



PRESS RELEASE

CENTURY and SHANGHAI GRACING officialise their distribution partnership

Zurich, 26 February 2009 – CENTURY, the Swiss manufacturer of sapphire watches and jewellery is proud to formalize today its partnership with the Chinese distributor, Shanghai Gracing Group, by signing a new agreement aimed to intensify the collaboration between the two companies.

This exclusive distribution agreement has been signed on February 26th during the Sino-Swiss Economic & Trade Forum in Zurich by Mr. Philip W. A. Klingenberg, CENTURY Time Gems Ltd. CEO, and Mr. Xingyi Zhu, General Manager of Shanghai Gracing Group Co. Ltd.

Shanghai Gracing Group, key player on the watch scene in China, is therefore the exclusive distributor of the CENTURY products in the country. Since 2006, it has supported the Swiss brand in setting up a distribution network. Last year, six CENTURY boutiques have already been inaugurated in prestigious shopping locations.

This agreement further ensures a long-lasting cooperation between the two companies. Shanghai Gracing strongly affirms its determination to assist the brand in expanding its development. Many projects will be finalized towards the enforcement of intensive marketing programs, the organisation of sales trainings and the setting-up of a local CENTURY after-sales service division. In terms of distribution network, Shanghai Gracing plans to open 50 CENTURY boutiques over the next few years including 10 store openings in 2009.

CENTURY CEO, Mr. Klingenberg, is delighted by a qualitative and constructive collaboration and is looking forward to combine the CENTURY know-how in high-end watches with the great experience in the watch business of Shanghai Gracing Group. This day represents a significant step in the growth of CENTURY in China.



CENTURY TIME GEMS LTD.
SWISS MANUFACTURER OF SAPPHIRES WATCHES & JEWELLERY
FH MEMBER 07/0125

History

The firm of CENTURY was established in Bienne in 1966 by Hans-Ulrich Klingenberg, whose vision it was to combine an unusual method of manufacture with timeless elegance and a technically perfect design - a vision that led to watches made of sapphire being produced for the first time in the world. CENTURY is still to this day an independent family company.

The company today

CENTURY, as an independent family company, is headed by Philip W.A. Klingenberg, the son of the founder. The own manufacturing workshop, including the marketing, sales, and other offices, is now located in Nidau, near Bienne, in the heartland of the Swiss watch industry, and employs 60 people. Its brand's subsidiary in Tokyo has been founded in 1991. Every year it produces about 12,000 watches made of sapphire.

Distribution

CENTURY watches are sold through an exclusive network of 250 authorised watch and jewellery dealers mainly located in Asia and Europe. End of 2008, CENTURY counts 10 flagship stores around the world.

Philosophy

CENTURY watches are hand-crafted pieces of jewellery designed for a discriminating clientele. The high level of craftsmanship that goes into polishing precious stones is combined with the precision and quality for which Swiss watch-making is justly renowned. The focus of the production process is the "manufacturing" in the original sense of the word: the watches are carefully made by hand in the firm's own workshop in Nidau, and only with the very finest materials.

Product

CENTURY timepieces are both timeless jewellery of great value and also technical masterpieces. Ten years after the launch PrimeTime, Empire and Dragon Stone remain brand's emblematic models.

CENTURY has registered over 100 patents worldwide for its new technologies and construction process. The unique monolith system consists of the sapphire case ring and the sapphire face that are inseparably joined together by a chemical process, and this makes the case the basis for every CENTURY watch.

The sapphire case blank thus created is ground and polished by hand with diamond-faced tools to give it the required shape. Only the finest materials are used in manufacturing such as sapphire, diamond, platinum, gold, mother-of-pearl, and Chinese lacquer. Every CENTURY watch is water-resistant down to a depth of 100 metres, and is fitted with a high-precision Swiss quartz movement or, if so required, with a hand-wound or an automatic movement. CENTURY grants a three-year international guarantee on all its watches.

Product lines

The Collection is made up of three product lines: Master Imperial, Precious Elegance, and Contemporary Timepiece. Each meets the requirements of its discriminating clientele. In addition to about 120 references from 20 model lines, CENTURY also creates exclusive single pieces individually fulfilling customers' requirements. In 2004, CENTURY has launched TEMPTATION, its first jewellery line.

Glencore / Chinalco Corporate Overview

Glencore International AG

- Glencore International AG is one of the world's largest suppliers of a wide range of commodities and raw materials to industrial consumers.
- These commodities originate either from Glencore's directly or indirectly owned production assets, or are secured by Glencore from third parties, or they benefit from the refining, processing or marketing expertise of Glencore.
- Glencore's customers rely upon our established global network of operations as a source of Metals and Minerals, Crude Oil and Oil Products, Coal and Agricultural Products.
- Glencore is a privately held company owned by its management and employees. Marketing operations employs over 2,000 people in 50 offices in over 40 countries. Industrial operations employ over 60,000 people in 19 plants in 12 countries.
- 2007 Turnover of US\$ 142.3 billion, Total Assets of US\$ 60.0 billion

Chinalco

- Aluminum Corporation of China (CHINALCO), an investment management and holding company authorized by the state.
- As of the end of June 2008, its assets totaled RMB 377.7 billion, with its value growth rate on fixed assets and return on equity leading among the state-owned enterprises with assets over RMB 10 billion.
- It is the world's second largest alumina producer and the third largest primary aluminum producer.
- With Chinalco being the holding company, Aluminum Corporation of China Limited (CHALCO) is listed on the New York, Hong Kong and Shanghai stock exchanges.
- CHINALCO is oriented towards a global presence and committed to the strategic positioning of becoming an international polymetallic mining company.
- CHINALCO operates in the following areas: investment and operation management of state-owned assets, bauxite mining, alumina refining, smelting, processing and trading of aluminum; mining, smelting, processing and trading of rare metals and rare earth; mining, smelting, processing and trading of copper and other nonferrous metals; related engineering and technological services.
- CHINALCO promotes reform and development and actively deliver social responsibilities to build a resources-efficient, environment-friendly company with safe production.

ENDS

Cotton Trading: Paul Reinhart AG and Chinatex Corporation

Paul Reinhart AG, Winterthur

Paul Reinhart AG was founded in Winterthur in 1788 at a time when Switzerland was the largest cotton importer in continental Europe. Its activities consisted mainly in imports of raw cotton, trading of cotton yarns and exports of cotton cloth from Switzerland. The company is privately owned and is today managed by the 7th generation, Jürg Reinhart and Dr. Thomas Reinhart. At its headquarter in Winterthur, the staff amounts to 65.

Paul Reinhart AG is one of the leading cotton traders worldwide and is nowadays exclusively active in trading of raw cotton. In 2008, 64% of total sales went to Asia, with China being the most important destination for cotton imports. Other destinations were Turkey, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the CIS countries and South America. 36% of the sold cotton was sourced in Africa. Other major origins were Central Asia, Brazil, India and the Mediterranean countries.

Paul Reinhart AG and China

Paul Reinhart AG has been an active partner of China since the 1970ies selling cotton from a large number of origins. In the beginning of the cooperation, Chinatex Corporation was the only Chinese company being allowed to import foreign growths.

Paul Reinhart AG disposes of two representative offices in Beijing and Shanghai. They are in charge of importing raw cotton. Furthermore, the company has recently established the Wholly-Owned Foreign Entity (WOFE) Reinhart (Beijing) Trading Co., Ltd. which is in the process of becoming active in the domestic cotton trade.

China is Paul Reinhart AG's largest single country of destination. In 2008 the share of total sales amounted to 18.3%. The company sold to over 100 individual customers.

Chinatex Corporation, Beijing

Chinatex Corporation was established in 1951 and is engaged in business ranging from trade and production of textile raw materials, textiles to oil and oilseeds. The company's annual turnover is over USD 4 billion. Chinatex Corporation is the largest trader of cotton and soybean. The business of raw materials and cotton spinning includes the trading and production of cotton, wool, chemical fibres, yarn and grey fabrics.

One of the subsidiaries, Chinatex Cotton Import and Export Corporation, is an active trader of both domestic and foreign cotton.

Press release February 26, 2009

Sino-Swiss Economic and Trade Forum: Cotton contract in the amount of USD 12 million concluded between Chinatex Corporation and Paul Reinhart AG

This is to inform you that in the context of the Sino-Swiss Economic and Trade Forum Chinatex Corporation and Paul Reinhart AG have concluded a frame contract in the amount of USD 12 million for the delivery of West African cotton.

Chinatex Corporation, Beijing was established in 1951. The company is engaged in trading and producing raw materials used in textiles, yarn, fabrics, oil and oilseeds. Chinatex Corporation's annual turnover is over USD 4 billion.

Paul Reinhart AG, headquartered in Winterthur, is one of the world's largest cotton traders. The privately owned company was founded in 1788 and is managed by the 7th generation. Paul Reinhart AG has representation offices in Beijing and Shanghai.

The two companies are doing business together since the 1970ies for cotton deliveries from a wide range of origins.

Fakten Burgener AG Visp

Geschäftszweck

Die Burgener AG ist ein KMU Betrieb welcher Maschinen entwickelt, herstellt und verkauft, die verschiedene Gebinde wie z.B. Säcke, Kartons, Fässer usw. befüllen und verschliessen. Die Maschinen sind speziell auf die Chemie- und Pharmaindustrie konzipiert und werden im In- und Ausland verkauft.

Kennzahlen

Gründungsjahr:	1966
Aktienkapital:	CHF 200'000.-
Umsatz 2008:	CHF 3.5 Mio.
Angestellte:	19 Mitarbeiter (inkl. 3 Lehrlinge)

Unsere Produkte

Die von der Burgener AG konzipierten Maschinen sind speziell auf den Bereich der Chemie- und Pharmaindustrie sowie auch Nahrungsmittelindustrie zugeschnitten, welche ein absolut sauberes und zuverlässiges Abfüllen und Verschliessen der Kunststoff-Verpackungen (Polyethylen, Polyamid, Polypropylen, usw.) erfordert.

Die Stärke der Burgener AG liegt in Ihrem allseits anerkannten Know-how in Bezug auf die Verschweisstechnik. Diese Technik ist nicht durch Patente oder Lizenzen geschützt.

Die Verbindung zwischen der Abfüll- und Verpackungstechnik ist ein zusätzlicher Vorteil gegenüber den Mitbewerber.

Unser Markt

Endbenutzer einer Burgener - Maschine sind internationale Unternehmen der Pharma- und Chemiebranche (wie z.B. LONZA, BASF, SANDOZ, ROCHE, MERCK usw.) aber auch Unternehmen aus der Lebensmittelbranche (NESTLE, MIGROS, GIVAUDAN usw.).

Die Produkte dieser Kunden sind, insbesondere für die Pharmabetriebe, Produkte mit sehr hoher Wertschöpfung und entsprechend hohem Preis

2008 wurde 40% bis 45% vom Umsatz in der Schweiz erwirtschaftet.

Das wichtigste Exportland ist für uns Deutschland sowie andere EU – Staaten.

Der Handel mit China wird für uns zunehmend wichtiger. Für einen KMU – Betrieb sind gute Kooperationen mit den geeigneten Partner sehr wertvoll.