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# Counterfeiting

Because of its prestige and reputation, the field of horology is particularly prone to counterfeiting. Despite the efforts taken and controls implemented to combat this phenomenon, it causes substantial losses for the horological sector, and some counterfeit timepieces can be found on the market.

In a service centre such as P-Watch, 2 to 3 % of the timepieces processed prove to be counterfeit.

How are they detected? What becomes of these timepieces?

The watchmaker or clockmaker's experience is crucial for this type of appraisal.

They can detect a crude counterfeit just by casting their eye over the bracelet, case and dial of a watch.

If a more elaborate counterfeit is suspected, the watchmaker can make their decision by comparing the criteria and constituent parts of the timepiece - the quality of the product and materials, the movement parts, the presence of the original documents (certificate and warranty card) - against the brand's benchmark criteria.

If P-Watch confirms that a timepiece is counterfeit, it is our duty to inform its owner, since they are responsible for deciding what they want to do with it, and whether to inform the brand concerned.

If some uncertainty remains, and P-Watch cannot decide, the timepiece may be sent to the brand for verification (with the owner's consent), bearing in mind that if the timepiece concerned is proven to be counterfeit, the brand is entitled to keep and destroy it.