



Media Release

DKSH signs distribution agreement with Belgian watch brand Ressence in Japan

DKSH Business Unit Consumer Goods has partnered with Ressence, a Belgian watch brand to exclusively supply, market, sell and distribute Ressence products in Japan, effective January 1, 2019.

Tokyo, Japan, December 19, 2018 – Ressence was founded by an industry designer from Belgium, Benoît Mintiens, in 2010. Its watches are based on the philosophy "built on the expertise of yesterday, crafted with today's technology, designed for tomorrow." This comes from Benoît's unique background as a designer, which includes designs of cabins of bullet trains, aircrafts, medical equipment and other things. Ressence watches are designed functionally to be user-friendly, easy to read and comfortable to wear, according to Benoît's idea of "form follows function."

The starting point for the design is the question what people need in a watch. This reflection leads to the major design points: no overlapping clock hands, no crown, no brand logo, no quartz used and the pebble-like shape. On top of the sophisticated fluid design and disk to show the time, there is unconventional and innovative technology hidden in the Ressence products.

Benoît Mintiens, Founder of Ressence, commented: "I am very much looking forward to partnering with DKSH Japan. I believe people of Japan will like our products and philosophy."

Michael Loefflad, Representative Director and President of DKSH Japan, said: "We are delighted to be selected by Ressence as their exclusive partner for the Japanese market. The uniqueness of this distinguished watch manufacturer can be easily seen in their products, such as their never-before-seen visual effect – called water drop. We are convinced the Japanese market will enjoy the incomparable world of this fine watch brand designed in Belgium and made in Switzerland."

About RESSENCE

Ressence is founded by a Belgium industrial designer Benoit Mintiens in 2010. The brand name is made of Renaissance and Essence. It designs and engineers the watches in Antwerp, Belgium and produces and assembles them in unconventional method in Fleurier, Switzerland.

About DKSH

DKSH is the leading Market Expansion Services provider with a focus on Asia. As the term "Market Expansion Services" suggests, DKSH helps other companies and brands to grow their business in new or existing markets. Publicly listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 2012, DKSH is a global company headquartered in Zurich. With 825 business locations in 37 markets – 800 of them in Asia – and 31,970 specialized staff, DKSH generated net sales of CHF 11.0 billion in 2017. DKSH was founded in 1865. With strong Swiss heritage, the company has a long tradition of doing business in and with Asia and is deeply rooted in communities and businesses across Asia Pacific.

DKSH Business Unit Consumer Goods is Asia's leading Market Expansion Services provider with a focus on fast moving consumer goods, food services, luxury goods, fashion and lifestyle products as well as hair and skin cosmetics. The Business Unit's comprehensive Market Expansion Services extend from product feasibility studies and registration to importation, customs clearance, marketing and merchandising, sales, warehousing, capillary physical distribution, invoicing, cash collection and aftersales services. With 700 business locations in 22 markets and around 18,340 specialized staff, Business Unit Consumer Goods serves 310,000 retail outlets on a daily basis and generated net sales of CHF 3.6 billion in 2017.



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