

353 CHRISTOPHORUS

DECEMBER 2011
JANUARY 2012

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THE NEW 911 AS A CABRIOLET

11 CARRERA CABRIOLET (TYPE 991). Engine: Six-cylinder boxer. Displacement: 3,436 cc. Power: 350 hp (257 kW). Maximum torque: 288 lb.-ft. at 5,500 rpm. 0-62 mph: 5.0 (4.8*) sec., top track speed: 178 (176*) mph. * with Porsche double-clutch transmission (PDK).


Tutima
GLASHÜTTE/SA.



TUTIMA'S NEW TRADITION

Germany is known for solid, reliable mechanics—and for the fact that these mechanics are often wrapped in the most meticulously designed packaging.

This is as true of wristwatch technology as it is of automobile technology: since 1845 Germany has built an excellent reputation for keeping time and encasing it in the most beautiful way.

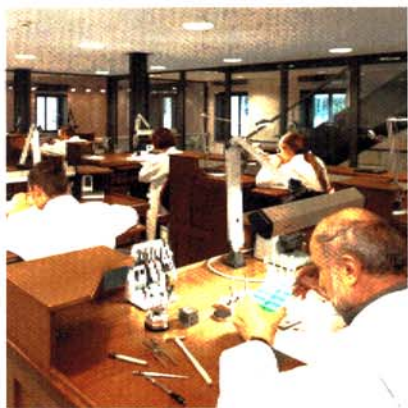
Tutima has been a major contributor to German watchmaking's good reputation for the last 84 years. Originally at home in Germany's horological Mecca, geopolitical circumstances forced the brand's director Dr. Ernst Kurtz to relocate to the northwestern region of the country in the 1940s. Kurtz's main interest lay in making reliable wristwatch movements with little fanfare: quality was the ultimate ambition.

Sixty-five years after leaving Glashütte, 2011 marks the year that Tutima returns. To celebrate the homecoming, the brand

introduced the very first minute repeater to be fully conceived and manufactured on German soil: the Hommage.

A minute repeater is a very complicated type of wristwatch to produce. From the need to know the time in the dark hours of the day, it began life as a clock tower before evolving into a clock and then a pocket watch. The miniaturized version in wristwatch format acoustically signals the time. Striking on demand, it chimes out the current time as often as the wearer would like to hear it: the hours (dong, dong), the quarter hours (ding-dong), and finally the minutes (quick successive dings). The energy required for this complication is supplied by a second mainspring that is wound when a slide on the side of the case is activated.

Naturally, German watch companies have developed repeaters over the course of the last 166 years, but none to date have done this fully on their own without the help of Swiss technology. The development of the Hommage took a full three



German brand Tutima is a leading figure in pilot's watches. A return to hometown Glashütte is currently being celebrated with the brand's most complicated timepiece to date: the first minute repeater fully conceived and manufactured on German soil.

years—which can be added to the three years Tutima spent outfitting its new state-of-the-art factory and gathering the skilled craftspeople needed to complete such a masterpiece.

The Tutima Hommage boasts a 32 mm hand-wound movement by the name of Caliber 800. It comprises 550 individual components; this number attests to the complex nature of such a luxurious movement. Keeping up with modern advancements, it beats at a frequency of 21,600 vibrations per hour, which guarantees extreme mechanical accuracy without too much strain on the components. Caliber 800 is decorated with a traditional matte, frosted, gold-plated finish and naturally contains a historically styled Glashütte three-quarter plate, making this exceptional movement directly identifiable as a product of the region it originates in. The steel repeater parts—every single one of which have been manufactured and tin-polished to perfection in Tutima's own Glashütte factory—culminate in the two gongs attached to the case for better resonance.

Housed in a 43 mm case of solid rose gold or platinum with the choice of a classic or skeletonized dial, this masterpiece is strictly limited to 25 pieces. The entire ensemble functions so wonderfully together that the owner will never notice how complex the insides really are—unless he or she chooses to purchase the version with the skeletonized dial so as to watch this tiny miracle at work.

In watchmaking, tradition counts equally as much as innovation and technical perfection. The Tutima Hommage is one of those timepieces that can fortunately boast all three elements equivalently.

"Time is our most precious asset," Dr. Ernst Kurtz is on record as having said before his passing. "Timepieces showing it should be worthy of the task." Tutima continues to live this standard right through to the present day.

Text by Elizabeth Doerr