

RC44 celebrates its 10 years with HYT alongside



« Some people offer flowers, some people offer cakes at birthday. We thought we'd develop a new H4 for Russell ».

HYT and Russell Coutts are not only partners. Since 2015 the creator of the RC44 monohull is present on all the seas hoisting their synergies for all to see. HYT is the only hydro mechanical watch and the natural partner for this monohull that is so prestigious that it has its own RC44 Championship Tour.

It is the 10 year anniversary of these races that HYT would like to hail. The RC44 Class was born in 2006 and recognised by the International Sailing Federation, the RC44 Class had teams participating in the RC44 Championship Tour from 2007 onwards. The competition is known as one of the most difficult but also as one of the friendliest and it is this spirit of endurance and comradery that HYT would like to pay tribute to in particular.

A case built like a monohull

The new H4 RC44 unites all the maritime codes of this race: blue liquid, technical design, the same colour codes of the regatta and an ultra-light carbon case like the RC44's hull. And the last detail that we will only see at HYT: A seconds wheel that emulates the golden bar that the monohull raises when it is winning.

In terms of finishing, the H4 RC44 is in skeletonised mode. A transparent sapphire disc displays the minutes with a central black minute hand. At 2pm the dial also hosts the power reserve indicator that is divided into 4 segments and displays the 65 hours of autonomy.

The translucent capillary travels around the exterior of the watch hosting a deep blue liquid, a first for the H4 collection and evocative of the blue of the sea. HYT ensured that the H4 RC44 remains highly visible at night due to a luminescent coating of SuperLumiNova® under the capillary that indicates the hour's path and that shines brightly in the dark.

A piece designed with the same sense of harmony and the same drive for performance

The grey anthracite tones of the carbon case are found again in the bezel that displays the titanium DLC insignia at 6pm, emblematic of HYT. The crown is made of the same DLC and sheathed in rubber. Its screw down mechanism ensures it remains waterproof at 50 meters.

The RC44's strap received the same attention. It is made of NOMEX, a high performance synthetic fibre designed to be used in extreme conditions. Composed of Kelvar fibres, NOMEX can be found in certain sailing hulls and used particularly for its ability to form highly resistant honeycomb structures.

10 years ago the RC44 Series didn't exist and neither did HYT. Working completely independently both projects have forged new paths, introduced new models using new technologies that go above and beyond previously defined limits. The H4 RC44 pays perfect homage to this pioneering philosophy.

Technical specifications

Case : 3DTP™ carbon

- diameter: 51 mm
- height: 17.9 mm
- rubber sheathed screw-down DLC titanium crown
- DLC titanium dome at 6 o'clock
- convex sapphire crystal with anti-reflective coating on the dial side
- screw-down sapphire case-back
- water resistant to 50 metres.

Functions : blue retrograde fluidic hour, minute and seconds

Movement : skeleton mechanical hand-wound movement, HYT exclusive calibre

- 28,800 vib/h, 4 Hz, 35 jewels
- bridges hand-bevelled and adorned with Côtes de Genève, rhodium-plated bellows
- 65-hour power reserve

Dial : unstructured, fluid hour display

- sapphire minute & seconds dial and power reserve, hours' path filled with Super-LumiNova®
- black minute indexes and numerals
- black hour dial, with grey numerals
- luminescent black minute hand
- regulator at 12 o'clock
- small seconds wheel at 9.30
- power reserve indicator at 2.30

Strap : black rubber base with integrated *NOMEX™* fabric centre, and black DLC titanium

Ref : 151-CB-03-BF-RN ; **10-piece limited edition**

HYT in a few words

HYT's Hydromechanical Horologists have turned fantasy into reality, mixing mechanics and liquid within a wristwatch. While addicted to non-conformism, these alchemists have drawn upon the strictest codes of fine watchmaking, and shattered them.

The principle

Two flexible reservoirs with a capillary attached at each end. In one, a coloured liquid; in the other, a transparent one. Keeping them apart is the repulsion force of the molecules in each fluid.

The hours are indicated by the coloured liquid released from a flexible reservoir compressed by a piston. These reservoirs, or bellows, are located at six o'clock and are made from a supple alloy. The first coloured liquid travels through the capillary pushing the transparent one back into its own reservoir and then returning to its original position at six o'clock in what is referred to as a retrograde manner.

The two reservoirs at 06:00. While the first compresses, the second expands, and the other way round, resulting in the movement of the liquid in the capillary. As the hours go by, the coloured liquid advances. The meniscus, in the shape of a half moon, marks the separation point with the other fluid in the tube, indicating the time. At 18:00, the coloured liquid comes back to its original position, going backwards.

The secret that gets the reservoirs going? Two bellows made of a highly resistant, flexible alloy, each driven by a piston. And this is where watchmaking comes in to activate the system.

HYT is continuing its all-encompassing quest for hybridisation by introducing its H2 in 2014, and the very new H3. This timepiece was born of a vision shared by the teams of HYT and Audemars Piguet Renaud & Papi overseen by Giulio Papi.

The founders & the CEO

Patrick Berdoz, Lucien Vouillamoz, Emmanuel Savioz, Vincent Perriard
Grégory Dourde (CEO)

HYT in a few figures

Objectives realized in 2015:

- Production: sale of 450 pieces
- 66 points of sale
- 13 novelties launched

2016 Pipeline Objectives:

- More than 80 points of sale
- 7 novelties will be launched in 2016
- Opening of the first HYT Boutique in Kuala Lumpur