

Pressrelease for free and immediate publication

From dream to reality

On the occasion of the unveiling of PlanetSolar, the world's largest solar-powered boat, Candino warmly applauds the whole project team. As principal partner in this unique eco-adventure, the Swiss watch brand reaffirms its support and its confidence and announces the presentation of timepieces specially created for PlanetSolar at Baselworld 2010.

Bienne, 25 February 2010 – The day we've been looking forward to has arrived! On Thursday 25 February 2010 PlanetSolar was unveiled under the marveling eyes of the public, journalists and sponsors in its boathouse at the Kiel boatyard in Germany. The impressive solar-powered catamaran had been under construction there for a little over a year. A major success and a symbol of hope for all those who had firmly believed in the project from its beginnings.

As main partner and official timekeeper of PlanetSolar, Candino is keen to play an active part in sustainable development. "The key to the future lies in a universal awareness and a body of thought and research as to the means of achieving real and harmonious growth", says Jean-Marc Guillod, commercial manager of Festina-Candino Watch SA.

With its policy of charging fair prices for its products, Candino also has in mind the sustainability angle. The unique collection developed by Candino for PlanetSolar will respect this philosophy of an attractive quality-price relationship. The first models dedicated to the project will be presented at the preview at Baselworld 2010. These consist of one edition of six quartz models, another of six automatic watches, as well as a limited series.

Next steps: As soon as weather conditions allow, PlanetSolar will be launched. Then will come the tour of Europe, which will enable the initial tests to be carried out under real conditions. Its round-the-world tour is planned for Spring 2011 leaving from the Mediterranean. For its part, Candino is using a simple function that will enable the cardinal points to be located in accordance with the position of the sun. A helpful function that will adorn the next models in its "PlanetSolar" collection.