



The history of a watch

Z R C

1904



GRANDS FONDS 300

A LEGEND FOR A LEGENDARY LIFE

The GRANDS FONDS 300 is a legendary watch, and legends never die.

ZRC has decided to continue the adventure by re-releasing the “Diving” version of the 1964 Swiss Made model. With its sharp lines and sleek esthetics, the new Grand Fonds 300 pays homage to its heritage and represents a perfect fusion of tradition and innovation.



Z R C
1904

La vie est Aventures

P R E F A C E

"For 60 years, the division of Mediterranean Mine Clearance Divers' Group has operated in mainland France and abroad, from the Suez Canal to Kuwait, from Afghanistan to New Orleans, destroying more than one ton of weaponry and explosives every year, and undertaking complex underwater work.

The Mine Clearance Divers' Group, who have trained since 1953 at the Saint-Mandrier diving school, have all undergone a long and demanding training process in order to master all the techniques involved in diving and the use of explosives and specific cutting-edge equipment.

Since the beginning of this undersea adventure, prowess in diving has required the mastery of time, and thus a diving watch. It alone encapsulates the demanding standards

and technical skill of a Mine Clearance Divers' Group. It is the essential tool without which diving would be impossible, in the past or the present. As a high-quality watch, it represents and embodies excellence, which we all strive to achieve every day during our assignments.

This is why once again bringing together the ZRC Grands Fonds 300 and the world of military diving, a renowned area of expertise for the French Navy, takes on its full meaning today. At a time when the division of Mediterranean Mine Clearance Divers' Group is celebrating its 60th anniversary, we are both proud and delighted to welcome one of the first watches used by Mine Clearance Divers' Group. It will join us from summer 2015 on mine clearance assignments along the Mediterranean coastline."



*Lieutenant-Commander Thomas GARCIA,
Commanding Officer of the division of
Mediterranean Mine Clearance Divers' Group.*

A DIVING LEGEND
IS REBORN



1964

Grands Fonds 300

1964 model



2015

Grands Fonds 300

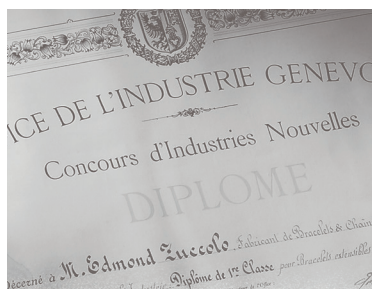
Re-issue of the 1964 model

A FAMILY TRADITION	6
THE BIRTH OF A LEGEND.....	9
OFFICIAL MARINE NATIONALE APPROVAL	17
FEATURES OF THE 1960 ZRC GRANDS FONDS	24
VINTAGE ADVERTISEMENTS	26
THE RENAISSANCE OF AN ICONIC BRAND	29
GENERAL FEATURES	30
A WORLD FIRST - THE ECS PATENT	32
PROMOTER: ALBAN MICHON, ADVENTURER AND EXPLORER	36
PARTNER: STÉPHANE TOURREAU, FREEDIVER	38
PARTNERSHIP: MEDITERRANEAN GPD	40

111 YEARS OF FAMILY TRADITION

1904

The Zuccolo Rochet company is founded, the result of a partnership between Edmond Zuccolo and Joseph Rochet.



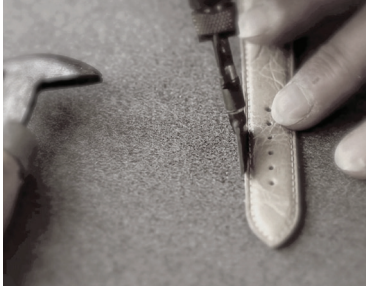
1917

The company wins the Grand Prix for Innovation in Industry in Geneva in the New Industries category for the creation of extendable metal watch bracelets.

1960

The first ZRC Grands Fonds 300M watch is developed, the definitive version of which was used by the French Navy in 1964 (NATO approved).





1975

The company diversifies into leather watch straps.

2004

Charles and Georges Brunet, great-grandsons of Joseph Rochet.



2015

A legendary diving watch is reborn: the ZRC Grands Fonds 300.



12

ETANCHE
GRANDS
FONDS
Z.R.C.

23 RUBIS
AUTOMATIC
INCABLOC

9

3

6

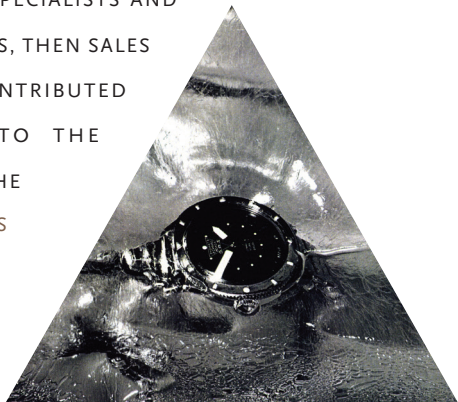


THE BIRTH
OF A LEGEND

When adventure gives rise to a revolutionary product

1960

IN THE EARLY 1960S, LOUIS BRUNET AND THE ANNECY DIVING TEAM, SEVERAL OF WHOSE MEMBERS WORKED FOR THE COMPANY, WITH THE SUPPORT OF LOCAL FIGURES SUCH AS LOUIS SERVETAZ, LAUNCHED PLANS FOR AN AFFORDABLE AND EFFICIENT DIVING WATCH. MESSRS PASTRE AND DIGNE, WATCHMAKERS IN TOULON, DIVING WATCH SPECIALISTS AND FRIENDS OF MR. BOURDARIAS, THEN SALES SUPERVISOR AT ZRC, CONTRIBUTED WHOLEHEARTEDLY TO THE CREATION OF THE GRANDS FONDS 300.



The ice and boiling water test



Louis Brunet

1960
The first
Grands Fonds 300
is approved
by the French Navy



OMEGA
AUTOMATIC
IN-CABINET

1830

1940

2980

1180

70

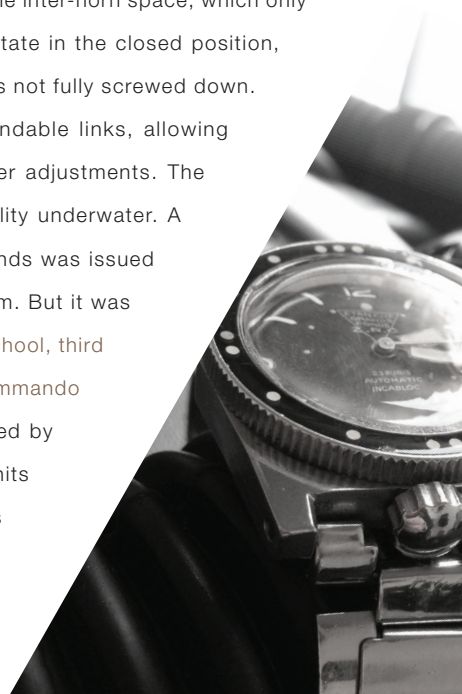
E N L E S N N E a e

The ZRC Grands Fonds watch and its history

After granting its official approval to the first Grands Fonds 300 in 1960, the French Navy explained to the designers that the crown at 3 o'clock posed a problem as it was too vulnerable during underwater manipulations. It asked ZRC to "find a solution" to protect the crown without impeding wrist movement, and above all, to ensure it could not open under water.

The team set to work and developed the famous crown at 6 o'clock, connected to the case using an exclusive system consisting of a canon cut from a single block, making the Grands Fonds 300 the first and only watch to be equipped with a 100% monobloc case. Furthermore, the case is machined in a particular type of steel reinforced with molybdenum that is completely antimagnetic (an absolute necessity for Mine Clearance Divers' Group).

ZRC developed an exclusive retractable lug specific to the inter-horn space, which only allows the crown to pass through or the bracelet to rotate in the closed position, making submerging the watch impossible if the crown is not fully screwed down. The bracelet is also original by virtue of its two extendable links, allowing the watch to be worn over a diving suit with no further adjustments. The ultra-luminescent Magnum hands ensure perfect legibility underwater. A revolutionary watch in many ways, the ZRC Grands Fonds was issued to the Paris fire service and the French waterskiing team. But it was above all the watch of the French Navy (Toulon diving school, third division of Toulon Mine Clearance Divers' Group, the Commando Hubert) as well as the Italian Navy. As a watch designed by divers for divers, it was also adopted by non-military units supported by the French Navy, including the famous Calypso of Commander Cousteau, which took the watch around the world and firmly established its reputation.





ÉTANCHE
GRANDS
FONDS
Z.R.C.
300m.

1964 model



The Grands Fonds 300
in the hyperbaric chamber
at IFREMER Toulon.



OFFICIAL FRENCH NAVY
APPROVAL

Official Approval

Reporting directly to the French naval commissariat central command (DCCM) in Paris, the French naval commissariat technical department (STCM), was the department at central command level responsible for carrying out preliminary studies and approving new equipment. This was the “Marine Nationale” branch of the French National Codification Bureau (NCB) under NATO. The Toulon arsenal fleet procurement department, which had requested the new equipment, had to complete, in accordance with procedure, an identification form concerning the new ZRC watch they wanted to procure (trade name of the article, brief technical description, retail price of the article, manufacturer’s name, address and code, reason for procurement, the intended use of the equipment within the Navy, etc.) This completed identification form was then sent to the STCM in Paris for examination, along with a request for approval for the watch, in preparation for the attribution of a “Numéro de Gestion Marine” (Navy Management Number – NGM), which would then enable it to be processed.

CATAL

D

MATÉRIEL CO



EL D

LOGUE
U
OMMISSARIAT



E PL



The Narvik minesweeper.

AFTER RECEIVING APPROVAL FROM THE DCCM IN PARIS,
THE FIRST BATCHES OF ZRC WATCHES WERE BOUGHT
BY FLEET PROCUREMENT IN TOULON, WITHOUT DOUBT
SUPPLIED DIRECTLY BY MR. PASTRE.

VOLET 1
SERVICE
Délivrance
Reçu par : Le secrétaire Administratif JANTEOT chef de la 1ère section AF
Date, et signature : 15 avril 1975

18.03.75

puissance souhaitée

possible

REGISTREMENT
E DÙ

COMPTE
D'OUVRAGE

M609

CERTIFICAT DE LA DÉLIVRANCE
L'OCTAM CARELLIS
Chef de la 1ère section AF TOULON

Journal
1975

Mouvement
1975

Marine - N° 10 063 3490 - Prière - C 93 - 60



The Grands Fonds 300
on the gyrocompass.

Entry in the Equipment Catalog of the Commissariat de la Marine

ALL THE WATCHES THEREFORE UNDERWENT A TEST PERIOD, BEING TRIALED IN ALL POSSIBLE CONDITIONS OF "MILITARY-RELATED HARSH USE". THE STCM IN PARIS APPROVED THE NEW EQUIPMENT AND ENTERED IT INTO THE GENERAL EQUIPMENT CATALOG FOR THE COMMISSARIAT, ATTRIBUTING IT A PROVISIONAL 13-DIGIT NUMÉRO DE GESTION MARINE (NGM). (THIS PROVISIONAL NUMBER WOULD LATER BE CONVERTED INTO A NATO STOCK NUMBER (NSN). THE WATCHES ORIGINALLY CLASSIFIED AS THE 6645 FAMILY DEEP-SEA DIVING WATCH WOULD EVENTUALLY BE MOVED TO GROUP 63, FAMILY 6355.)



The principal units using the ZRC Grands Fonds



Diving school

The diving school dates back to 1860 and was founded in order to train “mechanics, drivers and deep-sea divers”. The diving school is responsible for training all the Marine Nationale divers in four disciplines (navy diver, Mine Clearance Divers’ Group, combat diver, hyperbaric nurse). It also provides training for the divers of the Gendarmerie Maritime and the French Air Force, as well as combat diver training. As well as this, it receives several groups of foreign trainees every year.



Mine Clearance Divers’ Group

The third division of Toulon Mine Clearance Divers’ Group (GPD III) carries out operations all year round in order to neutralize historic devices (shells, mines, torpedoes, etc.), which pose a threat to shipping. It also specializes in major underwater work.

The completely antimagnetic ZRC Grands Fonds watch and its bracelet (like their diving knives and even the adjustment buckles on their diving fins) were greatly appreciated by the divers, who occasionally had to deal with mines with a magnetic trigger.



Commando Hubert

The Commando Hubert is a naval commando created in December 1947. It is based in Le Cannier on the Saint-Mandrier peninsula. The commando bears the name of Lieutenant Augustin Hubert, killed in action on 6 June 1944 in Ouistreham.

In 1953, the commando became a combat diving unit and was renamed the Commando d’Actions Sous Marines (Underwater Operations Commando – CASM). It is a highly secretive unit.

To this day, the Commando Hubert remains the only combat diving unit of the French Navy.

GENERAL
FEATURES

The 1964 ZRC Grands Fonds



Exclusive system
consisting of a canon
cut from a single block
(monobloc case)

Designed by divers for divers

Supremely resistant
extendable diving bracelet
(stainless steel)

Single-piece case
guaranteed super
water-resistant (300 m)
and impervious
to corrosion

Luminous
central sweep
seconds
(tritium)

Crown with double seal,
solid stainless steel

Crown at 6 o'clock,
naturally protected
from impacts



Clicking bezel:
• only turns in one direction,
preventing accidental
extension of diving time;
• click system
with 60 notches
(one minute setting)
• protected hour-markers
impervious to corrosion,
luminous
(tritium)

Highly luminous
"magnum" hand
(tritium)

Tritium capsules

Winding stem tunnel
cut from a single block



VINTAGE ADVERTISEMENTS

1960 - 1975

ÉTANCHE GRANDS FONDS 300 m. Z.R.C.

SÉCURITÉ PERFORMANCES!

Photo: BONNARDI

MOVEMENT AUTOMATIQUE 15.750s. Hologramme 15.750s. Hologramme

CHEZ LES Horlogers Bijoutiers 370 NF.

... Et maintenant !

Avec confiance, abordez dès la joie l'Aventure Sous-Marin et tous Sports ou occasions où l'indication du temps, indispensable et précise, doit être assurée, malgré des conditions extérieures les plus hostiles.

Calogno (pat. Z. R. C. - S. 100. L'Escaut-Revue - ANNECY - (Haute-Savoie)

SÛRE SIMPLE FONCTIONNELLE

la Nouvelle

ÉTANCHE GRANDS FONDS 300 m. Z.R.C.

UNITE A CLIQUET BOITIER MONDROC

LA MONTRE-BRANCLET

DÉFINITIVE!..

REPERTOIR ET MODÈLES INTERNATIONAUX

Label Technique du 14^e Salon International d'Horlogerie de Besançon

Z.R.C. 5 rue REVON B.P. 16 ANNECY FRANCE

Conçue par des plongeurs pour des plongeurs

ÉTANCHE GRANDS FONDS 300m Z.R.C.

12 garanties de sécurité

1. Étanchéité garantie pendant 10 ans.	2. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.	3. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.
4. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.	5. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.	6. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.
7. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.	8. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.	9. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.
10. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.	11. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.	12. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

La Z.R.C. 300, c'est la plongée «haute-sécurité»!

ZUCCOLOBOCCHET & Co. (S. R. L.) Annecy (France)

BOITE 104, LES ALLÉES DE LA FERRASSIÈRE 74000 EVIAN-LES-BAINS

Conçue par des plongeurs pour des plongeurs

ÉTANCHE GRANDS FONDS 300m Z.R.C.

Quel que soit l'attrait qu'exerce le monde sous-marin, une course inhabituelle dans l'eau vous qui se prolonge dans l'attente de cet instant où l'a main obtournera leur toute expérience à l'égard de leur appareil respiratoire et de son contrôle de sa durée.

12 garanties de sécurité

1. Étanchéité garantie pendant 10 ans.

2. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

3. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

4. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

5. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

6. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

7. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

8. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

9. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

10. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

11. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

12. Garantie de 10 ans contre les dommages matériels.

Avant de vous adresser. Mérite aussi une "sécurité" système automatique de démarrage au temps de plongée. (Modèle définitif).

la Z.R.C. 300, c'est la plongée «haute sécurité»!

EN VENTE CHEZ LES BONS HORLOGERS-BIJOUTIERS

Z.R.C. 5 RUE REVON B.P. 16 ANNECY FRANCE



Z.R.C B.P.16 Annecy-France



La Z.R.C 300, c'est la plongée "haute sécurité" !



GRANDS
FONDS
300M

R C

25 RUBIS
AUTOMATIQUE
ANTI-MAGNETIQUE

SWISS MADE

2015



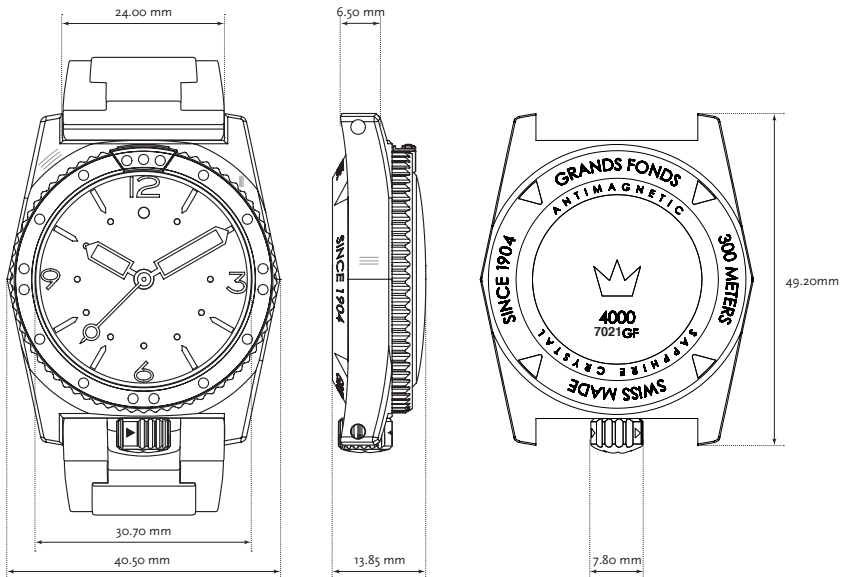
THE RENAISSANCE
OF A DIVING LEGEND

Re-issue of the Grands Fonds 300

GENERAL FEATURES

The 2015 ZRC Grands Fonds

DESIGNATION	SPECIFICATION
Movement	ETA 2824-2 – 28 000 vib./Hour 38-hour power reserve
Crystal	Sapphire 3mm
Fonctions	Hours/Minutes/Seconds
Water resistance	300 m
Weight	210g



Case guaranteed super water-resistant (300 m)
316L antimagnetic stainless steel

316L stainless steel + DLC bezel inserts

Super-LumiNova capsules

Super-LumiNova central sweep seconds

Bit tip screw

Solid 316L antimagnetic stainless steel bracelet

Patented ECS™
N°1462496
(Easy Clean System)

Super-LumiNova "magnum" hand

Unidirectional notched bezel:
• with 60 notches (one minute setting)
• protected hour-markers, impervious to corrosion, Super-LumiNova

Crown at 6 o'clock with double seal, protected by CPS™ (Crown Protection System)

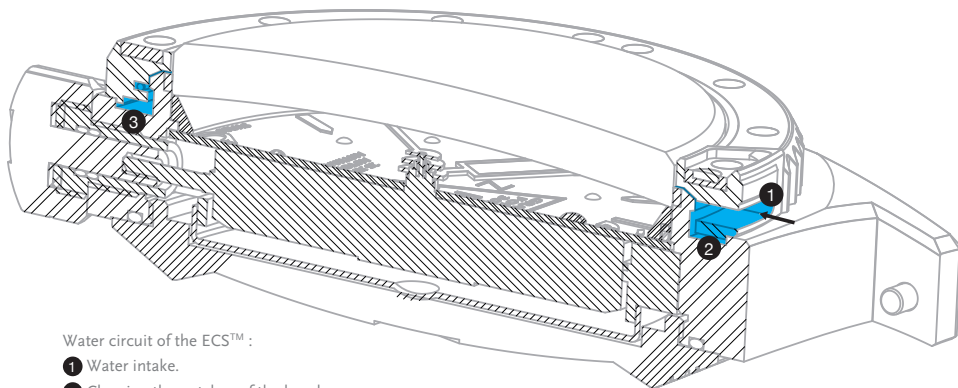
Exclusive: "Dive Extension" enables dual city/dive use



A WORLD FIRST

ECS™ patent





Water circuit of the ECS™ :

- ❶ Water intake.
- ❷ Cleaning the notches of the bezel.
- ❸ Cleaning the space between the case and bezel.

THE ECS™ IS A TECHNICAL SOLUTION TO AN ISSUE ENCOUNTERED BY THE MINE CLEARANCE DIVERS' GROUPS OF THE MARINE NATIONALE DURING THEIR MANY DIVES: SALT CRYSTALLIZING IN THE GAPS BETWEEN THE BEZEL AND CASE, THUS IMPEDING ITS ROTATION. FOR THE 2015 RE-ISSUE OF THE GRANDS FONDS, ZRC DEVELOPED AND PATENTED (NO. 1462496) A FUNCTIONAL SOLUTION: THE ECS™ WAS BORN. A UNIQUE SYSTEM FOR CLEANING THE INSIDE OF THE BEZEL BY CIRCULATING FRESH WATER THAT DILUTES AND EVACUATES THE SEA SALT, THE ECS™ IS THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO THE ORIGINAL GRANDS FONDS AND IS PERFECTLY IN TUNE WITH THE BRAND'S IDENTITY.

CPS™

Crown Protection System

100% safety is guaranteed thanks to this exclusive bracelet system using retractable lugs. It is now impossible to immerse the watch in water without screwing the crown back into its original position. If the crown is not screwed down, the bracelet cannot be correctly repositioned. This effective method prevents oversights that can lead to technical difficulties.





Integrated
diving extension.
Comfortable to wear.
Maximum security.



DIVER BRACELET

The new Grands Fonds 300 is equipped with an automatic adjustable bracelet, which allows it to be worn over a diving suit. This unique embedded spring system automatically adapts to the diameter of the wearer's wrist for unparalleled comfort. No adjustments are required, as two links on either side of the case extend to accommodate the new diameter.

In addition to this, the exclusive clasp, also derived from the original Grands Fonds, has been redesigned and adjusted. More supple, precise and secure, it also features better finishes and is more comfortable to wear.

PROMOTER

Alban Michon, adventurer and explorer

There may only be a few modern-day adventurers and explorers of the unknown and beyond still in existence, but Alban Michon is undeniably one of them. A world-renowned specialist in undersea, ice and cave diving, Alban's only limits are the ones Nature imposes on him.



From his expeditions in Antarctica and Greenland, he has gained experience of the most extreme conditions, both for the human body and for his equipment – a world of silence where time seems to stand still yet carries vital importance as it ticks away underwater on the dial of a watch. To accompany him in his adventures, Alban puts his faith in the ZRC Grands Fonds 300, for which he is the ambassador.



"...I AM
IN TURN
PROUD TO BE
ITS PROMOTER
TODAY."






"...TO NOW BE A PARTNER OF AN ANNECY-BASED COMPANY AND ICONIC WATCHMAKING BRAND IS SIMPLY EXCEPTIONAL."

PARTNER

Stéphane Tourreau, freediver



In freediving, his field of excellence, he becomes one with the elements, gliding smoothly through the depths. A member of the French freediving team since 2011, he has entered competition after competition and claimed victory after victory, constantly pushing back the boundaries of depth and time.

"As my home is in Haute-Savoie and Annecy, I feel like I'm representing my region". With its Grands Fonds watch, the result of a long legacy of diving watches, ZRC's approach to water is completely consistent with Stéphane Tourreau's vision. "To have a history that includes serving the Marine Nationale and Commander Cousteau is impressive." This affinity of region and values has spurred Stéphane and ZRC on to a number of remarkable joint projects.

2015 achievements:

Second place in the World Cup in 95 m with constant weight, La Paz, November 2015

Fifth place in the AIDA Depth World Championships, Cyprus, September 2015

PARTNERSHIP

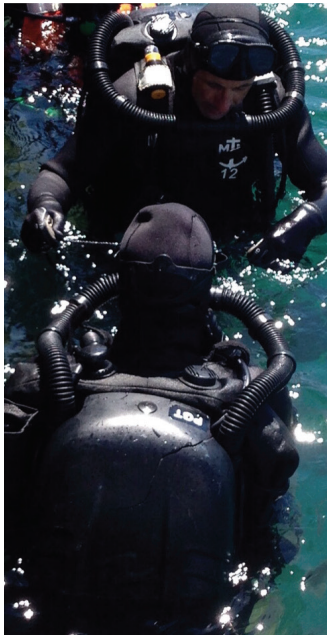
Division of Mediterranean Mine Clearance Divers' Groups' Group

In 2015, Zuccolo Rochet France signed a new partnership agreement with the Marine Nationale: the Grands Fonds 300 Re-issue became the official watch of the 60th anniversary of the Mediterranean Mine Clearance Divers' Group (GPD). This presented the opportunity to "test" the Grands Fonds 300 in real conditions at the Saint-Mandrier diving center.





June 26 2015.
Georges Brunet CEO of Zuccolo Rochet France
congratulating a Mine Clearance Diver.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To Patrick Brunet, President of Zuccolo Rochet from 1970 to 2004, son of Louis Brunet, founder of the Grands Fonds 300. As the living memory of this period, he enabled us to go back in time, put names to faces and share the extraordinary history of the ZRC Grands Fonds 300 with a wider audience.

To Claude Tauveron, retired Marine Nationale employee working in the Fleet Procurement department, whose invaluable assistance is to thank for numerous documents and anecdotes.

And all those who have helped us produce this work. We would like to thank you for all the time and passion you have contributed to the Grands Fonds 300



Georges Brunet, General Manager



Charles Brunet, General Manager



The adventure continues...



ZUCCOLO ROCHET FRANCE

Parc Altaïs - 6 rue Saturne - 74650 Chavanod - France
Tél. +33 (0) 450 691 725 - Fax. +33 (0) 450 693 387 - contact@zrc.fr - www.zrc.fr

