
IWC INTRODUCES A NEW TOP GUN LINE WITH INNOVATIVE CASE MATERIALS

Schaffhausen, 14th January 2019 – at the Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie (SIHH) in Geneva, IWC Schaffhausen will be unveiling a new TOP GUN line in the Pilot's Watches collection. The Pilot's Watch Double Chronograph TOP GUN Ceratanium is the first pilot's watch from IWC with a Ceratanium® case. The material developed by IWC is as lightweight and robust as titanium and at the same time as hard and scratch-resistant as ceramic. IWC will also be presenting the first watch case made from sand-coloured ceramic.

The TOP GUN watches, which IWC has been producing since 2007, take their name from the U.S. Navy Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor program. This training programme provides the best Navy pilots with flying and tactical training. Naval aviation requires incredible skill. When manoeuvring in tight curves, for example, both the pilots and the aircraft are subjected to maximum acceleration forces. Spending months at a time on an aircraft carrier also takes its toll on personnel and material. The TOP GUN watches are therefore specially designed with robust materials, such as ceramic and titanium, to meet the specific requirements of elite jet pilots. The matte black ceramic case, for example, ensures that pilots are not distracted by sunlight reflecting off their watches during the flight. The hard and scratch-resistant ceramic is perfectly suited to daily use in a confined aircraft cockpit and can also withstand extreme G-forces. Ceramic and titanium are also extremely corrosion-resistant and can withstand humid, salty sea air.

"In the new TOP GUN line, we are using Ceratanium® for a pilot's watch for the first time. This material developed by IWC combines the excellent material properties of titanium and ceramic. This has enabled us to create a completely black design, without a coating, for all watch components such as push-buttons or pin buckles.

With the first watch case made from sand-coloured ceramic, which perfectly matches the uniforms worn by pilots in the U.S. Navy, we are also demonstrating IWC's high level of material expertise," explains Christoph Grainger-Herr, CEO of IWC Schaffhausen.

THE TOP GUN LINE COMPRISES THE FOLLOWING MODELS:

The **Pilot's Watch Double Chronograph TOP GUN Ceratanium** (Ref. IW371815) is the first IWC Pilot's Watch made from Ceratanium®.



- Ceratanium® case, black dial, black hands, black rubber strap

Developed by IWC, Ceratanium® is a material that combines the advantages of titanium and ceramic in a groundbreaking new composition. The patented material is as lightweight and unbreakable as titanium and at the same time as hard and scratch-resistant as ceramic. It is also characterised by its excellent skin compatibility, its high degree of corrosion-resistance and its matte black colour.

The base material for Ceratanium® is a special titanium alloy. The manufacturing process for this alloy involves multiple stages and is extremely complex, as the raw material must have an extremely high degree of purity. The blank is initially machined to give the various case components their final shape. This is followed by a furnace process. During this process, oxygen diffuses into the material, a phase transformation takes place and the surface of the metal becomes ceramic. With this special surface finishing, the material not only takes on the typical properties of ceramic such as extreme hardness and scratch resistance, but also develops its striking, matte black colour.

In contrast to conventional coating procedures used today such as DLC, which can separate from the carrier or flake off, the ceramic surface of Ceratanium® adheres permanently to the material. As well as its optimum material properties, what characterises Ceratanium® is its matte black colour. It therefore also fulfilled customers' desire for a completely jet black watch at the start of the five-year development process. For the first time, Ceratanium® will be used for a pilot's watch in the new TOP GUN collection and it will also be the first time IWC has used this material for an unlimited watch. In the Pilot's Watch Double Chronograph TOP GUN Ceratanium (Ref. IW371815), all case components, including the chronograph pushbuttons or the pin buckle, are made from Ceratanium®. This gives the watch a completely jet black design.

The double chronograph has an integrated split-seconds hand mechanism for simultaneously measuring two short periods of time. It is powered by the 79420 calibre with self-winding and boasts a power reserve of 44 hours.

The **Pilot's Watch Chronograph TOP GUN Edition "Mojave Desert"** (Ref. IW389103) is the first watch with a case made from sand-coloured ceramic. This reference is limited to 500 pieces.



- Sand-coloured ceramic case, dark brown dial, sand-coloured hands, sand-coloured rubber strap with textile inlay

The sand-coloured ceramic is inspired by the Mojave Desert, home to the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake – the largest land area of the U.S. Navy. The colour perfectly matches the uniforms worn by Navy pilots and is the result of a combination of zirconium oxide with other metallic oxides. The chronograph is powered by the 69380 IWC-manufactured calibre. The chronograph movement with a classic column wheel design has both a chronograph function and a display for the day and date. The pawl-winding system, which winds up on both sides, boasts a power reserve of 46 hours.

In the **Pilot's Watch Chronograph TOP GUN** (Ref. IW389101), IWC has integrated an IWC-manufactured movement from the 69000 calibre family into its pilot's watches for the first time.



- Black ceramic case, black dial, black hands, black textile strap

The 69380 IWC-manufactured calibre has both a chronograph function and a display for the day and date. The minutes are shown on the subdial at "12 o'clock" and the hours are shown at "9 o'clock". The red hand showing the small seconds at "6 o'clock" adds a splash of colour to the black dial with white numbers and indexes.

The **Pilot's Watch Automatic TOP GUN** (Ref. IW326901) features an IWC-manufactured movement from the new 32000 calibre family.



- Black ceramic case, black dial, black hands, black textile strap

The 32110 IWC-manufactured calibre is a robust automatic movement that boasts a power reserve of 72 hours. With a diameter of 41 millimetres and a black ceramic case, the watch fits perfectly on any wrist.

Ceratanium® is a trademark of IWC Schaffhausen, registered in numerous countries throughout the world.

IWC SCHAFFHAUSEN

With a clear focus on technology and development, the Swiss watch manufacturer IWC Schaffhausen has been producing timepieces of lasting value since 1868. The company has gained an international reputation based on a passion for innovative solutions and technical ingenuity. One of the world's leading brands in the luxury watch segment, IWC crafts masterpieces of Haute Horlogerie at their finest, combining supreme precision with exclusive design. As an ecologically and socially responsible company, IWC is committed to sustainable production, supports institutions around the globe in their work with children and young people, and maintains partnerships with organisations dedicated to environmental protection.

DOWNLOADS

Images of the new TOP GUN models are available free of charge at press.iwc.com

MORE INFORMATION

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PILOT'S WATCH DOUBLE CHRONOGRAPH TOP GUN CERATANIUM

REF. IW371815

FEATURES

Mechanical chronograph movement – Date and day display – Chronograph function for hours, minutes and seconds – Split-seconds hand for intermediate timing – Small hacking seconds – Soft-iron inner case for protection against magnetic fields – Screw-in crown – Glass secured against displacement by drops in air pressure

MOVEMENT

Calibre	79420
Frequency	28,800 vph / 4 Hz
Jewels	29
Power reserve	44 h
Winding	Automatic

WATCH

Materials	Ceratanium® case, black dial, black hands, black rubber strap
Crystal	Sapphire, arched edge, anti-reflective coating on both sides
Water-resistance	6 bar
Diameter	44 mm
Height	16.8 mm

PILOT'S WATCH CHRONOGRAPH TOP GUN EDITION "MOJAVE DESERT"

REF. IW389103

FEATURES

Mechanical chronograph movement – Date and day display – Chronograph function for hours, minutes and seconds – Small hacking seconds – Soft-iron inner case for protection against magnetic fields – Screw-in crown – Glass secured against displacement by drops in air pressure – Limited to 500 watches

MOVEMENT

IWC-manufactured calibre	69380
Frequency	28,800 vph / 4 Hz
Jewels	33
Power reserve	46 h
Winding	Automatic

WATCH

Materials	Sand-coloured ceramic case, titanium case back, dark brown dial, sand-coloured hands, sand-coloured rubber strap with textile inlay
Crystal	Sapphire, arched edge, anti-reflective coating on both sides
Water resistance	6 bar
Diameter	44.5 mm
Height	15.7 mm

PILOT'S WATCH CHRONOGRAPH TOP GUN

REF. IW389101

FEATURES

Mechanical chronograph movement – Date and day display – Chronograph function for hours, minutes and seconds – Small hacking seconds – Soft-iron inner case for protection against magnetic fields – Screw-in crown – Glass secured against displacement by drops in air pressure

MOVEMENT

IWC-manufactured calibre	69380
Frequency	28,800 vph / 4 Hz
Jewels	33
Power reserve	46 h
Winding	Automatic

WATCH

Materials	Ceramic case, titanium case back, black dial, black hands, black textile strap
Crystal	Sapphire, arched edge, anti-reflective coating on both sides
Water-resistance	6 bar
Diameter	44.5 mm
Height	15.7 mm

PILOT'S WATCH AUTOMATIC TOP GUN

REF. IW326901

FEATURES

Mechanical movement – Date display – Central hacking seconds – Soft-iron inner case for protection against magnetic fields – Screw-in crown – Glass secured against displacement by drops in air pressure

MOVEMENT

IWC-manufactured calibre	32110
Frequency	28,800 vph / 4 Hz
Jewels	21
Power reserve	72 h
Winding	Automatic

WATCH

Materials	Ceramic case, titanium case back, black dial, black hands, black textile strap
Crystal	Sapphire, arched edge, anti-reflective coating on both sides
Water-resistance	6 bar
Diameter	41 mm
Height	11.4 mm