



# HISTORY



## How it all started

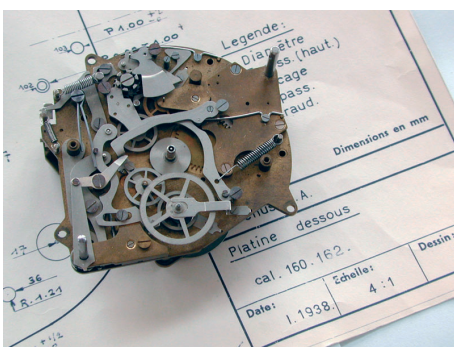
The origins of the EPOS Company date back to 1925. In that year, James Aubert formed his watch company in the Vallée de Joux, known as the centre of the mechanical watch world. James Aubert was an enthusiastic mechanical watch engineer, who dedicated his life to developing new watch mechanisms.

James Aubert was a master of his art and spent most of his efforts focusing on technical developments of chronographs and minute repeaters. He had first acquired his skills working as an engineer for the former watch movement manufacturers “Valjoux” and “Landeron”.

In the true watchmakers’ tradition, he handed down his knowledge to his nephew Jean Aubert and his son-in-law, Jean Fillon, who is still today the EPOS’ watch engineer in chief. In his workshop many of EPOS’ own developments for complicated watches were created in close cooperation with EPOS watchmakers. A few that could be named are the jumping hour, the power reserve indication, the big date, the regulator and the regulator with the phases of the moon.



*James Aubert (1884-1939),  
watch engineer and founder of  
James Aubert SA*



*Watchmaking work from James  
Aubert's workshop*



*James Aubert SA in the Vallée de  
Joux in the Swiss Jura*



*Landeron 39: Chronograph  
Movement according to James  
Aubert's plans*

## Company Formation

In the early 80s, the success story of the traditional Swiss watch came to a standstill. The new quartz technology radically changed the face of the watch industry. Nobody wanted to produce mechanical watches any longer, with the notable exception of a few luxury brands.

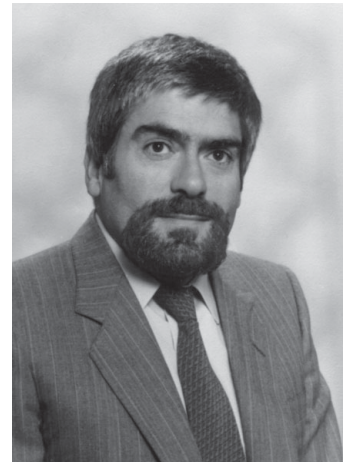
Peter Hofer, a long-established expert in Swiss watchmaking, was one of the few who still believed in the future of the mechanical watch. With this vision, he and his wife Erna decided to form their own company in 1983: Montres EPOS SA. Their main assets were a passion for mechanical watches and a technical know-how in this field.

Personal contacts with key people in watch workshops both in the Jura Mountains and the Vallée de Joux, as well as a vast knowledge of the global watch market, enabled Peter Hofer to quickly develop his own brand. From the very beginning, EPOS has been a mechanical brand with interesting innovations. For 20 years he remained faithful to his vision, developing stunning collections incorporating fascinating mechanisms, always in close cooperation with Jean Fillon.

In 2002 Peter Hofer looked for a successor who shared his passion for mechanical watches and was willing to take over and develop the EPOS business. Ursula Forster, who came from a watchmakers' family, and her husband Tamdi, who also had great experience in the Swiss watchmaking industry, seemed to be the ideal solution.



*Ursula Forster – President of  
Montres Epos SA*



*Mr. Peter Hofer – Founder of  
Montres Epos SA*



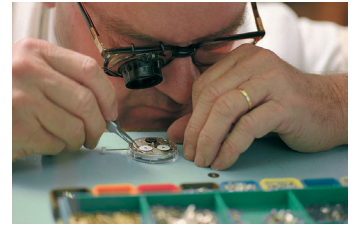
*Building of Montres Epos SA in  
Bienne, Switzerland.*

## Swiss perfection in every detail

Switzerland has gained a unique worldwide reputation over centuries, thanks to the pioneering spirit and sense of perfection of its watchmakers. EPOS' mission is to be a guardian of these traditional values and high standards. EPOS watches are designed and developed with passion, manufactured with precision in the Jura Mountains and the Vallée de Joux workshops, and assembled with care in Grenchen, areas which have always been the most famous in the watchmaking heritage.

The heart of each EPOS watch is its mechanical movement. The basic mechanisms come from renowned Swiss manufacturers, which are then transformed by the EPOS watchmakers, who add special functions and stunning decorations. The new creations manufactured in Jean Fillon's workshop, James Aubert SA, are based on historical vintage movements, which are no longer in production. Once completed, the movement is very carefully decorated, often by hand. Nearly all the EPOS models are equipped with a crystal caseback to allow its owner to admire the work. As a result, EPOS collections are greatly sought after by collectors and watch lovers.

EPOS offers high-quality mechanical watches with interesting functions but still at an affordable price. Finished with loving care, according to the traditional Swiss watchmakers' heritage, they deserve to be called „Artistry in Watchmaking“.



*An EPOS watchmaker hand-crafting a Calibre UT 6497-1.*



*A special characteristic of many EPOS models is their well decorated movements: pearl-finish, “Côtes de Genève”, engraving and blued steel screws – the pride and joy of every watch lover.*

## Epos innovations

EPOS is especially proud of its in-house innovations. For instance, special functions such as the power reserve indication, the big date or the regulator with the phases of the moon were developed in Jean Fillon's workshop, James Aubert SA. Such complicated mechanisms require considerable watchmaking skills, which turn each watch into a work of art.

These in-house creations are made constructed either on basic calibres from Unitas or on the no longer produced movements from Peseux. Finally, the movement finish is individually made and often includes a hand-made engraving.



*EPOS-Development of a regulator module with the phases of the moon on Calibre P. 7046*



*EPOS-Development of a big-date module on Calibre UT 6497*



*Jean Fillon in his workshop, constructing the EPOS regulator with the phases of the moon.*



## Milestones and Highlights

- 1987** Reintroduction of skeleton manual winding model on Calibre P. 7040 and UT 6497
- 1988** Development of a regulator module on Calibre P. 7046
- 1989** Development of a power reserve indication on Calibre P. 7046
- 1990** Reintroduction of skeleton automatic winding model on Calibre ETA 2892-2 (1)
- 1991** Development of a regulator module with the phases of the moon on Calibre P. 7046
- 89-92** Development of the Hundertwasser pocket watch in collaboration with Edition MANUS (2)
- 1997** Development of a full calendar with the phases of the moon module on Calibre UT 6497
- 2000** Development of a big date on Calibre UT 6497 (3)
- 2002** Development of a date-pointer and small second hand at 8 o'clock on Calibre ETA 2824 (4)
- 2003** Reintroduction ref. 3340 Edition Antiquité with historical 8-day movement with new case (5)
- 2004** Winner of the „Goldenen Unruh“ for ref. 3340 Edition Antiquité (5)
- 2005** Introduction of ref. 3375 “One Minute Flying Tourbillon” (6)

