated), to avoid error, interested bidder should refer to actual auction catalogue.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 40, OMEGA, made in February 1914 for the Swiss National Exposition in Berne where Omega won the "Medaille d'Or". Exceptionally fine, unique and important, 18K yellow gold and enamel exhibition dress watch. estimate CHF 30 to 40K



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 75, OMEGA, very fine and rare, cushion-shaped, 18K yellow gold gentleman's wristwatch with single olive-shaped button chronograph with register, tachometer graduation, and an OMEGA buckle. estimate CHF 8 to 10K.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 88, OMEGA, "Signal Corps USA", sold on September 3, 1918. Very fine and exceptionally rare, aluminium military wristwatch estimate CHF5K to 7K.





©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 160, OMEGA, "Constellation, Chronometre, Officially certified, sold on December 17, 1954. estimate CHF25K to 35K.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 19, OMEGA, Speedmaster Professional Apollo-Soyuz, made in a limited edition of 500 examples in 1975 to mark the occasion of the joint-Russia-American "Apollo-Soyuz" mission, sold on January 31, 1978, estimate CHF 10 to 15K.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 130, OMEGA, Seamaster Professional 600, Automatic, sold on May 25, 1972. estimate CHF 8.5K to 10K.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 142, OMEGA, Seamaster, Memomatic, Sold on October 18, 1971, estimate CHF 1.5K to 2K.



©Montiporum für horomundi

Lot 268, OMEGA, Flightmaster, sold on 21st 1971, estimate CHF 20K to 30K.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 285, OMEGA, Speedmaster Professional, Made in a limited edition of 57 examples in 2005, No. 55, no estimate.



©Antiquorum for horomundi



©Antiquorum für horomundi

Lot 45, OMEGA, Usine de Geneve, sold on January 9, 1929 with an enamel portrait of Ras Tafari Haile Selassie, estimate CHF 30 to 40K.



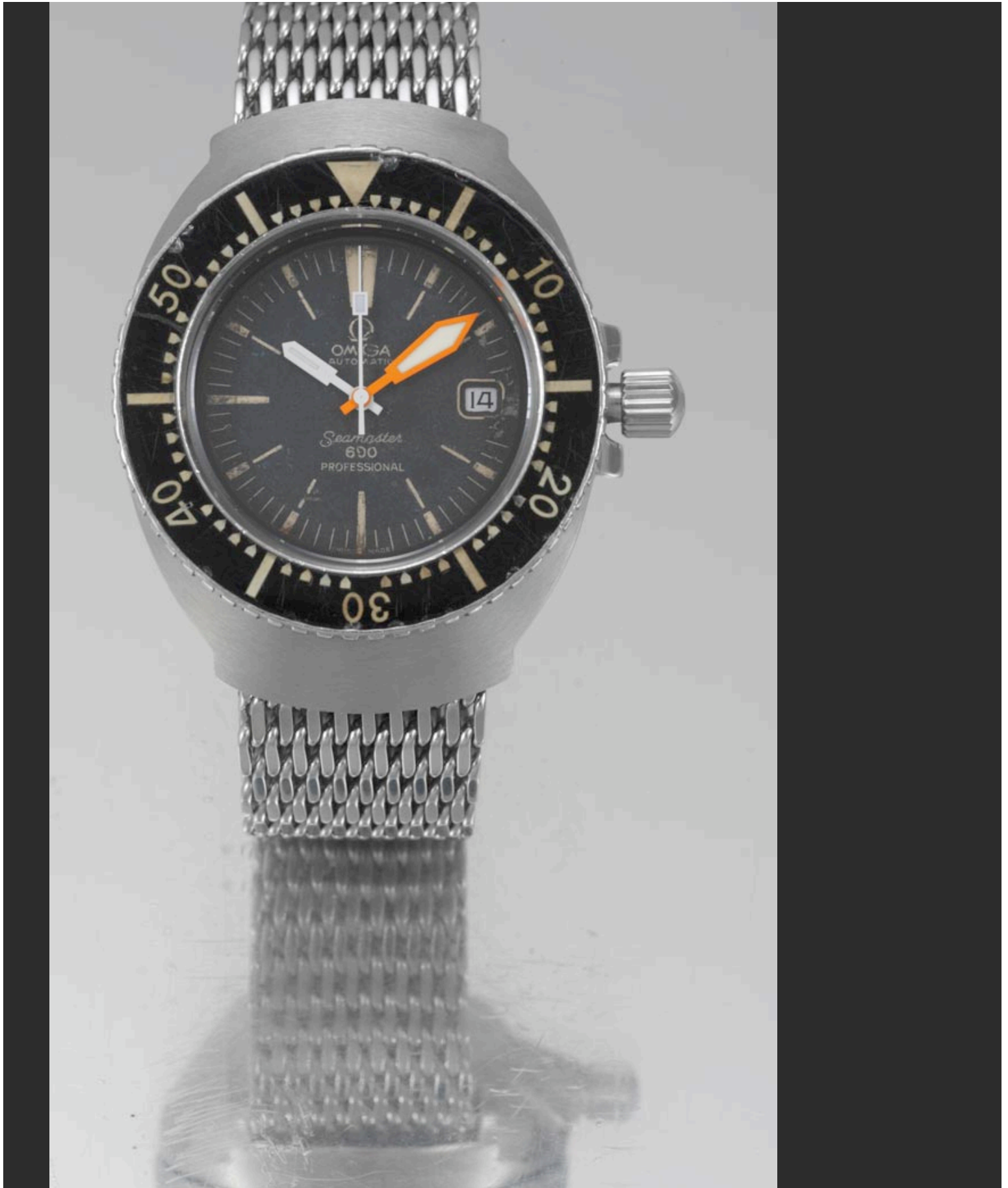
©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 211, OMEGA, Speedmaster Professional, one of a small number of prototypes made between 1971 and 1973. no estimate.



©Maaguerum for horomundi

Lot 276, OMEGA, FIFA, made in 1979, estimate CHF2K to 3K.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 130, OMEGA, Seamaster professional 600, automatic, sold on May 25, 1972, estimate CHF8.5K to 10K.



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 300, OMEGA, Seamaster Professional, Co-Axial, chronometer 600m/2000ft, Planet Ocean, Worn by Daniel Craig during the filming of Casino Royale in 2005/2006, no estimate.



©Antiquorum for horomundi



©Antiquorum for horomundi

Lot 239, Omega Speedmaster, Automatic, Given by Omega to racing champion Michael Schumacher in 1996, no estimate.



photo by antiquorum, watch by omega.

Lot 290, Omega, Deville, Co-Axial Central Tourbillon, No.1, Made in 2007, 3 year OMEGA guarantee, no estimate.

Jaw

 **Quote**

02-02-2007, 09:58 AM

12

jimsbk 
Member

Join Date: Dec 2006
Posts: 85

 **A new era for Omega and thanks Jaw for the report.**

I loved the central tourbillon since it was launched and it looks better all the time. When you mention affordable are you talking in the range of the JLC tourbillon or it is still an arm and a leg but "cheap" in your terms? Thanks again Jaw. Cheers Jim



02-02-2007, 03:14 PM

#13



Jaw
Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926



Sorry Jim for not making myself clear. When I said "affordable" I was referring to the OMEGA Deville Hour Visions, not the Central Tourbillon.

My apology
Jaw



02-02-2007, 11:14 PM

#14



watchculture
Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 289

Nice vintage Omegas and ...

share with you something from the 1900s, need some service cause it's running fast 😊



>>>>>Zach T



02-02-2007, 11:42 PM

#15

**Jaw**

Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006

Posts: 926

**Wow, a nice piece...****Still in relatively good condition****There are a few similar pieces (not the same) in the same auction under the first 100 year of Omega section.****Want to share your ownership experience?****Jaw**

03-02-2007, 12:43 AM

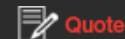
#16

**watchculture**

Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006

Posts: 289

this one seriously.....**needs major service that I keep putting off** 😞**Bought during one of my trips to Europe, it's typical of pocket watches in that era, it has a double back cover that can be opened and I enjoy watching the movement as it ticks. 15 jewels and uses a bi-metal split balance. I don't use it cause it's running fast and the movement (dried up) needs to be cleaned and re-lub. Unfortunately there was a small crack on the dial. Have checked with some people who either say it's not possible to repair or it will cost a bomb to do so** 😞 **Would love to carry it around should I get it fixed.****>>>>>Zach T**

03-02-2007, 11:38 AM

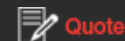
#17

**Jaw**

Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006

Posts: 926

**Every watch can be repaired or restored, unfortunately the time and cost involved can be too much for some :-)**

03-02-2007, 11:17 PM

#18


**Jaw**

Editor and Chief Moderator


Join Date: Nov 2006

Posts: 926




 **For second part of the Press Trip Report...**

Please click [here](#).

 Quote

04-02-2007, 08:12 PM

#19

jimsbk 
Member

Join Date: Dec 2006
Posts: 85

 **Thanks jaw for the correction on pricing.**

Now I can only dream of owning one! Cheers Jim

 Quote

04-02-2007, 09:32 PM

#20




Jaw 
Editor and Chief Moderator

Join Date: Nov 2006
Posts: 926




he he, Jim, its a question of priority to you.

You can buy anything you want and still with lots of spare cash to lend it to me 

Jaw

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