Subject: Techni Quadron

Posted by Jenneke on Sat, 10 Jun 2023 18:39:17 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Model name: Techni-Quadron (import 222)

Type: wristwatch

Period/date: 1929-1935

Gender: male

Case Maker: ?

Case Material: 0.900 silver Case Serial: 405025

Case Style no: - Alpina Gruen

Caliber: 877S

Movement Maker: Aegler Movement Serial: 1839128

Bracelet: vintage Monopol strap with stepped clasp

File Attachments

1) 51323C77-89D2-4B91-AB0D-17B4A0116CC5.jpeg, downloaded 1522 times



2) 4F60AF88-FAF5-40C5-B46D-4F8A3A2BED3A.jpeg, downloaded 2603 times



3) EB01E4BB-2019-41A2-8B6F-2458427F52D6.jpeg, downloaded 2657 times



4) 0811687B-E526-4232-9239-2A1673573E9F.jpeg, downloaded 2660 times



5) 9F2DA441-F910-4913-90B2-8B70C48B4822.jpeg, downloaded 2624 times



Subject: Re: Techni Quadron Posted by Jenneke on Sat, 10 Jun 2023 18:45:38 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Truth has to be said, it didnt start this way.

The dial did have radium on it from first owner. Technician working in the dark?

And... the original case is this:

Case Maker: wadsworth?
Case Material: 10k gold filled

Case Serial: 2444894 Case Style no: -

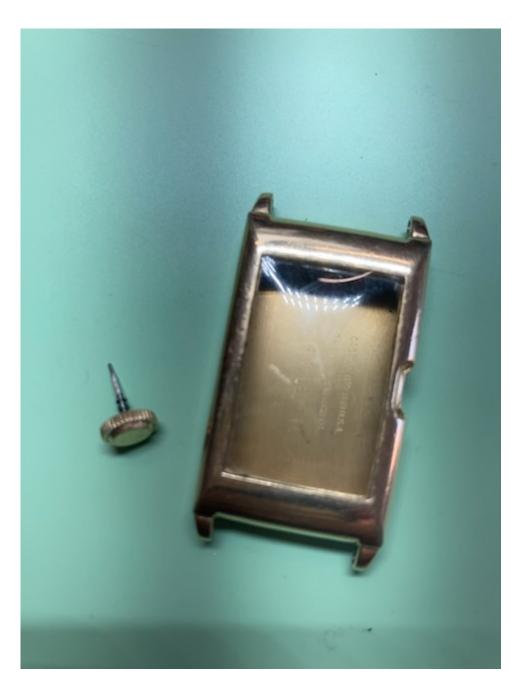
The dial has a patent from Fred Gruen:

And the movement from Aegler:

File Attachments

1) 571A2741-F457-4E9E-992E-2C7B1B603A6A.jpeg, downloaded 1714 times

Page 5 of 12 ---- Generated from Vintage Gruen



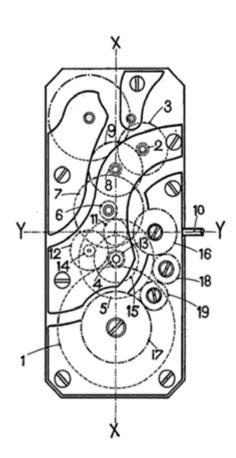
2) 47417DC5-B6F6-473A-A773-9BA2B4FC0051.jpeg, downloaded 1707 times



3) 024ACD3F-86C3-4772-A96E-8ABFD6F72217.jpeg, downloaded 1744 times



4) 799FA697-C46C-4D44-8C0A-8AAF8CF80677.jpeg, downloaded 1729 times

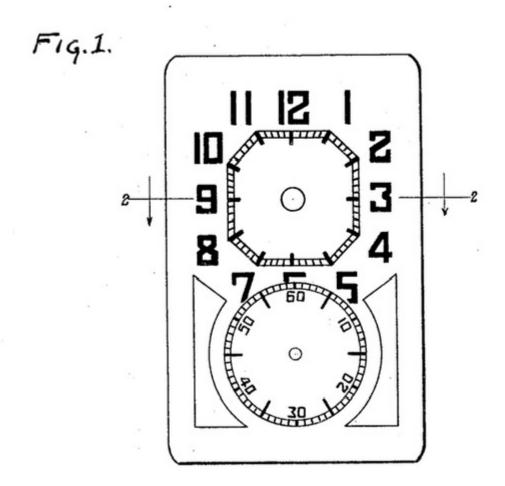


5) 152DD78E-2158-4892-BAD3-4B957AED1858.jpeg, downloaded 1720 times

F. G. GRUEN

WATCH DIAL

Filed May 20, 1929



Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by JackW on Sun, 11 Jun 2023 19:06:08 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Jenneke wrote on Sat, 10 June 2023 12:45

Case Maker: wadsworth?

The case markings are more consistent with being made in-house with Gruen.

Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by afire on Mon, 12 Jun 2023 18:03:42 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Personally I have no doubt that this is a Weber case. The serial number suggests as much and this is a style of case that Weber definitely made. Here's the same base case (rounded shell with incised lines) but with added crown guard elements in 14k that is marked Gruen-Weber:

I'm not in a position to say anything conclusively, but I now believe that aside from the occasional American gold filled cases exported to Alpina, Weber was Alpina's sole supplier of cases for the Alpina-Gruen line of watches. If it wasn't Weber exclusively, it was darned close.

Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by JackW on Mon, 12 Jun 2023 20:03:01 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Just to be clear.... I think the goldfilled case that was "original" was Gruen made. The marking "Cased and Timed" says to me that this was a US made case.

Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by Jenneke on Mon, 12 Jun 2023 20:46:06 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Quote: Here's the same base case (rounded shell with incised lines) but with added crown guard elements in 14k that is marked Gruen-Weber:

That looks stunning. Kinda, sorta was thinking the silver one was Weber. What I dont understand is why would they put weber inside the solid gold one and not in the silver one. Is there some trend?

Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by afire on Tue, 13 Jun 2023 14:47:59 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

JackW wrote on Mon, 12 June 2023 15:03Just to be clear.... I think the goldfilled case that was "original" was Gruen made. The marking "Cased and Timed" says to me that this was a US made case.

Got it. I was overlooking the original case.

Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by afire on Tue, 13 Jun 2023 15:32:03 GMT

Jenneke wrote on Mon, 12 June 2023 15:46Quote:Here's the same base case (rounded shell with incised lines) but with added crown guard elements in 14k that is marked Gruen-Weber: That looks stunning. Kinda, sorta was thinking the silver one was Weber. What I dont understand is why would they put weber inside the solid gold one and not in the silver one. Is there some trend?

There seems to be somewhat of a pattern, but nothing that I can really nail down with any certainty. You rarely, maybe even never, see the Gruen-Weber marking on a silver Alpina-Gruen case. You often, but not always, see the Gruen-Weber marking on solid gold Alpina-Gruen cases. I have two solid gold Alpina-Gruen Techni-Quadrons, one case is marked Alpina-Gruen, the other Gruen-Weber. But why?

The closest I can get to a rational hypothesis is this. If a run of cases was intended for potential dual use as both an Alpina-Gruen model and a Gruen Import model, they would be marked Gruen-Weber. If a run of cases was expected to be used strictly as an Alpina-Gruen model, then they would be marked Alpina-Gruen. This would also be a plauisble explanation for why silver cases never bear the Gruen-Weber marking. With one exception that I can think of (the brancard), Gruen didn't offer any silver Techni-Quadron models. So it would make sense that none of them have the Gruen-Weber marking if they were only used for Alpina-Gruen models.

Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by Jenneke on Wed, 14 Jun 2023 18:18:30 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Sounds plausible.

In my excel and online search all silver technoquadrons have gruen alpina.

Was silver less in vogue in america compared to europe? Or... silver is ok for simple case designs, but elaborate cases need to be gold or gold filled? And taste is europe had been more conservative.

Subject: Re: Techni Quadron

Posted by afire on Thu, 15 Jun 2023 15:40:06 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Jenneke wrote on Wed, 14 June 2023 13:18Was silver less in vogue in america compared to Europe?

I think the answer is undoubtedly yes. In the 1918 book, silver is still the usual choice for a less expensive wristwatch case. By the 1920s silver is almost entirely replaced by gold filled cases. And not just Gruen. Elgin, Hamilton, Waltham. Even Rolex in Canada. For some reason all of North America settled on gold fill while Europe continued to offer silver cases as the less expensive alternative to solid gold. What I'm unsure of is whether there is some regulatory explanation or if it was simply a matter of regional taste.

Dage 12 of 12 Concreted from Wintegs Crush