

Watch Winders International

Stay on time



RDI Charles Kaeser - K10

24/11/2013

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@WatchWindersInternational



RDI Charles Kaeser is unusual in the winder industry for being entirely Swiss based. Whilst this may seem like an obvious location for all things horological, here at Watch Winders Int we have rarely had a chance to review units from that land-locked nation.

RDI have been around as a family run company since the early 2000's, initially producing other watch making accessories, such as packaging and tools. With this solid industry background, they now expand into the winder market with this single-header, stackable unit. Designed for being displayed rather than hidden away, and with distinctive and beautifully ornate 'legs', this winder stands out among comparable cubic pieces.



One of the most 'stand-out' aspects of this case is the craftsmanship. Whilst looking simple at first glance, there has clearly been considerable time and energy spent in design. The ratio of the winder portal, the diameter of the legs, and the compact depth of the unit are delightful. Put simply, this is a display piece whether alone or stacked as a column.

Linking winders to each other in order to cater for expanding watch collections is not a unique idea, however some manufacturers struggle to do so with finesse. All too often you are left with an individual winder which looks incomplete if purchased alone, or which does not connect satisfactorily to its companion piece. Not so here; specialist rings are available which can click to the top of the winder legs and allow another unit to rest on top. Whilst coming at a price (200 CHF), this is one of the most elegant and practical solutions we have seen.

Power is provided via two options; batteries or mains power. This is a smart choice for any manufacturer as it pays dividends to allow consumers to go cordless; especially with a piece which may want to remain front and center of a desk or display cabinet.

The motor itself is extremely quiet and can be programmed in 16 variations of Turns Per Day and multiple directions. The socket in which the timepiece rests comes with two different bracelets (large and medium) to allow for different watch sizes. It is a very neat, practical solution to holding and rotating the watch.

The real value to this winder is in the materials, detailing, and overall quality of manufacture. Our preference here at Watch Winders Int was for the stunning chiseled columns version with opulent leather cladding. However, there are other combinations available including a mix of black lacquered legs or body.

This piece is definitely not aimed at the budget buyer, nor at someone looking to secure their watches in a safe. With pricing for a single unit sitting squarely North of \$2,000 (USD) this is aimed at the extremely discerning collector. It would look fantastic as a display unit for a 'grail' watch; a presentation winder worthy of someone's hard-earned Patek or Lange & Söhne.

R.R.P = (USD) ~\$2,200

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