

Develier (Jura), 21st November 2019 - Décovi has been making oscillating weights for the largest brands for 10 years.

As the beating heart of the automatic calibre, the oscillating weight plays an active role in the autonomous and individual movement magic of every watch. A unique component that is part of the wonderful Jura history of Décovi.

The story begins in 2009. Décovi had been asked to machine tungsten, a material that is difficult to work and extremely complex to decorate. *'We accepted the challenge and after a few weeks, we were machining pieces of tungsten that were starting to look like oscillating weights'*, remembers Claude Chèvre, Managing Director of Décovi.

There is nothing straightforward and easy about machining these types of heavy metal weights. But Décovi loves innovating. *'We very soon realised that we needed to rethink everything.* From clamping the pieces, to cutting speeds, through tailored techniques or robotised loading, the procedures were optimised and automated more extensively in order to produce these weights.'

In making these innovations, it was important not to lose sight of the key point: oscillating weights are one of the most visible components of the movement, especially since brands have adopted the custom of offering open watchcase backs. Hence the importance of focusing on the look and finish of the weight.

This is where Décovi's know-how and innovating energy comes into play. Initially, the Acrotec Group focused exclusively on turning, milling and deburring operations. And then, Décovi added decorations (snailing, Côtes de Genève stripes, graining, satin finishing, surface finishing, varnishing and pad printing), laser etching, the addition of colour and, more recently, of ball-bearing assemblies on the weights.

And today, Décovi offers an oscillating weight finished entirely according to the factory's wishes at competitive prices, thanks to the volume handled and highly advanced automation. *'The biggest Swiss watchmaking brands entrust to us the production, engraving and decoration of these oscillating weights. We supply more than two hundred models of weights to around one hundred factories'*, explains Claude Chèvre.

This performance is made possible by the some one hundred employees at Décovi, who work continuously at more than 100 computer numerical control (CNC) machines, some of which have been designed with the manufacturer in order to meet the specific production requirements of the Jura-based company, from prototyping to serial manufacture. *'We produce approximately 1,000,000 pieces per year which go on to bear the "Swiss Made" label. This success is the reward for ten years of effort and a unique know-how that contributes to the strength of Swiss watchmaking'*, concludes Claude Chèvre.

For more information, please contact:

Mr Stephan Post - Tel.: +41 (0)22 308 62 34 - E-mail:

spo@dynamicsgroup.ch

About Décovi SA:

Based in Vicques (Valterbi, Jura), Décovi SA has been operating in the field of screw-machining for more than 70 years. Certified ISO 9001:2015, ISO 13485:2016 and 14001:2015, with a park of more than 150 latest-generation CNC machines relying on the skills of hundreds of Décovi employees, it produces parts for the watchmaking, medical and aeronautical industries, and the industrial sector in general. Complementing its screw-machining activities, the company also produces complex milled parts on 3, 4 and 5-axis machines. Thanks to its experience and know-how, the company has become a vital stakeholder in Switzerland.

www.decovi.ch

About the Acrotec Group:

Acrotec is an independent group created by micromechanics professionals. Its main objective is to be a leading subcontractor, offering a wide range of precision component manufacturing processes. Its strategy is to provide Swiss Made quality products both to the entire watch-making industry and to the automotive, electronics, medical, jewellery and aerospace sectors. Acrotec stands out with its range of know-how exercised under one roof, in precision machining (CNC turning, CNC multi-spindle turning, cam cutting, 3 & 5-axis milling, micro-cutting, transfer and machining of precious metals), with its support processes (surface treatment, cutting, assembly, heat treatment, decoration and laser engraving) and its specific processes (UV-Liga component production, wire/sinking erosion, synthetic stone machining, rolling, spring shaping, production of machines and tools and DRIE etching on silicon). The Group currently has more than eight hundred employees. www.acrotec.ch/en/