



PRESS RELEASE

Raider Harpoon

Less is more

Specialists depend on the simplest and cleanest designs for even very complex technology, for they know that less, is more. To create the ultimate diving watch, this is exactly what Favre-Leuba has focused on. The birth of the Raider Harpoon takes place by keeping only to the essentials and omitting everything unnecessary. With its innovative functionality and by simplifying the complexity, it fits perfectly into a long line of legendary timepieces this watch brand has been designing for over 279 years.

Anyone who loves discovering the mysterious world underwater and cherishes the experience of unfathomable depths, knows how easy it is to forget time when in the deep blue. A wise diver, however, also knows that this can be very dangerous and hence always keeps track of the elapsed minutes that have passed since the dive commenced. This important information thus must always be clearly visible on a watch that is to be a reliable diving companion.

Essence of time

Favre-Leuba recognizes the need for such clarity of information and the simplified technology in a world that can overpower the senses. The engineers hence designed a watch, the Raider Harpoon, which focusses on only the essentials, by making the important minutes much easier and precise to read, in every situation and under every condition. In doing so, the standard form of time indication has been completely rethought, and everything unnecessary has been omitted. The result is further proof of the values such as defiance, ingenuity and the pioneering spirit, that have defined the brand for over the rich 279 years – a diving watch that proves its worth with just one hand!

When diving for professional or recreational objectives, distractions are the last thing one should worry about. Hence the pioneers at Favre-Leuba made a purpose-built watch, which ensures the diver does



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not mistaken the important passing minute with the possibility of having read the hour hand instead. To further assist a successful dive, the 20-minute scale on the unidirectional rotating bezel proves to be a good reminder of the remaining dive time. This feature ensures greater safety, while one is being allured by nature at its best. After all, if the diver does not stay under water for longer than 20 minutes, he or she can resurface without observing decompression times. However, if the wearer must know the hour of the day, the rotating hour indicator will allow the person to learn of that.

Needless to say, the striking minute hand designed with a bold and irregular hexagon and the conspicuous appliquéd index markers are all highlighted with SuperLuminova, producing a blue light emission, thus making reading of the time easier even in the deep dark depths. Furthermore, a diver needs to know that the watch is functioning all the time and hence the center disc, which also carries the seconds indicator tip, acts as function control and showcases through its recesses a luminous base. With such confidence and visibility, one can now undertake the adventurous journeys planned.

Patented mechanism

When the day to conquer frontiers requires the wearer to learn of the passing hour, a specially constructed and patented mechanism allows him or her to observe this with a rotating a luminous ring that bears large Arabic numerals. The ingenuity of this hour indicator is that its rotational speed is adjusted such that the numbers return to their starting point after exactly twelve hours. All that one hence needs to do is observe the only hand on the watch, that also points to the appropriate hour on the co-rotating ring. The interplay of hand and ring makes it delightfully easy to read the time. For example, if it is 14:15, the hand will point towards 3 o'clock on the bezel, as usual, and will lie in between numeral 2 and 3 on the easy to read hour ring.



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Seconds



Minutes



Hours

Examples for reading the time

12:00 p.m. or 12:00 a.m.



2:15 a.m. or 2:15 p.m.



5:30 a.m. or 5:30 p.m.



Helium valve for professional use

As a diving watch, The Raider Harpoon rises up to meet the demands of a professional diver. It features the helium valve that provides the necessary pressure balance inside the watch essential for the diver after spending several days underwater.

For longer periods of work, professional divers are lowered in a diving bell. The air pressure inside is the same as the diving depth it is at, so that the diver can always leave the bell without needing any time to adapt. As the bell is filled with an oxygen and helium mixture, during the overpressure at depth, tiny helium atoms from the ambient air can penetrate the diver's watch.



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Once the work under water is complete, the diving bell is raised to the surface again with the diver inside it. The pressure level in the bell is continuously adjusted to that of the surroundings as this process takes place. If now pressure is not equalized inside the watch – in the same way as in the bell – the watch glass could pop out due to the imbalance created. To prevent this, the helium atoms that have penetrated must be released again. In the Harpoon this is achieved with the special outlet valve developed for the purpose – the Helium valve.

To guarantee secure operation and avoid confusion, the crown for the helium valve as well as the one for manual winding of the automatic movement and setting the time, are positioned at a good distance from one another: at 2 and 4 o'clock respectively.

Inspired by legendary role models

With its brilliant functionality and innovative technology, the Harpoon rightfully takes its place in a long line of watches from Favre-Leuba, which have earned their place in the history of watchmaking. The legendary brand has always set high standards, particularly in the area of diving watches, with the Bathy of 1968 – the first mechanical watch that not only displayed dive time but also the dive depth.

The unmistakable shape and bold design confirms that the DNA of the new Raider Harpoon belongs to the Favre-Leuba brand and has been skillfully translated into the design of today. The case – a bow drawn from lug to lug, just like a bridge running over time, is interpreted in a contemporary manner and shares the enthralling contrast of the brushed and polished surfaces. The impressive 46mm bold watch immediately catches the eye. The bezel – this seemingly simple design component also boasts a special detail when observed: it's not just another circular functional element but rather a finely wrought Tetradecegon, which creates a strong and distinctive look of the new Favre-Leuba collection. The case back – made with precision that conveys no detail is ever too small at Favre-Leuba, is screwed in place to ensure that it's always perfectly aligned.

Be rest assured that the team has not forgotten to add the antireflective coating on the sapphire crystal for improved visibility nor the special extension of the diving clasp required for those who conquer the depths of our planet. Choose between a stainless steel metal bracelet or the sporty rubber one for the explorations.



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Technical details on the Raider Harpoon

MOVEMENT	Automatic, patented mechanism for hour display
FUNCTIONS	Time display by minute hand and hour indicator, running seconds disk at the center for function control, helium valve
CASE	Stainless steel or stainless steel with gunmetal PVD coating; unidirectional rotating bezel made of anodized aluminum; screw-in crown; sapphire crystal with antireflection coating on both sides; screwed and aligned case back; diameter 46 mm, height 16.5 mm, water-resistant up to 50 bar/500 m
DIAL	Blue or black; appliquéd index marks; luminous (blue emission) index marks and hour indicator, minute and second hands, markings under seconds disk
WRISTBAND	Stainless steel, folding clasp with safety bracket and diving extension system, or Rubber with pin buckle

When every minute counts, who one needs the most is a reliable companion to turn to and if that companion lets them also own a piece of history that few can boast of, be rest assured a new relationship is sure to be found there.

Solothurn, October 2016