

PRIMARY TOUR, an experience in primary colours

September 2016 – Time is movement; time is changing. HAUTLENCE and Eric Cantona, its illustrious ambassador, understand this well: the VORTEX PRIMARY, a watchmaking masterpiece that marries beauty and technical excellence, exquisitely symbolises the movement and transformation of time. Unveiled in January 2016, the VORTEX PRIMARY was launched in Asia in the last week of September with the support of HAUTLENCE's local partners, as part of the PRIMARY TOUR.

With its three-dimensional case composed of faceted structures featuring 19 primary-colour crystals, the VORTEX PRIMARY beautifully showcases the mechanism of the HL2.0 in-house calibre, in perpetual motion, and the theme of passing time, embodied by its half-trailing hours chain. Each time the hour changes, the watch undergoes a metamorphosis. And in the changing light, the superimposed crystals transform the VORTEX PRIMARY's appearance. This theme is dear to Eric Cantona, who explains: "To survive, you have to adapt. To exceed the limits imposed on us by society or ourselves, we need to know how to surpass ourselves, to push further, to think and be different, to metamorphose. Time is the only inescapable constraint, and that's why our starting point was the idea of a cage for the case - to remind us that we are all physically imprisoned by time, but that our spirit remains free."

Inspired by a stained glass window, the case's construction reveals the heart of the timepiece in its mysterious beauty. The primary colours chosen for the case are also highly symbolic, representing complete freedom through their ability to create any shade when mixed. "Time and death are intimately linked. The VORTEX PRIMARY reflects life and death, imprisonment and freedom, metamorphosis and colour," concludes Eric Cantona.

To celebrate the launch of this unique piece, HAUTLENCE invited a small number of special guests and members of the press to a primary colour-themed event. The occasion was marked by the unveiling of an Eric Cantona artwork, which reinterprets the VORTEX PRIMARY design in the form of a vertical sculpture composed of plexiglas panels in the primary colours. The artwork was created in three versions - each a unique piece in its own right - and exhibited in Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Jakarta. The three works were given to the first lucky owners of a VORTEX PRIMARY.



HAUTLENCE

Founded in 2004, HAUTLENCE – whose name itself is an anagram of Neuchâtel – pays tribute to the birthplace of the watchmaking art. The brand has been praised by watch collectors and aficionados from across the world for bringing a new dynamism to the art of fine watchmaking.

It has 4 calibres designed and developed in-house, whilst also relying on external partners for the movements used in certain collections. As early as 2005, it unveiled the HL calibre, then, four years later, it was the turn of the HL^Q, immediately followed in 2010 by the brand's third calibre, the HL^C. Finally, 2011 saw the introduction of the high-flying HL2.0 movement in a variety of different versions. In strategic terms, HAUTLENCE can count on support from MELB Holding, which has been offering its experience and network since 2012, with the synergies between HAUTLENCE and the group sure to grow.

HAUTLENCE has pushed the boundaries of traditional watchmaking codes, by drawing on its roots and uniting them with innovative mechanical solutions borrowed from other industrial universes filled with references from the worlds of architecture and design. This has inspired the brand to create new approaches to displaying the time, guaranteeing its place in the annals of watchmaking history. Ever conscious of the two key dimensions of time and space, and wishing to create a functional relationship with beauty, HAUTLENCE invents timepieces with completely new contours and depths. The brand aims to ensure respect for every stage and every party involved in production when it creates and designs.

Its rebellious approach to watchmaking is perfectly illustrated by the brand's chosen ambassador, Eric Cantona, and by its powerful message "CROSS THE LINE".

The "HORLOGERIE SUISSE" mark

HAUTLENCE timepieces are created and produced according to the very highest tradition of Swiss watchmaking, and their case backs are stamped with the legend "Horlogerie Suisse". In fact, with the exception of the straps, some high-tech components and the sapphire crystals, all the components have been developed, produced, decorated and assembled in Switzerland, in the Neuchâtel and Jura mountains.

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VORTEX PRIMARY by Eric Cantona

MODEL SUMMARY	HAUTLENCE HL2.0 in-house calibre including gear train and automatic winding system. Half-trailing hours displayed by a chain, retrograde minutes, mobile bridge-type calibre.
DISPLAY	Hours, retrograde minutes and power reserve indicator.
CALIBRE	Description of the movement: 2 barrels: one going train barrel (power reserve for the entire watch calibre including power for the second complication barrel) and a complication barrel. Hours displayed by a 12-link chain hinged on a pallet system. The speed regulator ensures that the hours display changes smoothly over a period of 3-4 seconds. It completes 48 revolutions at each hour change. Hours system activated by a one-revolution mechanism mainly composed of a connecting rod and a rack. Mobile bridge-type calibre comprising the regulating organ and rotating through 60° at each change of hour. Movement kinematics featuring 90° changes of direction by means of special bevelled gears. Automatic calibre with oscillating weight in 18-carat white gold. This innovative calibre is protected by 3 HAUTLENCE patents. Movement dimensions: 37.8 x 33.2 x 12.35 mm; Manufacturing technology: multi-axis micro-machining, wire EDM. LIGA photolithography; Number of components: 552; Power reserve: 40 hours; Regulating organ: 18,000 vibrations per hour; Number of jewels: 92; Finishing: fine-watchmaking type (satin-brushed, hand-drawn, hand-bevelled, charcoal grey ruthenium coating and mirror-polished steel elements); Identification and numbering plate: HLR2 PRIMARY xx/18
CASE	Case: Grade 5 titanium with black PVD coating Horns: Grade 5 titanium with black PVD coating, offset, screwed in; Crown: Grade 5 titanium, satin-brushed with black PVD coating, polished with micro- machined HAUTLENCE logo; Crystals: 5 transparent sapphires; 2 semi-transparent sapphires; 4 red ruby crystals; 5 blue spinel crystals; 3 yellow corundum crystals. Alternating finishes: sand-blasted, satin-brushing and polishing; Horn and case back screws: Grade 5 titanium with black PVD; Dimensions: 52 x 50 x 17.8 mm; Weight: 48 grams.
DIAL	Minutes displayed on the case crystal. No dial. Hour indices: metal underplate with black galvanic rhodium-plated coating and hour numerals in white Super-Lumi-Nova®; Minute hand: galvanic rhodium-plated coating with red varnished tip; Power reserve hand: steel with red varnished indicator
STRAP	Straps: Black Louisiana alligator leather, domed, rubber, large square scales, hand-sewn rolled-edge; Black rubber; red rubber; blue rubber; yellow rubber; white rubber. Spring bars for strap changes and screwdriver; Folding clasp: grade 2 titanium with satin-brushed steel plate.
WATER RESISTANCE	I ATM
LIMITED EDITIONS	18 timepieces

