

Press Release

Baselworld 2012

**Patek Philippe, Geneva
March 2012**

The emancipation of complicated watches

For many years, Patek Philippe has observed a trend that has added considerable momentum to the manufacture's best traditions. It involves a stronger focus on complicated and extremely complicated timepieces and acknowledges the fact that all levels of complications have become more and more appealing to women. The manifestation of this trend is a triad of debuts at Baselworld 2012: The classic Ref. 5204 split-seconds chronograph with perpetual calendar completes Patek Philippe's traditional chronograph trilogy based on its proprietary chronograph caliber. The ultra-thin Ref. 7140 Ladies First Perpetual Calendar showcases the attractive calendar complication in a new, stunningly seductive ladies' model with a fiery complement of diamonds. Men can look forward to the new ultra-thin Ref. 5940 perpetual calendar; with its cushion-shaped case, it reflects the design vocabulary of the epoch in which Patek Philippe presented the world's first wristwatch with a perpetual calendar. These three complicated timepieces reaffirm the virtuosity of the Geneva-based, family-owned manufacture in mastering the most formidable horological challenges.

Ref. 7140 *Ladies First Perpetual Calendar*

Ladies have always had a penchant for perpetuity and lasting value. They are fond of jewelry and especially in the past ten years have professed a growing interest in complicated mechanical calibers. What could better nurture their predilection than a Patek Philippe perpetual calendar?

The new Ref. 7140 *Ladies First Perpetual Calendar* is an ultra-thin self-winding mechanical wristwatch featuring a calendar mechanism that automatically knows the number of days in each month and also correctly displays the 29th of February in leap years. Its timelessly elegant design, the precious array of flawless Top Wesselton diamonds (bezel with 68 diamonds totaling approx. 0.68 ct., clasp with 27 diamonds totaling approx. 0.20 ct.) as well as the lasting value of complicated Patek Philippe watches make this charismatic gem for the feminine wrist a treasured possession that will retain its contemporary allure for generations to come. With a diameter of 35.1 mm and a height of 8.8 mm, the round case has a classic look in form and proportions that will outlast all mainstream fashion fads. Thanks to these virtues and the highly intricate, self-winding mechanical movement composed of 275 parts, Patek Philippe's Ref. 7140 *Ladies First Perpetual Calendar* is a coveted possession for modern women who cherish inner values as much as they appreciate outward grace.

Ultra-thin Ref. 5940 perpetual calendar in a cushion-shaped case

Apart from the round Calatrava silhouette and the inimitable Nautilus profile, the cushion shape ranks among the case styles that Patek Philippe has elevated to an iconic status. It was only natural to endow this classic 1920s form with an ultra-thin perpetual calendar. After all, Patek Philippe has launched the world's first wristwatch with a perpetual calendar in 1925. The result is the new Ref. 5940, which presents this highly useful complication in an elegant cushion-shaped case measuring 44.6 x 37 mm. With its gracefully fluid lines inspired by the Art Deco movement, this case style is a



Patek Philippe design classic of timeless beauty that has remained strikingly contemporary across the decades.

Equally legendary: the 2.53 mm slim caliber 240 movement with its 22K gold minirotor integrated in the plate. The perpetual calendar adds only 1.35 mm in height, so all 275 parts are accommodated in a caliber that is a scant 3.88 mm thick. Nonetheless, the watch has an amazing rate accuracy of $-3/+2$ seconds per day. This is a phenomenal result for a mechanical timepiece. The Ref. 5940 displays the time and the calendar indications on a grained, creamy white dial with superb legibility. With its charismatic movement and historically significant case design, it has all the assets needed to become a future favorite in the community of collectors.

Ref. 5204 split-seconds chronograph with perpetual calendar

The fact that the classic manually wound Patek Philippe chronograph with horizontal clutch and column wheel control comes in three degrees of complexity reflects the manufacture's heritage. Now, its proprietary chronograph caliber is being launched with a perpetual calendar and a split-seconds function, two of the most popular complications. In this grand complication version, the caliber is designated CHR 29-535 PS Q. The perpetual calendar (Q) relies on the same configuration as the one first presented a year ago, integrated in the Ref. 5270 chronograph. The split-seconds chronograph (R), however, was extensively redesigned by Patek Philippe's engineers. The innovative split-seconds isolator reduces the height of the movement and assures that the balance amplitude remains constant while lap-time readings are being taken. A patented equalization device constrains possible angular deviations between the chronograph and split-seconds wheels by 75%. The result: nearly perfect superposition of the two sweep hands. This micromechanical marvel is housed in a classic round platinum case with a diameter of 40 mm beneath a white opaline dial made of solid gold. The movement can be admired through the sapphire-crystal display back. Owners who are overwhelmed by so much beauty can have it replaced with the solid-platinum back provided with the watch.

For further information, please contact:

Jasmina Steele
International Communication and Public Relations Director
Patek Philippe Genève
P.O. Box 2654
1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

Tel.: +41 22 884 20 20
Fax: +41 22 884 25 47

Or visit: www.patek.com

