 InterDesign, Inc. (dphdocket@dpeterhochberg.com)
U.S. TRADEMARK APPLICATION NO. 77954696 - SWISS+TECH - IN4789US (#9

Sent: 12/5/2011 9:49:39 PM

To:

Subject:

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Attachments: Attachment - 1 Attachment - 2 Attachment - 3 Attachment - 4 Attachment - 5 Attachment - 6 Attachment - 7 Attachment - 8 Attachment - 9 Attachment - 10 Attachment - 11 Attachment - 12 Attachment - 13 Attachment - 14 Attachment - 15 Attachment - 16 Attachment - 17 Attachment - 18 Attachment - 19 Attachment - 20 Attachment - 21 Attachment - 22 Attachment - 23 Attachment - 24 Attachment - 25 Attachment - 26 Attachment - 27 Attachment - 28 Attachment - 29 Attachment - 30 Attachment - 31 Attachment - 32 Attachment - 33 Attachment - 34 Attachment - 35 Attachment - 36 Attachment - 37 Attachment - 38 Attachment - 39 Attachment - 40 Attachment - 41 Attachment - 42 Attachment - 43 Attachment - 44 Attachment - 45 Attachment - 46 Attachment - 47 Attachment - 48 Attachment - 49 Attachment - 50 Attachment - 51 Attachment - 52 Attachment - 53 Attachment - 54 Attachment - 55 Attachment - 56 Attachment - 57 Attachment - 58 Attachment - 59 Attachment - 60

77954696

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (USPTO) OFFICE ACTION (OFFICIAL LETTER) ABOUT APPLICANT'S TRADEMARK APPLICATION

CORRESPONDENT ADDRESS: DANIEL J SMOLA D PETER HOCHBERG CO LPA 1940 EAST 6TH STREET 6TH FLOOR CLEVELAND, OH 44114-2225

APPLICANT: InterDesign, Inc.

APPLICATION SERIAL NO.

MARK: SWISS+TECH

CORRESPONDENT'S REFERENCE/DOCKET NO: IN4789US (#9 **CORRESPONDENT E-MAIL ADDRESS:** dphdocket@dpcterhochberg.com

OFFICE ACTION

ISSUE/MAILING DATE: 12/5/2011



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THIS IS A FINAL ACTION.

The referenced application is currently the subject of an appeal with the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (Board). However, the Board has suspended action on the appeal and has remanded the application to the trademark examining attorney to consider specific facts or issues pertaining to the application. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.142(d), (f); TMEP §1504.05. In this case, the Board has requested that the following issue(s) be considered: whether, under Trademark Act Section 2(a), the goods are, or are related to, the traditional products of the place named in the mark, or are an expansion of the traditional products of the place named.

The trademark examining attorney has carefully reviewed applicant's request for remand. In the request for remand, applicant addresses the new issue by stating that the examiner has not established the goods are, or are related to, the traditional products of the place named in the mark, or are an expansion of the traditional products of the place named in the mark. However, this does not resolve the new issue because these arguments against the Section 2(a) refusal are not convincing.

In addition, applicant's request for remand does not resolve the other issues in final status because applicant has merely provided arguments and analysis that were raised previously. Therefore, the Section 2(a) refusal made in the final Office action that issued on February 21, 2011, remains outstanding.

Because applicant's request for remand does not resolve all outstanding refusals nor otherwise put the application in condition for publication or registration, the trademark examining attorney is holding all issues final, including the new issue raised in applicant's request for remand. *See* 37 C.F.R. §§2.64(a)-(b), 2.142(d); TMEP §715.04(b).

The following issues are in final status: the refusal to register the mark under Trademark Section 2(a) because it is geographically deceptive.

The Board has been notified to resume the appeal. See TMEP §715.04(b).

Section 2(a) Refusal Is Maintained and Continues

Application Background

The applicant applied on March 9, 2010, to register the mark SWISS+TECH, in standard characters, for use in connection with goods in International Class 8 based on use in commerce and on intent to use the mark. On July 6, 2010, the application was refused under Trademark Acts Sections 2(a) and 2(e)(3) as geographically deceptive and primarily geographically deceptively misdescriptive. Applicant was required to clarify the identification of goods and provide additional information about the mark and the goods. In a response filed on January 10, 2011, applicant submitted arguments against the refusals; provided information about the wording in the mark; submitted product information; and proposed amendments to the identification of goods. On February 21, 2011, the trademark examining attorney issued a final refusal under Section 2(a) and issued a final requirement to clarify the identification of goods.

On July 18, 2011, the application was reassigned to the undersigned examining attorney. On August 14, 2011, applicant appealed the final refusal and submitted a request for reconsideration of the final refusal in which it submitted arguments against the Section 2(a) refusal and proposed further amendments to the identification of goods. On September 13, 2011, the examining attorney denied the applicant's request

for reconsideration as to the Section 2(a) refusal. The examiner accepted applicant's amendments to the identification. The file was returned to the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board and the appeal proceedings resumed.

On November 11, 2011, the applicant requested that the application be remanded to the examining attorney to introduce additional evidence into the record. The request was granted, and the application was remanded to the examiner on November 15, 2011.

Applicant's Arguments in Request for Remand

The applicant contends that the denial of applicant's request for reconsideration presents a new issue in that it relies on the third part of the "materiality" test under Trademark Act Section 2(a), that is, whether the goods at issue are, are related to, or are an expansion of the traditional products of the place named in the mark. With regard to this issue, applicant has submitted arguments and evidence specifically addressing whether its goods are related to or are an expansion of the traditional products of Switzerland.

Applicant's primary contention with regard to the evidence attached to the denial of the request for reconsideration is that none of the website shows devices that are the same as those of applicant. Applicant argues that, rather, all the goods shown are pocket knives or goods that look like pocketknives regardless of whether a blade is included. Applicant submits that its goods, on the other hand, are "not pocket knives but rather a unique combination of hand tools and electronic devices which are attachable as a single unit to key rings and are compact to fit comfortably in a person's pocket." Applicant's Request for Remand, p. 18. Applicant has submitted additional evidence in order to show that its goods are not pocketknives.

These arguments are not convincing. To establish materiality, the evidence should show that (1) the place named in the mark is famous as a source of the goods at issue; (2) the goods in question are a principal product of the place named in the mark; or (3) the goods are, or are related to, the traditional products of the place named in the mark, or are an expansion of the traditional products of the place named in the mark. See California Innovations, 329 F.3d at 1340, 66 USPQ2d at 1857; In re Save Venice N.Y., Inc., 259 F.3d 1346, 1355, 59 USPQ2d 1778, 1784 (Fed. Cir. 2001); House of Windsor, 221 USPQ at 57; TMEP §1210.05(c)(i). In this case, the record makes clear that Switzerland is famous as a source of multi-function pocket tools, whether they contain knives or not, and is also famous as a source of precision tools; precision tools and electronics are principal products of Switzerland; and applicant's goods are multi-function pocket tools, are related to pocket knives, and are an expansion of pocket knives and precision tools. Specifically, the evidence shows that traditional pocketknives from Switzerland have expanded into a wide array of multi-function tools, including those with electronic devices and a variety of precision tools. Thus, consumer's who encounter applicant's goods offered under the applied-for mark are likely to believe that the goods originate in Switzerland. Given the reputation of multi-function tools, precision tools, and electronics from Switzerland, this belief will be material to the consumer's purchasing decision.

The applicant also argues that there is no evidence that its goods have been confused with Swiss-made goods and has attached a declaration of the CEO of applicant, attesting to his lack of awareness of any instance of anyone believing that the goods originate in Switzerland. However, the fact that applicant's CEO cannot document any actual instances of consumer's believing that its goods originate in Switzerland is of little probative value: applicant's CEO is not privy to what motivates the purchasing decisions of all of its customers.

The applicant has noted that the examining attorney did not provide complete information about the

source of the evidence attached to the denial of the request for reconsideration. The examining attorney apologizes for any inconvenience to the applicant. The examining attorney now attaches current identical or similar versions of the evidence for which complete information was allegedly not provided, together with full electronic links and the dates that the websites were accessed. See the following:

http://www.columbiagazetteer.org/main/ViewPlace/5/139471 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3431.htm (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.sears.com/shc/s/t_10153_12605?tName=multi-precisiontools.html&i_cntr=1323129069339 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.opticsplanet.net/victorinox-brand.html (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.opticsplanet.net/wenger-brand.html (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissmade.com/en/web/index.php?id=75 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissmade.com/95/precision (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/category/Category/Flash-Collection/1001? f=category&v=1/100/1001&m=add&

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/category/Category/Everyday/1002? f=category&v=1/100/1002&m=add& (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/category/Category/Do-It-Yourself/1004? f=category&v=1/100/1004&m=add& (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/product/Swiss-Army-Knives/Category/Do-It-Yourself/SwissTool/53800 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/product/Swiss-Army-Knives/Category/Do-It-Yourself/RescueTool/53900 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/product/Swiss-Army-Knives/Category/Outdoor/BSA-Swiss-Tool/54905 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/category/Category/Sports-Leisure/1007? f=category&v=1/100/1007&m=add& (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/product/Swiss-Army-Knives/Category/Sports-Leisure/GolfTool/53962 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/category/Category/Pocket-Tool-LED/1008? f=category&v=1/100/1008&m=add& (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/product/Swiss-Army-Knives/Category/Everyday/CyberTool-Lite/53969 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.swissarmy.com/us/category/Category/Victorinox-Tomo/1009?

<u>f=category&v=1/100/1009&m=add&</u> (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/titaniumline (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/1893-heritage-knife-16995 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/giant-knife-16999 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/evogrip (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/ranger (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/evowood-swiss-army-knives (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/spot-light-97-16925 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/do-it-yourself (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/toolchest-plus-16906 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/multitool-org-swissgrip-16954 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/sport (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/matterhorn-16994 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/evolution-biker-37 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengema.com/elite (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/cigar-cutter-with-scissors-16630 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/micro-tool-chest-16109 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.wengerna.com/why-wenger (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.gizmag.com/victorinox-slim-flash/19267/ (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.worldwide-usa.com/victorinoxflashflight16gbruby-p-124591.html (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.sportchalet.com/product/outdoor/knives+-+multi-tools/300494_3034572.do? sortby=priceDescend (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.cyclocamping.com/proddetail.asp? prod=swissbit&gdftrk=gdfV21985_a_7c361_a_7c4535_a_7cswissbit (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.buffalogapoutfitters.com/storefrontprofiles/processfeed.aspx? sfid=110172&i=244211663&mpid=7349&dfid=1 (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.amazon.com/Victorinox-53933-Swiss-Army-Whistle/dp/B000FNI22K (accessed

Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.lindstromtools.com/index.htm (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.lindstromtools.com/tools.htm (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.lindstromtools.com/tools_tweezers.htm (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.pxtools.ch/ENG/standards-ranges.htm (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.pxtools.ch/ENG/know-how.htm (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.pbtools.us/process.html (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://pbtoolsus.thomasnet.com/sitemap (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.rueger.ch/profile_en (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.planetarypower.com.au/inverters.htm (accessed Dec. 5, 2011);

http://www.freeenergyshop.eu/products/solar/solar-lighting-and-caravan-kits/solar-lightingpower-kit/ (accessed Dec. 5, 2011).

Evidence that is merely cumulative and is not significantly different from material previously submitted do *not* raise a new issue that requires the examining attorney to issue a new action. *In re GTE Education Services*, 34 USPQ2d 1478 (Comm'r Pats. 1994); TMEP §715.04(b).

In view of the foregoing, the refusal under Section 2(a) because the mark is geographically deceptive is maintained and continues to be made final.

/April A. Hesik/ Examining Attorney Law Office 113 (571) 272-4735 april.hesik@uspto.gov

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All informal e-mail communications relevant to this application will be placed in the official application record.

WHO MUST SIGN THE RESPONSE: It must be personally signed by an individual applicant or someone with legal authority to bind an applicant (i.e., a corporate officer, a general partner, all joint applicants). If an applicant is represented by an attorney, the attorney must sign the response.

PERIODICALLY CHECK THE STATUS OF THE APPLICATION: To ensure that applicant does not miss crucial deadlines or official notices, check the status of the application every three to four months using Trademark Applications and Registrations Retrieval (TARR) at <u>http://tarr.uspto.gov/</u>. Please keep a copy of the complete TARR screen. If TARR shows no change for more than six months, call 1-800-786-9199. For more information on checking status, see <u>http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/status/</u>.

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Administrative subdivisions: 26 cantons (states) with considerable autonomy. Political parties: Swiss People's Party (SVP), Social Democratic Party (SP), Free Democratic Party (FDP), Christian Democratic Party (CVP), and several smaller parties representing localities or views from extreme left to extreme right. Suffrage: In federal matters, universal over 18.

Economy

GDP (2010): \$475.8 billion (495.8 billion Swiss francs [CHF]). Government expenses (in GDP%, 2008): 38.3% (federal, cantonal, and local). Annual growth rate (2010): 2.6%. Unemployment (March 2011): 3.4%. Per capita income (2010 est): \$66,367. Avg. inflation rate: 0.7% (2010); 1.1% (2011 est). Natural resources: Water power, timber, sait. Agriculture (1% of GDP): *Products*-dairy (21%), livestock (25%), grains (4%), fruit and wine (10%), and vegetables (14%). Arable land (1999)~26%. Industry (est, 29% of GDP): *Types*-machinery, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, time pieces, precision instruments, lextiles and clothing, pigment, transportation equipment. Services (70% of GDP). Hade: werchanose expone (2010)-3130 binton (oncharexchange rate), roud, beverages, and tobacco (4%; +8%) metal and chemical industries (44%; +10%), precision instruments (15%; +18%); watches +27%), machinery and electronics (22%; +12%); clothing (1.5%; -3%).
 Major markets-Eu, United States, Canada, CIS, India, Brazil, Japan. Merchandise imports (2010)-4176 billion (official exchange rate): consumer goods (38%); equipment (19%); energy (7.1%), raw materials (28%). Major suppliers-EU, U.S., Canada, CIS, South Africa. Exchange rate (March 2011); \$1 U.S. = 0.9191 CHF or SFr.

PEOPLE

Switzerland sits at the crossroads of several major European cultures, which have heavily influenced the country's languages and cultural practices. Switzerland has four official languages--German, French, Italian, and Romansch (based on Latin and spoken by a small minority in the Canton Graubunden). The German spoken is predominantly a Swiss dialect, but newspapers and some media broadcasts use High German. Many Swiss speak more than one language. English is widely spoken, especially among the university educated.

More than 75% of the population lives in the central plain, which stretches between the Alps and the Jura Mountains and from Geneva in the southwest to the Rhine River and Lake Constance in the northeast.

According to the Swiss Federal Office of Statistics, the population in Switzerland was 7,785,806 at year-end 2009 (up from 7,701,900 in 2008), of which 22% were resident foreigners and temporary foreign workers. The majority of this growth was attributable to net immigration, largely from the European Union (EU). Roughly 60% of the foreigners residing in Switzerland are from European Union member countries, while another 30% are from non-EU European countries. Almost all Swiss are literate. Switzerland's 12 universities enrolled 131,524 students in the academic year of 2010-2011, of which roughly one-third were foreigners. In addition, another 75,035 persons were studying at technical colleges and 7,743 were in other forms of higher education (e.g., specialized training academies). About 30% of the population aged 25-34 holds a diploma of higher learning. In the 2009-2010 academic year, 592 U.S. students were enrolled in Swiss universities.

Switzerland consistently ranks high on quality of life indices, including per capita income, computer and internet usage, insurance coverage, and quality of available health care. For these and many other reasons, it serves as an excellent test market for businesses hoping to introduce new products into Europe.

HISTORY

Originally inhabited by the Helvetians, or Helvetic Celts, the territory comprising modern Switzerland came under Roman rule during the Galile wars in the 1st century BC and remained a Roman province until the 4th century AD. Under Roman influence, the population reached a high level of civilization and enjoyed a flourishing commerce. Important cities, such as Geneva, Basel, and Zunch, were linked by military roads that also served as trade arteries between Rome and the northem tribes.

After the decline of the Roman Empire, Switzerland was invaded by Germanic tribes from the north and west. Some tribes, such as the Alemanni in ceritral and northeastern Switzerland, and the Burgundians, who ruled western Switzerland, settled there. In 800, the country became part of Charlemagne's empire. It later passed under the dominion of the Holy Roman emperors in the form of small ecclesiastic and temporal holdings subject to imperial sovereignty.

With the opening of a new important north-south trade route across the Alps in the early 13th century, the Empire's rulers began to attach more importance to the remote Swiss mountain valleys, which were granted some degree of autonomy under direct imperial rule. Fearful of the popular disturbances flaring up following the death of the Holy Roman Emperoi in 1291, the ruling families from Uri, Schwyz, and Unterwaiden signed a charter to keep public peace and pledging mutual support in upholding autonomous administrative and judicial rule. The anniversary of the charter's signature (August 1, 1291) today is celebrated as Switzerland's National Day.

Between 1315 and 1368 the Swiss Confederates inflicted three crushing defeats on the Habsburgs, whose aspiration to regional dominion clashed with Swiss self-determination. During that penod, five other localities (cantons in modern-day parlance) joined the original three in the Swiss Confederation. Buoyed by their feats, the Swiss Confederates continuously expanded their borders by military means and gained formal independence from the Holy Roman Empire in 1499. Routed by the French and Venetians near Milan in 1515, they renounced expansionist policies. By then the Swiss Confederation had become a union of 13 localities with a regularly convening diet administering the subject territories. Swiss mercenaries continued for centuries to serve in other armies; the Swiss Guard of the Pope is a vestige of this tradition.

The Reformation led to a division between the Protestant followers of Zwingli and Calvin in the Oerman and French parts of the country respectively, and the Calholics. Despite 2 centuries of civil strife, the common interest in the joint subject territories kept the Swiss Confederation from falling apart. The traffic in mercenaries as well as the alienation between the predominantly Protestant Swiss and their Catholic neighbors kept the Swiss Confederation out of the wars of the European powers, which formally recognized Swiss neutrality in the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648. The Swiss remained neutral during the War of the First Coalition against revolutionary France, but Napoleon, nonetheless, invaded and annexed much of the country in 1797-98, replacing the loose confederation with a centrally governed unitary state.

The Congress of Vienna in 1815 re-established the old confederation of sovereign states and enshrined Switzerland's status of permanent armed neutrality in international law. In 1848, after a brief civil war between Protestant liberals seeking a centralized national state and Catholic conservatives clinging to the old order, the majority of Swiss Cantons opted for a Federal State, liberties and made far-reaching provisions to maintain cantonal autonomy to placate the vanquished Catt ninority. The Swiss amended their Constitution extensively in 1874, establishing fed. usponsibility for defense, trade, and legal matters, as well as introducing direct democracy by popular referendum. To this day, cantonal autonomy and referendum democracy remain trademarks of the Swiss polity.

Switzerland industrialized rapidly during the 19th century and by 1850 had become the second most industrialized country in Europe after Great Britain. During World War I serious tension developed between the German, French, and Italian-speaking parts of the country, and Switzerland came close to violating its neutrality but managed to stay out of hostlitties. Labor unrest culminating in a general strike in 1918 marked the interwar period, but in 1937 employers and the largest trade union concluded a formal agreement to settle disputes peacefully, which governs workplace relations to the present day. During World War II, Switzerland came under heavy pressure from the fascist powers, which after the fall of France in 1940 completely surrounded the country. Some political and economic leaders displayed a mood of appeasement, but a combination of tactical accommodation and demonstrative readiness to defend the country helped Switzerland survice unscattled.

The Cold War enhanced the role of neutral Switzerland and offered the country a way out of its diplomatic isolation after World War II. Economically, Switzerland integrated itself into the American-led Western postwar order, but it remained reluctant to enter supranational bodies. Switzerland did not for many decades join the United Nations, even though Geneva became host to the UN's European headquarters and the country played an active role in many of the UN's specialized agencies. Switzerland also remained aloof in the face of European integration efforts, waiting until 1963 to join the Council of Europe. It still remains outside the European Union. Instead, Switzerland in 1960 helped form the European Free Trade Area, which did not strive for political union. Following the Cold War, Switzerland joined the Gretton Woods institutions in 1982 and finally became a member of the United Nations in 2002.

GOVERNMENT

Switzerland is a federal state composed of 26 cantons (20 are "full" cantons and six "hait" cantons for purposes of representation in the federal legislature) that retain attributes of sovereignty, such as fiscal autonomy and the right to manage internal cantonal affairs. Under the 2000 Constitution, cantons hold all powers not specifically delegated to the federation. Switzerland's federal institutions are:

- A bicameral legislature--the Federal Assembly,
- A collegial executive of seven members--the Federal Council; and
- A judiciary consisting of a regular court in Lausanne--the Federal Tribunal--and special
 military and administrative courts. The Federal Insurance Tribunal is an independent
 division of the Federal Tribunal that handles social security questions; its seat is in
 Luceme. The Federal Criminal Court, located in Bellinzona, is the court of first instance for
 all criminal cases under federal jurisdiction.

The Constitution provides for separation of the three branches of government.

The Federal Assembly is the primary seat of power, although in practice the executive branch has been increasing its power at the expense of the legislative branch. The Federal Assembly has two houses-the Council of States and the National Council. These two houses have equal powers in all respects, including the right to introduce legislation. Legislation cannot be vetoed by the executive nor reviewed for constitutionality by the judiciany, but all laws (except the budget) can be reviewed by popular referendum before taking effect. The 46 members of the Council of States (two from each canton and one from each half canton) are directly elected in each canton by majority voting. The 200 members of the National Council are directly elected in each canton under a system of proportional representation. Members of both houses serve for 4 years.

The Federal Assembly meets quarterly for 3-week plenary sessions. The parliamentary committees of the two houses, which are often key in shaping legislation, meet behind closed doors, but both majority and minority positions are presented during the plenary sessions. The Federal Assembly is a militia parliament, and members commonly retain their traditional professions. Individual members of parliament have no personal staff.

The Assembly can be legally dissolved only after the adoption of a popular initiative calling for a complete revision of the Constitution. All citizens 18 or older have the right to vote and run for office in national, cantonal, and communal elections unless individually disqualified by the relevant legislature.

A strong emphasis on ballot votes arises out of the traditional Swiss belief that the will of the people is the final national authority. Every constitutional amendment adopted by parliament is automatically brought to the ballot and has to carry a double majority of votes and cantons in order to become effective. The voters themselves may actively seek changes to the Constitutional by means of the popular initiative: 100,000 voters may with their signatures request a national vote on a proposed constitutional amendment. New federal legislation also is subject to popular review, under the so-called referendum: 50,000 signatures suffice to call a ballot vote on any federal law adopted by parliament. The Assembly can declare an act to be too urgent to allow time for popular consideration, but this is rare. At any rate, an act passed urgently must have a time limit and is later subject to the same constitutional provisions on popular review as other legislation.

The top executive body is the seven-member cabinet called the Federal Council. The Federal Assembly individually elects the seven Federal Councilors in a joint session of both houses at the opening of a new legislature. Federal Councilors are elected for 4-year terms, there are no term limits and no provision to recall the cabinet or individual members during the legislature. Each year, the Federal Assembly elects from among the seven Federal Councilors a president and vice president, following the principle of seniority. The member who is vice president one

Federal Assembly chooses and supervises the cabinet, the latter has gradually assumed a preeminent role ¹ — ¹recting the legislative process as well as executing federal laws.

Under an arrangement between the four major parties called the "magic formula" which was introduced in 1959 but ended in December 2003, two Federal Councilors (ministers) were elected each from the Christian Democrats, the Social Democrats, and the Free Democrats and one from the Swiss People's Party. Starting in 2004, the party composition of the cabinet changed as a consequence of parliamentary election results and other political factors. The current party composition of the cabinet is: two Social Democrats, two Free Democrats, one Christian Democrat, one representative of the Conservative Democratic Party, and one representative of the Swiss People's Party.

The Constitution requires that Federal Councilors act collectively in all matters, not as individual ministers or as representatives of their parties. Each Councilor heads one of seven federal departments and is responsible for preparing legislation pertaining to matters under its jurisdiction. The president, who remains responsible for the department he or she heads, has limited prerogatives and is first among equals.

The administration of justice is primarily a cantonal function. The Federal Tribunal is limited in its jurisdiction. Its principal function is to hear appeals of civil and criminal cases. It also hears complaints of violations of the constitutional rights of citizens and has authority to review cantonal court decisions involving federal law as well as certain administrative rulings of federal departments. However, it has no power to review federal legislation for constitutionality The Tribunal's 30 full-time and 30 part-time judges are elected by the Federal Assembly for 6year terms. The Federal Criminal Court is the court of first instance for criminal cases involving organized and white-collar trime, money laundering, and corruption, which are under federal jurisdiction. The Court's 11 judges are elected by the Federal Assembly for 6-year terms.

The cantons regulate local government. The basic unit of local government, which administers a village, town, or city, is the commune or municipality. Citizenship is derived from membership in a commune and can be conferred on non-Swiss by a commune. Cantons are subordinate to federal authority but keep autonomy in implementing federal law.

Principal Government Officials

Federal Council (Swiss Cabinet)

Home Affairs--Didier Burkhafter (Free Democral) Finance--Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf - Vice President (Conservative Democratic Party) Foreign Affairs--Micheline Calmy-Rey - President (Social Democrat) Justice and Police--Simonetta Sommaruga (Social Democrat) Defense, Civil Protection and Sports--Ueli Maurer (Swiss People's Party) Economic Affairs--Johann Schneider-Ammann (Free Democrat) Transport, Communications and Energy--Dons Leuthard (Christian Democrat) Federal Chancellor--Corina Casanova (ex officio)

Ambassador to the United States--Manuel Sager

Switzerland maintains an embassy in the United States at 2900 Cathedral Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20008. Consulates General are in Atlanta, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, and San Francisco. Consulates are in Boston, Buffalo, Charlotte, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Honolulu, Houston, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Miami, Minneapolis, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburg, Salt Lake City, San Juan, and Seattle.

POLITICAL CONDITIONS

Switzerland has a stable government and a diverse society. Guadrennial national elections typically produce only marginal changes in party representation. In recent years, Switzerland has seen a gradual shift in the party landscape. The rightist Swiss People's Party (SVP), traditionally the junior partner in the four-party coalition government, almost tripled its share of the popular vote from 11% in 1987 to 22.5% in 1999, to 26.6% in 2003, and finally to 29% in October 2007, thus overtaking its three major rivals. In the 2007 parliamentary elections, the SVP picked up an additional seven seats in the 200-seat National Council (lower house). This brought the SVP to 62 seats total. The Greens gained more than 2 percentage points and seven seats in the National Council, bringing their total shares to 9.6% and 20 respectively. They also for the first time gained seats in the Council of Stales (upper house). The Christian Democratic Party (CVP) booked modest gains of 0.2% and three seats, for a total of 14.6% and 31 seats in the National Council. This halted a downward trend that had cost the CVP a seat on the Federal Council to the SVP in 2003. The FDP lost 1.7% and five seats in the National Council, the votership and 31 seats in the National Council. Total voter turnout was 48%, a gain of 2.8% over the 2003 elections.

On December 12, 2007, the center-left parliamentary caucuses refused to re-elect the SVP's Christoph Blocher (then-Justice Minister) to the Federal Council, and instead elected Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf, a SVP cantonal minister from Graubunden. As a result Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf was excluded from the SVP parliamentary caucus and joined instead the Conservative Democratic Party (CDP). On December 10, 2008, SVP Ueli Maurer was elected to the Federal Council and replaced former Federal Councilor Samuel Schmid (CDP) as defense minister. Following the retirement of Federal Councilors Hans-Rudolf Merz and Montz Leuenberger, a mid-term election in September 2010 resulted in two new Federal Councilors (Johann Schneider-Amman and Simonetta Sommaruga) and a reshuffling of the Federal Council.

The Constitution limits federal influence in the formulation of domestic policy and emphasizes the roles of private enterprise and cantonal government. However, the Confederation has been competied to enlarge its policymaking powers in recent years to cope with national problems.

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ECONOMY

Despite a dearth or natural resources, Switzerland is one of the world's most advanced and prosperous nations. Per capita income is among the highest in the world, as are wages. Trade has been the key to prosperity in Switzerland. The country is dependent upon export markets to generate income while dependent upon imports for raw materials and to expand the range of goods and services available in the country. Switzerland has liberal investment and trade policies, with the exception of agriculture, and a conservative fiscal policy. The Swiss legal system is highly developed; commercial law is well defined; and solid laws and policies protect investments. The Swiss franc is one of the world's soundest currencies, and the country is known for its high standard of banking and financial services. Switzerland is a member of a number of international economic organizations, including the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The Swiss economy increased by 2.6% in 2010; its growth is expected to slow to 2% in 2011 as a result of various factors such as an appreciating Swiss franc. However, due to the successful government debt reduction (imposed by the so-called debt brake), Switzerland is not expected to be impacted by strict austerity measures imposed in other areas of Europe. Switzerland led the rankings of the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report 2010-2011, reflecting the country's sound institutional environment, excellent infrastructure, efficient markets, competent macroeconomic management, world-class educational attainment, and high levels of technological innovation, which boost Switzerland's competitiveness in the global economy. The country has a well-developed infrastructure for scientific research. Companies spend generously on research and development (R&D), and intellectual property protection is strong. Business activity benefits from a well-developed institutional framework, characterized by the rule of law, an efficient judicial system, and high levels of transparency and accountability within public institutions. Higher education and training are rapidly growing in Importance as engines of productivity growth.

Being a nation that depends upon exports for economic growth, and due to the fact that it is so closely linked to the economies of Western Europe and the United States, Switzerland's economic growth mirrors slowdowns and growth spurts experienced in these countries. During most of the 1990s, the Swiss economy was Western Europe's weakest, with annual GDP growth averaging 0% between 1991 and 1997. Beginning in late 1997, the economy steadily gained momentum until peaking in 2000 with 3% growth in real terms. The economy returned to lackluster growth during 2001-2003, but began growing at or above potential since 2004-- 2.5% per annum--until the recent global economic crisis, which impacted Switzerland's growth. The year 2008 was marked by a worsening of the financial crisis and the beginning of its spread to the economy as a whole. The growth of economic activity thus slowed down compared to previous years, but remained nevertheless positive (+1.8%). Long-run economic growth is predicated on structural reforms. In order to maximize its economic potential, Switzerland will need to push through difficult agrarian and competition policy reforms.

The economic upswing had some positive impact on the labor market, which has begun to fade due to the impact of the global financial crisis. Unemployment decreased from 4.1% in December 2003 to 1.5% in 2007, but was at 3.4% in March 2011. One-fourth of the country's full -time workers are unionized. In general, labor/management relations are good, mostly characterized by a willingness on both sides to settle disputes by negotiations rather than by labor action.

Tourism, banking, engineering, and insurance are significant sectors of the economy and heavily influence the country's economic policies. Swiss trading companies have unique marketing expertise in many parts of the world, including Eastern Europe, the Far East, Africa, and the Middle East. Not only does Switzerland have a highly developed tourism infrastructure (making it a good market for tourism-related equipment and services), the Swiss also are intrepid travelers. Per capita, more Swiss visit the United States every year than from any other country. In 2010, about 391,000 Swiss citizens came to the United States as tourists. Tourism is the most important U.S. export to Switzerland.

The Swiss economy earns roughly half of its corporate earnings from the export industry. The EU is Switzerland's largest trading partner (59% of exports and 75% of imports in 2010), and economic and trade barriers between them are minimal. After more than 4 years of negotiations, an agreement known as the "Bilaterals I" covering seven sectors (research, public procurement, technical barriers to trade, agriculture, civil aviation, land transport, and the free movement of persons) entered into force on June 1, 2002. Switzerland has so far attempted to miligate possible adverse effects of non-membership by conforming many of its regulations, standards, and practices to EU directives and norms. Full access to the Swiss market for the original 15 EU member states entered into force in June 2004, ending as a result the "national preference". The Swiss agreed to extend these preferences to the 10 new EU members on September 25, 2005, with restrictions remaining until 2011. A referendum was held in February 2009 on the Bilaterais I and the extension of the free movement of persons to Romania and Bulgaria.

The Swiss Government embarked in July 2001 on a second round of bilateral negotiations with the EU known as "Bilaterals II". Talks focused on customs fraud, environment, statistics, trade in processed agricultural goods, media, the taxation of savings, and police/judicial cooperation (dubbed the Schengen-Dublin accords). Amid a flerce political debate over the essence of Swiss-EU relations and populist warnings against EU workers and criminals entering Switzerland, the Schengen-Dublin package was approved on June 5, 2005 by 54.6% of Swiss voters and entered into force on December 12, 2008. Fears of cheap labor coming from new EU member states have prompted the government to provide for tripartile surveillance committees to ensure that decent wages are enforced. The Swiss federal government remains deeply divided over EU membership as its long-term goal, and in a March 2001 referendum more than 20% of Swiss voters rejected ramid stens toward EU membership. Switzerland nevertheless expressed interest in reaching a third layer of bilateral agreements that would involve energy, the file satellite navigation system, health, and agriculture. But recent harsh criticism by the E and Commission against preferential cantonal tax treatment for foreign holdings cooled the political climate with the EU.

The government also agreed on June 25, 2008 to propose an amendment of the Federal Law on Technical Barriers to Trade to permit implementation of the EU "Cassis-de-Dijon" principle. Parliament adopted this provision and it entered into force on July 1, 2010. As adopted, all EU products can be imported into Switzerland without meeting the burdensome Swiss certification and Swiss languages requirements. Given that retail prices in Switzerland are frequently 20%-30% higher than in the EU, the Swiss Government believes that domestic prices could drop by 10% if EU products could be imported through streamlined Swiss procedures, but there are no official figures yet available showing whether such a decrease of prices has actually taken place.

The government has reaffirmed its wish to strengthen ties with other, non-EU trading partners in Asia and America. Exploratory talks on a Free Trade Agreement between the U.S. and Switzerland failed to result in negotiations, due to Swiss problems with free trade in agriculture, but the two sides did agree to a new framework for economic, trade, and investment discussions. This agreement resulted in the Swiss-U.S. Trade and Investment Cooperation Forum (the "Forum") and is currently assessing areas where the two governments could facilitate greater trade and investment flows.

In 2010, Switzerland ranked 16th among the main U.S. export destinations, and 21st as a source of imports. The United States is the second-largest importer (9.75%) of Swiss goods after Germany (19.55%). In addition, the United States is the largest foreign investor in Switzerland, and conversely, the largest single destination of Swiss foreign investment. It is estimated that 300,000 American jobs depend on more than \$165 billion in Swiss investments in the United States.

DEFENSE

Switzerland has a militia army. The armed forces have a small nucleus of about 4,200 professional staff, half of whom are either instructors or staff officers, with the remainder mostly being facility guards. The army has virtually no full-time active combat units but is capable of full mobilization within 72 hours. Women may volunteer to serve in the armed forces and may now join all units, including combat troops; currently 1,050 women are active-duty members of the Swiss military.

The major military transformations, connected to the "Army XXI" program initiated in 2004, are still in progress. The "Development Stage 08/11," the program concerning reforms for 2008-2011, was approved by parliament in 2007. The general strategy is a reduction of the size of the military while maintaining a high quality of knowledge and equipment standards.

Switzerland has been a Partnership for Peace (PIP) member since 2006. Switzerland has 220 military personnel deployed in support of KFOR peace-keeping operations in Kosovo.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

On September 10, 2002, Switzerland became a full member of the United Nations. Switzerland had previously been involved as party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and member of most UN specialized agencies, as well as the International Atomic Energy Agency. Switzerland has long participated in many UN activities, including the Economic Commission for Europe, UN Environment Program, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UN Conference for Trade and Development, UN Industrial Development Organization, and the Universal Postal Union (UPU). Prior to its formal accession, Switzerland had maintained a permanent observer mission at UN Headquarters since 1948.

Switzerland also is a member of the following international organizations: World Trade Organization, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, European Free Trade Association, Bank for International Settlements, Council of Europe, and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). In 1992, Swiss voters approved membership in the Bretton Woods organizations but later that year rejected the European Economic Area agreement, which the government viewed as a first step toward EU membership. Switzerland also is an active participant in the major nonproliferation and export control regimes.

The Swiss Constitution declares the preservation of Switzerland's Independence and welfare as the supreme objective of Swiss foreign policy. Below this overarching goal, the Constitution sets five specific foreign policy objectives: further the peaceful coexistence of nations; promote respect for human rights, democracy, and the rule of law, promote Swiss economic interests abroad; alleviate need and poverty in the world, and the preservation of natural resources.

Traditionally, Switzerland has avoided alliances that might entail military, political, or direct economic action, but in recent years the Swiss have broadened the scope of activities in which they feel able to participate without compromising their neutrality. Swiss voters first rejected UN membership by a 3-to-1 margin in 1986 but in March 2002 adopted it, albeit in a very close election, making Switzerland the first country to join the UN based on a popular referendum decision. In similar fashion, the electorate rejected a government proposition to deploy Swiss troops as UN peacekeepers (Blue Helmets) in 1994, but Switzerland joined NATO's Partnership for Peace and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council in 1996 and 1997, respectively, and deployed Yellow Berets to support the OSCE in Bosnia. In June 2001, Swiss voters approved new legislation providing for the deployment of armed Swiss troops for international peacekeeping missions under UN or OSCE auspices as well as closer international cooperation in military training.

Switzerland maintains diplomatic relations with almost all countries and historically has served

as a neonarmementary and nostro major memanoral dealy concretences, once i sou Switzerland has represented U.S. interests in Iran. In 2009, Switzerland agreed to represent well as Georgia in Russia. Switzerland played a key role in mediating an Russia in Geory agreement, signed in October 2009 in Zurich, to provide a framework for the normalization of relations between Armenia and Turkey

Switzerland (mainly Geneva) is home to many international governmental and nongovernmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross (whose flag is essentially the Swiss flag with colors reversed--the Red Cross historically being a Swiss organization). One of the first international organizations, the Universal Postal Union, is located in Bern.

Under a series of treaties concluded after World War I, Switzerland assumed some responsibilities for the diplomatic and consular representation of Liechtenstein, the protection of its borders, and the regulation of its customs

U.S.-SWISS RELATIONS

Switzerland is a democratic country subscribing to the fundamental ideals with which the United States also is identified. The country is politically stable with a fundamentally strong economy. It has played an increasingly important role in supporting the spread of democratic institutions and values worldwide, as well as providing humanitarian relief and economic development assistance. U.S. policy toward Switzerland takes these factors into account and endeavors to cooperate with Switzerland to the extent consistent with Swiss neutrality.

Cooperation under the U.S.-Swiss Joint Economic Commission (JEC) has invigorated bilateral ties by recording achievements in a number of areas, including consultations on anti-money laundering efforts, counterterrorism, and pharmaceutical regulatory cooperation; an egovernment conference; and the re-establishment of the Fulbright student/cultural exchange program.

The United States and Switzerland signed three new agreements in 2006, creating mechanisms that, in addition to the JEC, deepen our cooperation and improve our relationship: the Enhanced Political Cooperation Framework, the Trade and Investment Cooperation Forum, and the revised Operative Working Arrangement on Law Enforcement Cooperation on Counterterrorism. The centerpiece of the Enhanced Political Cooperation Framework is an annual senior-level meeting, the Joint Working Group (JWG).

The first official U.S.-Swiss consular relations were established in the late 1820s. Diplomatic relations were established in 1853. The U.S. ambassador to Switzerland is also accredited to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Principal U.S. Officials

Ambassador--Donald S. Beyer Deputy Chief of Mission--Susan Elbow Political/Economic Counselor--Richard Rorvig Commercial Officer--Donald Businger Consul General--Edward Birsner Management Officer--Matthew Shields Regional Security Officer--Peter Shephard Public Affairs Officer--Alexander Daniels Defense Attache--Philip R. Thieler Legal Attache-- Daniel Boyd Drug Enforcement Administration--Joe Kipp Department of Homeland Security Attache--Michael McCool

The U.S. Embassy in Switzerland is at Sulgeneckstrasse 19, 3007 Bern, tel: (41) (31) 357-7011.

The U.S. Mission to the European Office of the United Nations and other International Organizations is in Geneva at Route de Predny 11, 1292 Chambesy, tel: (41) (22) 749-4111 The U.S. Mission to the WTO is in Geneva at Avenue de la Paix 1-3, 1202 Geneva, tel. (41) (22) 749-4111. The U.S. Delegation to the Conference on Disarmament (CD) is in Geneva at Route de Pregny 11, 1292 Chambesy, tel: (41) (22) 749-4407. America Centers and Consular Agencies are also maintained in Zurich and Geneval

TRAVEL AND BUSINESS INFORMATION

Travel Alerts, Travel Warnings, Trip Registration

The U.S. Department of State's Consular Information Program advises Americans traveling and residing abroad through Country Specific Information, Travel Alerts, and Travel Warnings. Country Specific Information exists for all countries and includes information on entry and exit requirements, currency regulations, health conditions, safety and security, crime, political disturbances, and the addresses of the U.S. embassies and consulates abroad. Travel Alerts are issued to disseminate information quickly about terrorist threats and other relatively shortterm conditions overseas that pose significant risks to the security of American travelers. Travel Warnings are issued when the State Department recommends that Americans avoid travel to a certain country because the situation is dangerous or unstable.

For the latest security information. Americans living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs Internet web site at http://travel.state.gov, where current Worldwide Caution, Travel Alerts, and Travel Warnings can be found. The travel state gov website also includes information about passports, tips for planning a safe trip abroad and more. More travel-related information also is available at http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/TravebInternational.shtml



The Department's Smart Traveler app for U.S. travelers going abroad provides easy access to the frequently updated official country information, travel alerts, travel warnings, maps, U.S. embassy locations, and more that mnear on the travel state nov site. Travelors can also set up e-tineraries to

keep track of arrival and departure dates and make notes about upcoming trips. The applis (_______batible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad (requires iOS 4.0 or later).

The Department or orate encourages all U.S. citizens traveling or residing abroad to register via the State Department's travel registration website or at the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate abroad (a link to the registration page is also available through the Smart Traveler app) Registration will make your presence and whereabouts known in case it is necessary to contact you in an emergency and will enable you to receive up-to-date information on security conditions

Emergency information concerning Americans traveling abroad may be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll free in the U.S. and Canada or the regular toll line 1-202-501-4444 for callers outside the U.S. and Canada

Passuorts

The National Passport Information Center (NPIC) is the U.S. Department of State's single, centralized public contact center for U.S. passport information. Telephone: 1-877-4-USA-PPT (1 -877-487-2778); TDD/TTY: 1-888-874-7793. Passport information is available 24 hours, 7 days a week. You may speak with a representative Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Eastern Time, excluding federal holidays

Health Information

Travelers can check the latest health information with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. A hotline at 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) and a web site at http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx give the most recent health advisories, immunization recommendations or requirements, and advice on food and drinking water safety for regions and countries. The CDC publication "Health Information for International Travel" can be found at http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/contentYellowBook.aspx

More Electronic Information

Department of State Web Site. Available on the Internet at http://www.state.gov, the Department of State web site provides timely, global access to official U.S. foreign policy information, including more Background Notes, the Department's daily press briefings along with the directory of key officers of Foreign Service posts and more. The Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) provides security information and regional news that impact U.S. companies working abroad through its website http://www.osac.gov

Export.gov provides a portal to all export-related assistance and market information offered by the federal government and provides trade leads, free export counseling, help with the export process, and more

Mobile Sources. Background Notes are available on mobile devices at http://m.state.gov/mc36882.htm, or use the QR code below.



In addition, a mobile version of the Department's http://www.state.gov website is available at http://in.state.gov, or use the QR code below. Included on this site are Top Stories, remarks and speeches by Secretary Clinton, Daily Press Briefings, Country Information, and more



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Secretary Clinton

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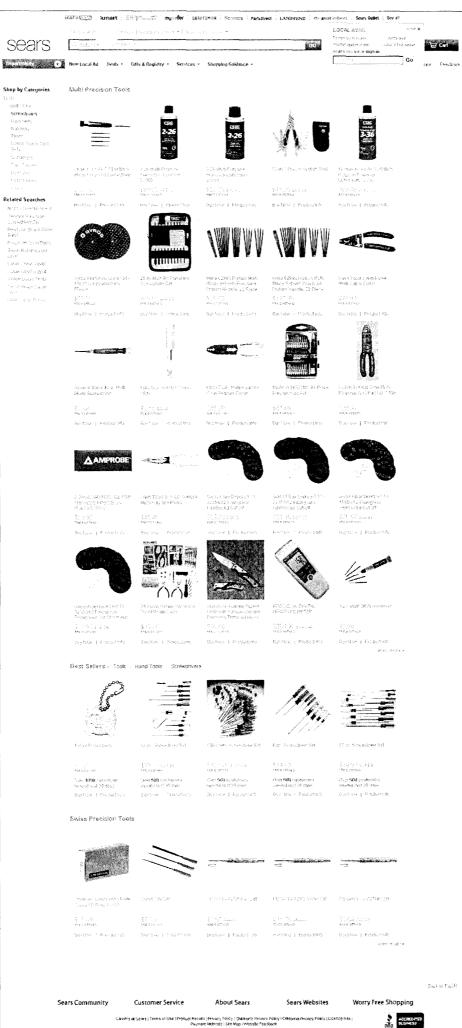
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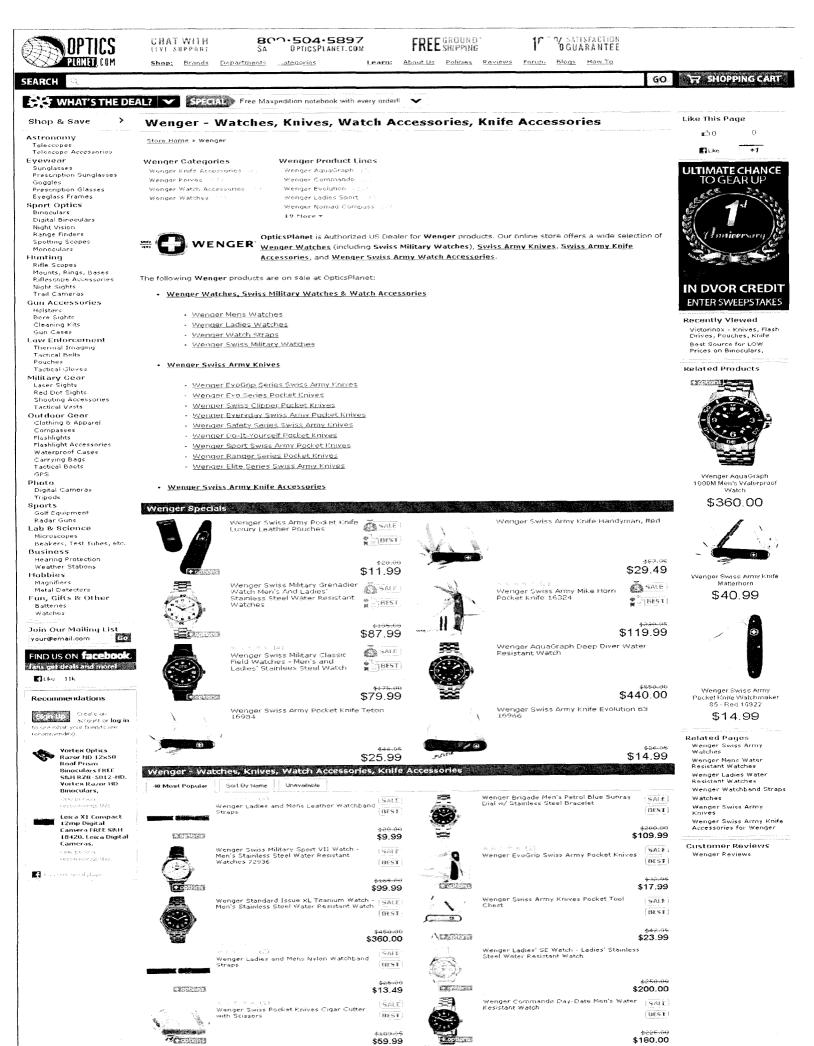


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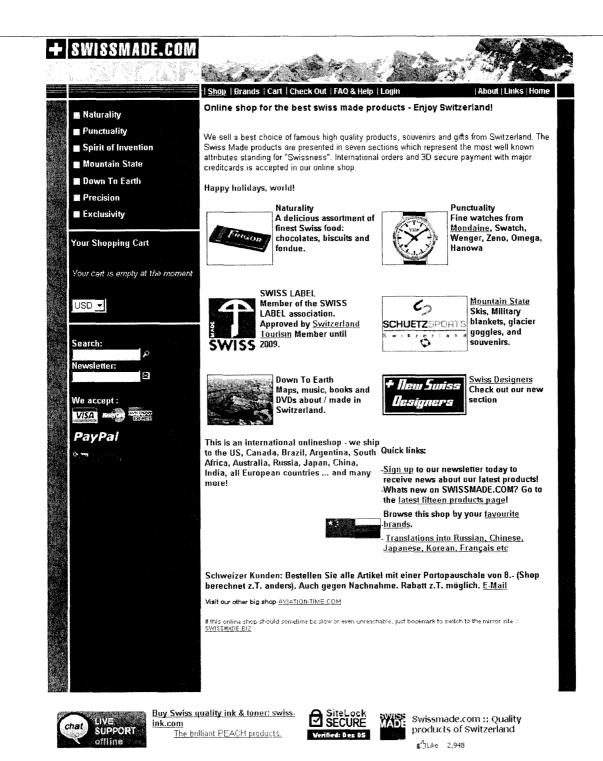






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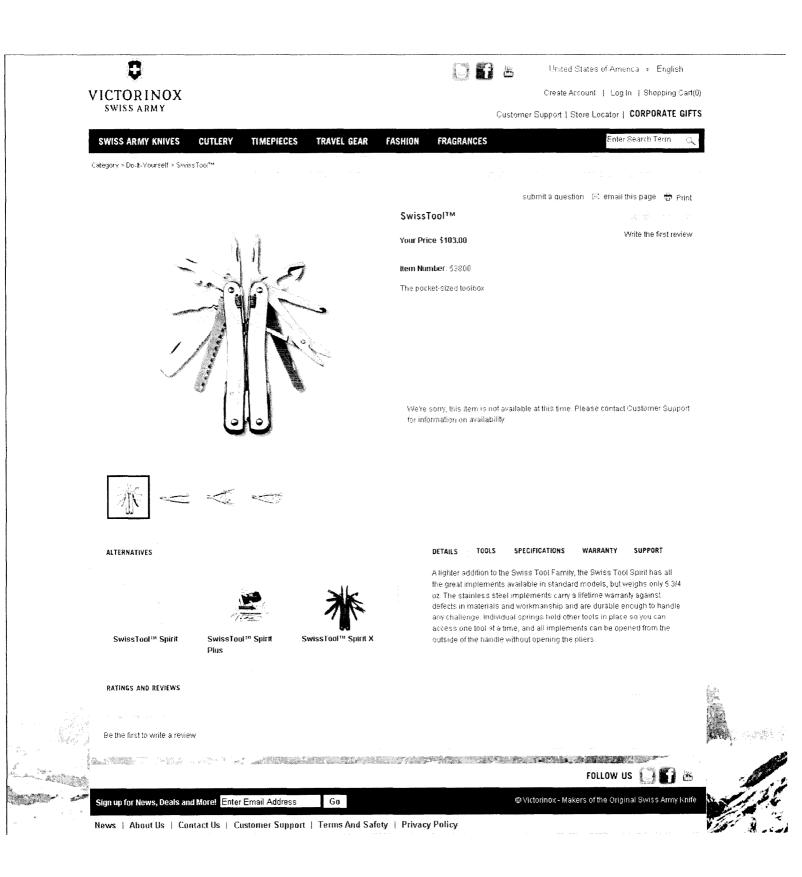
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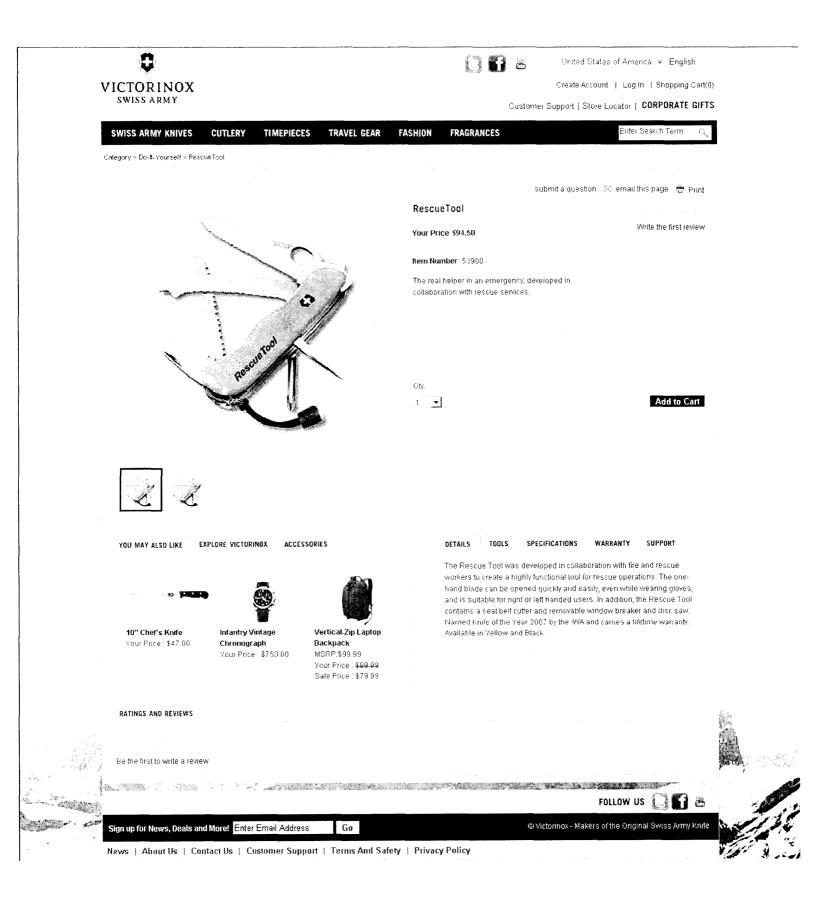
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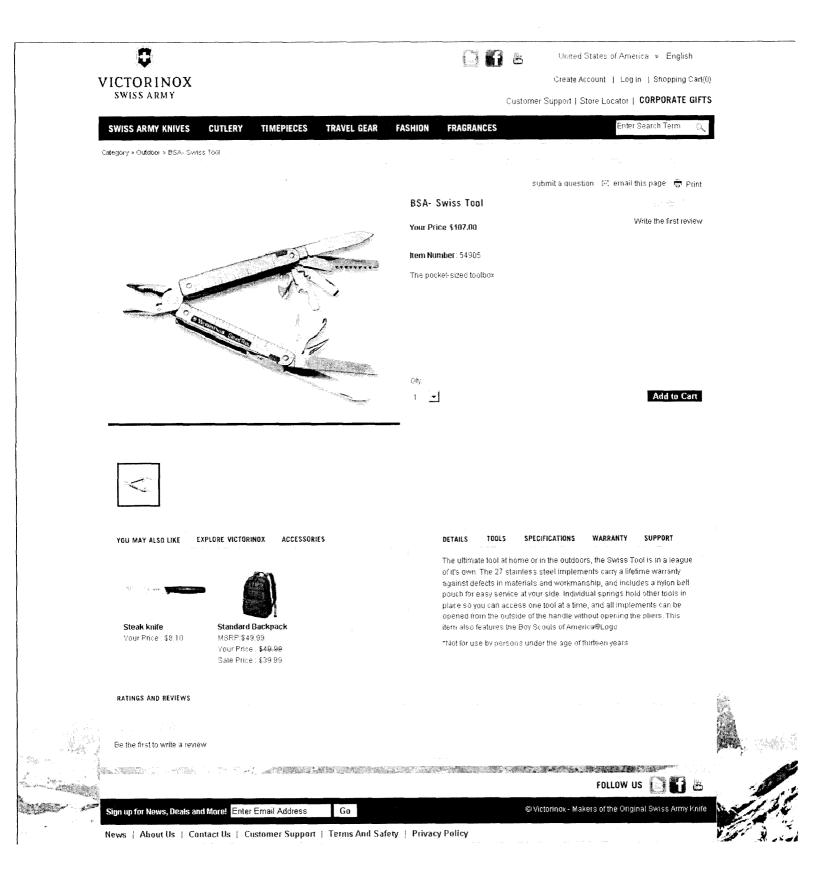
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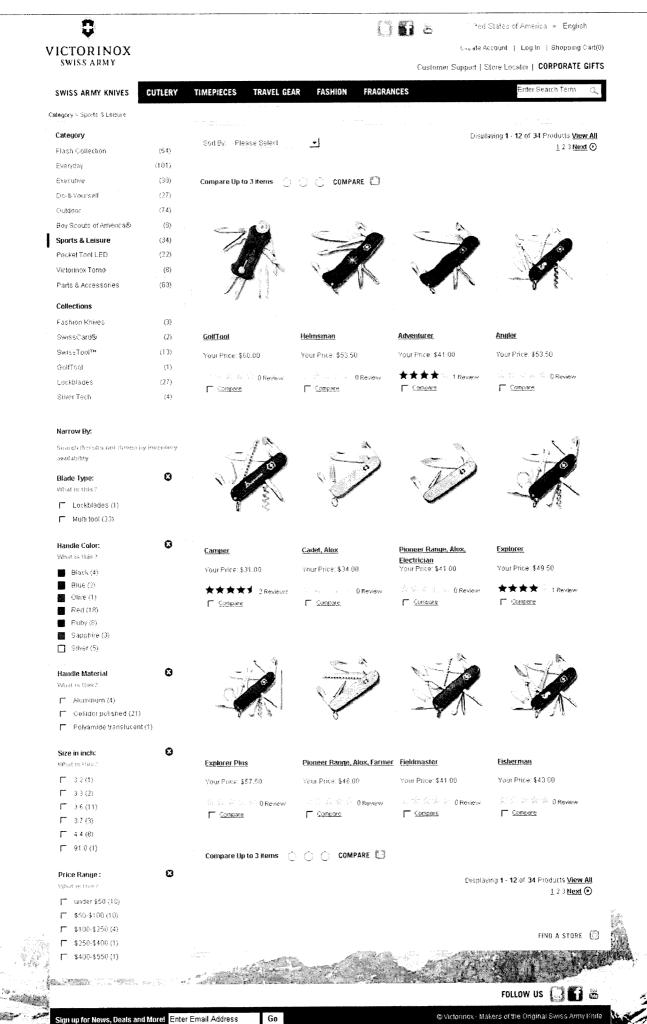
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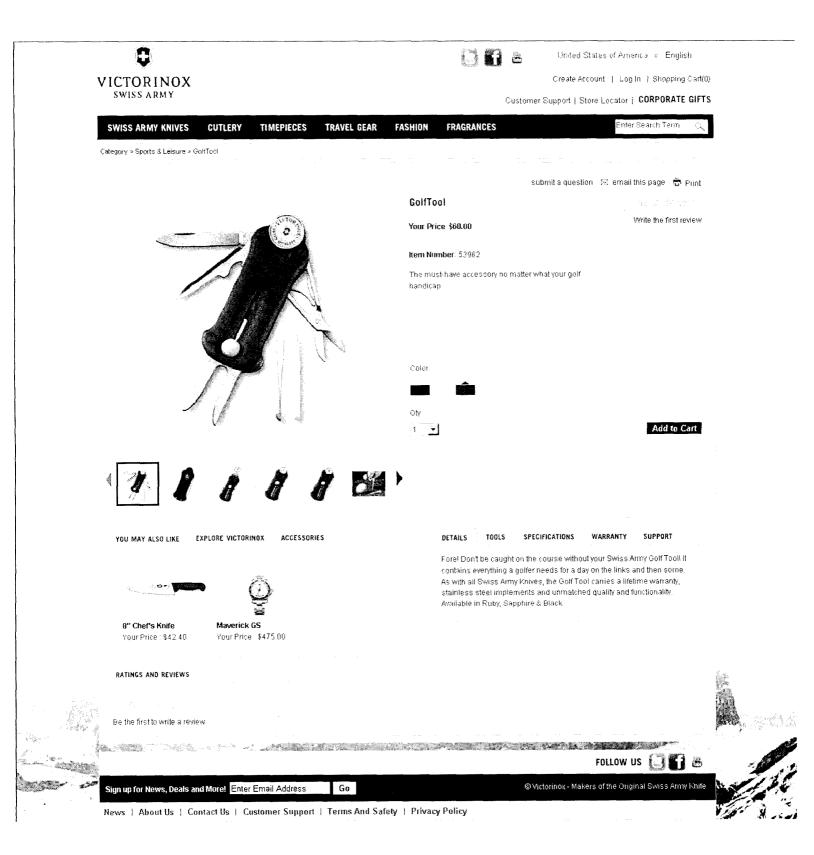




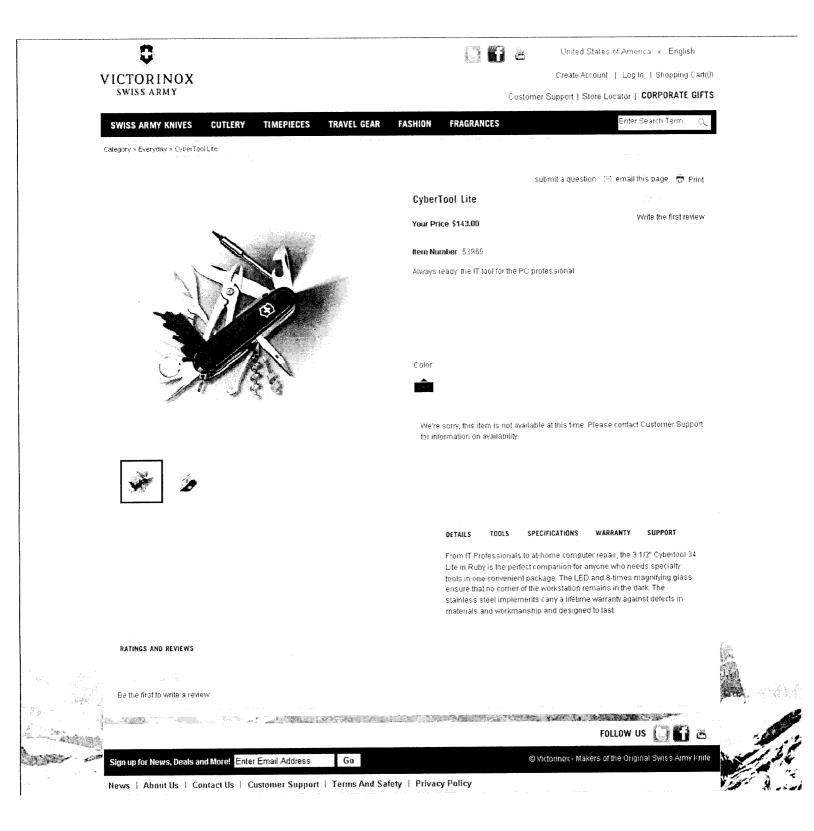


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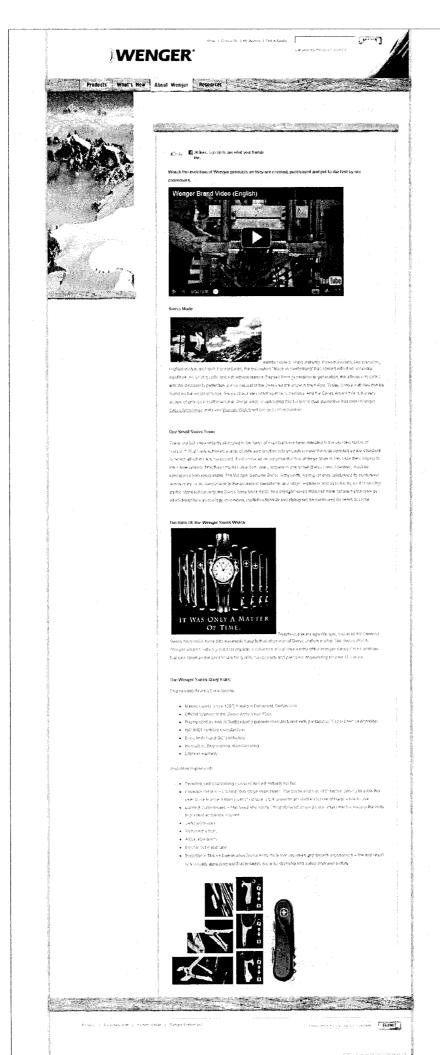
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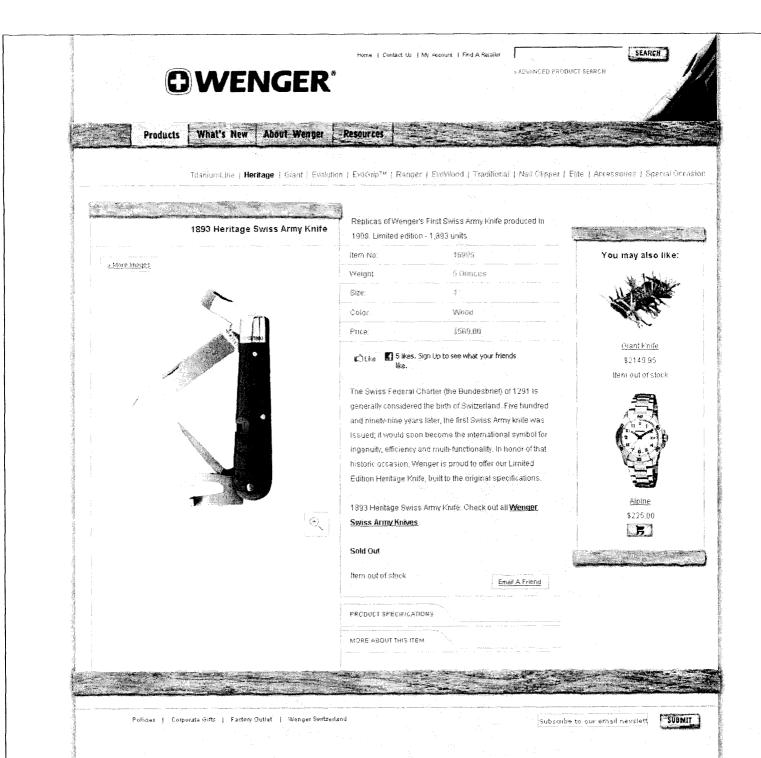
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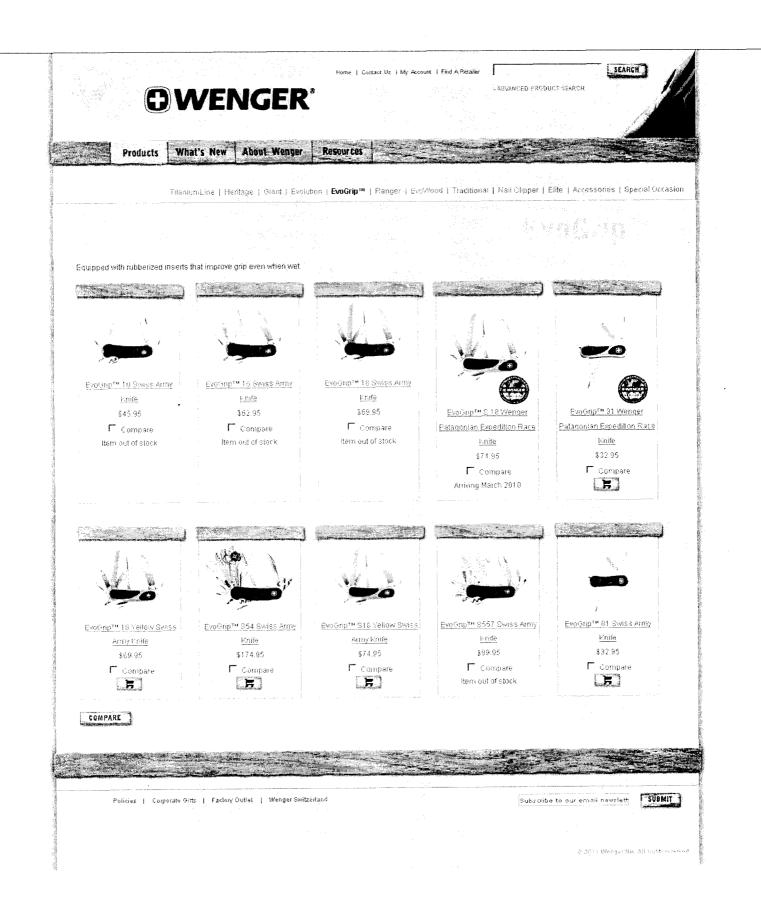
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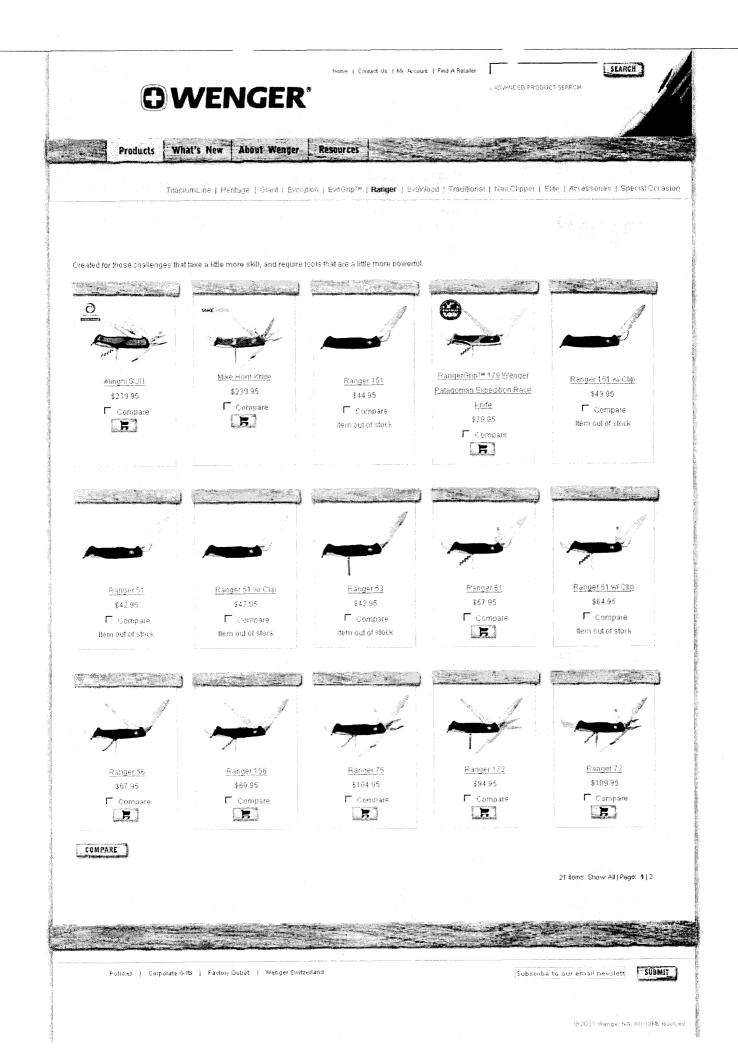
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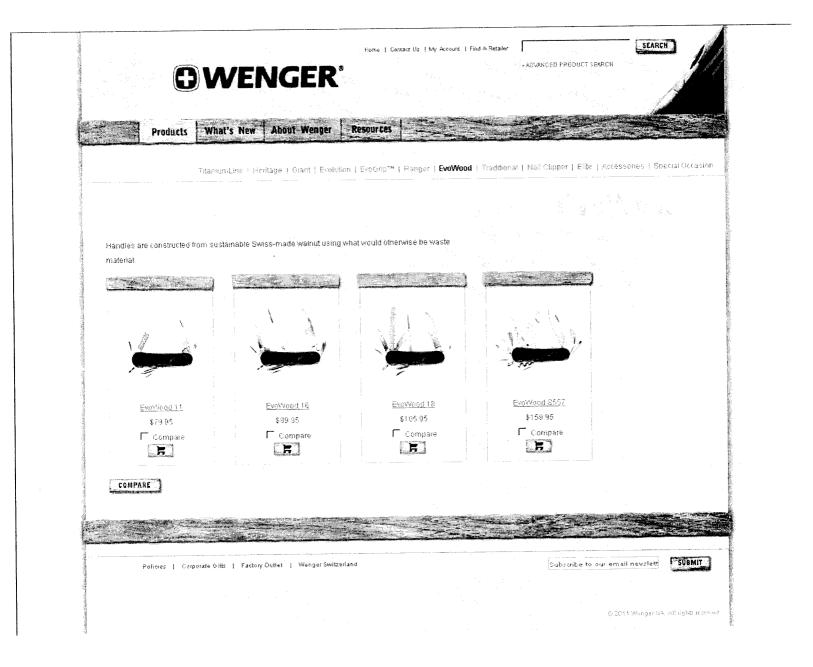


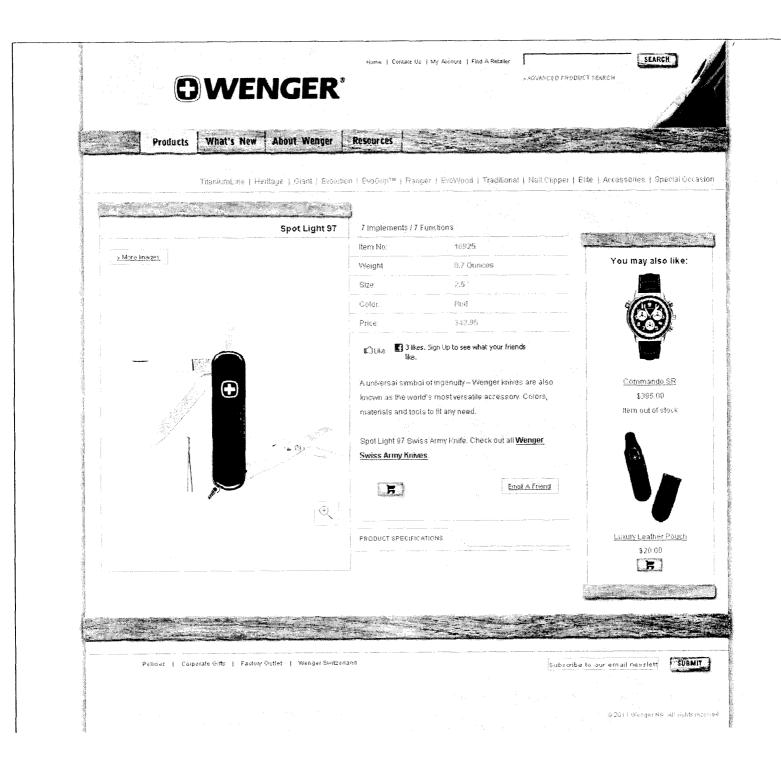
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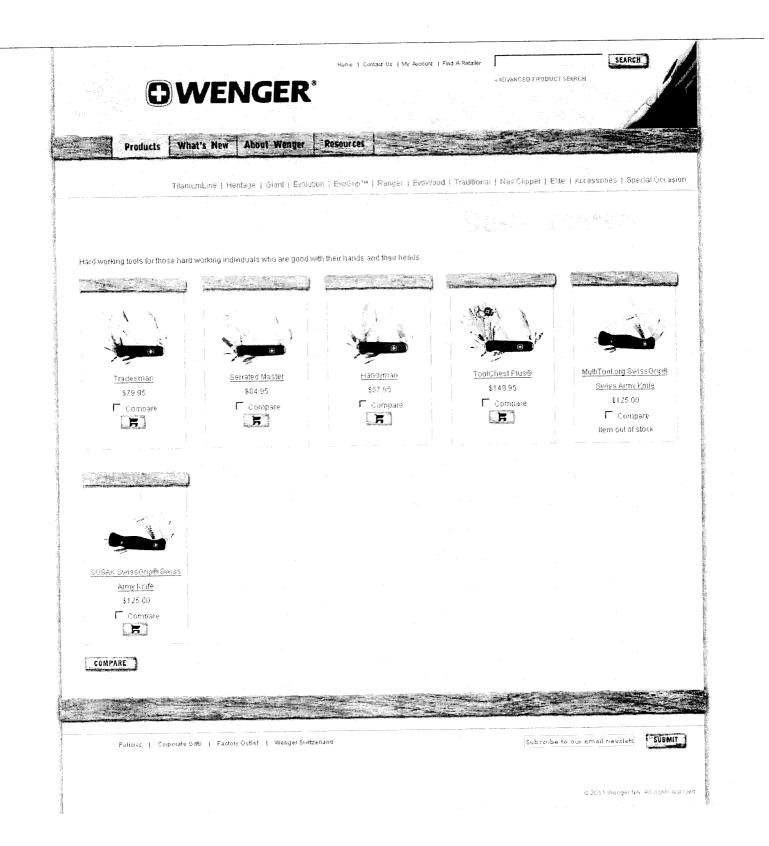








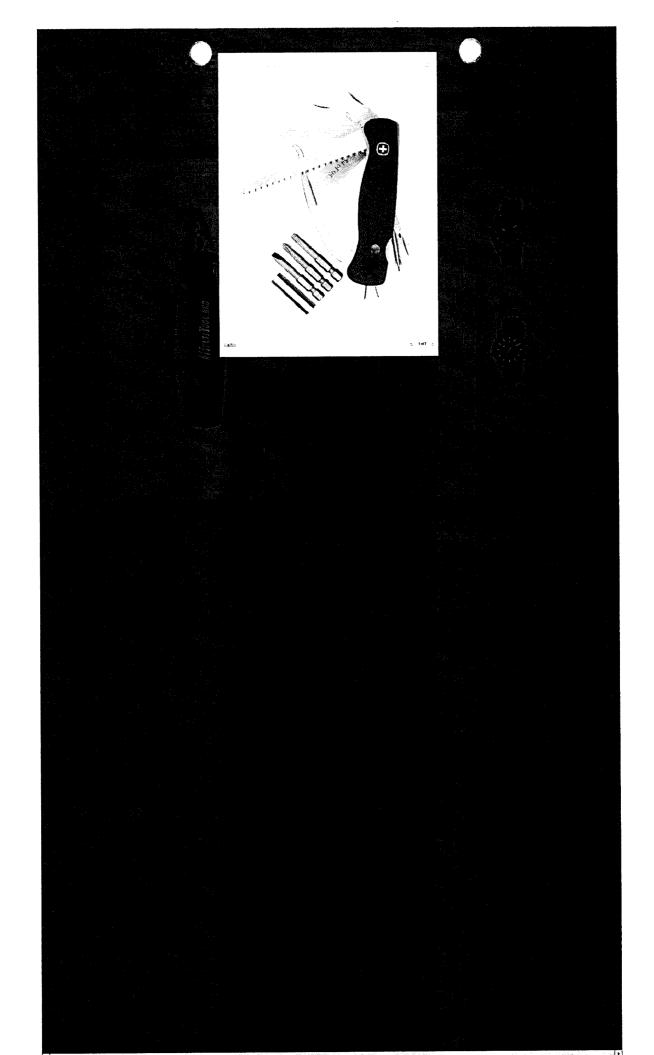


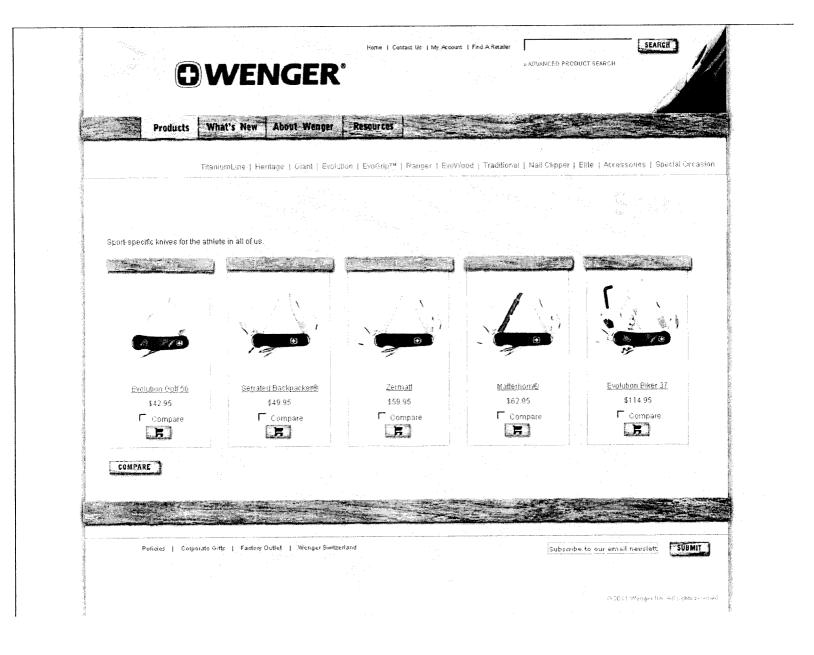


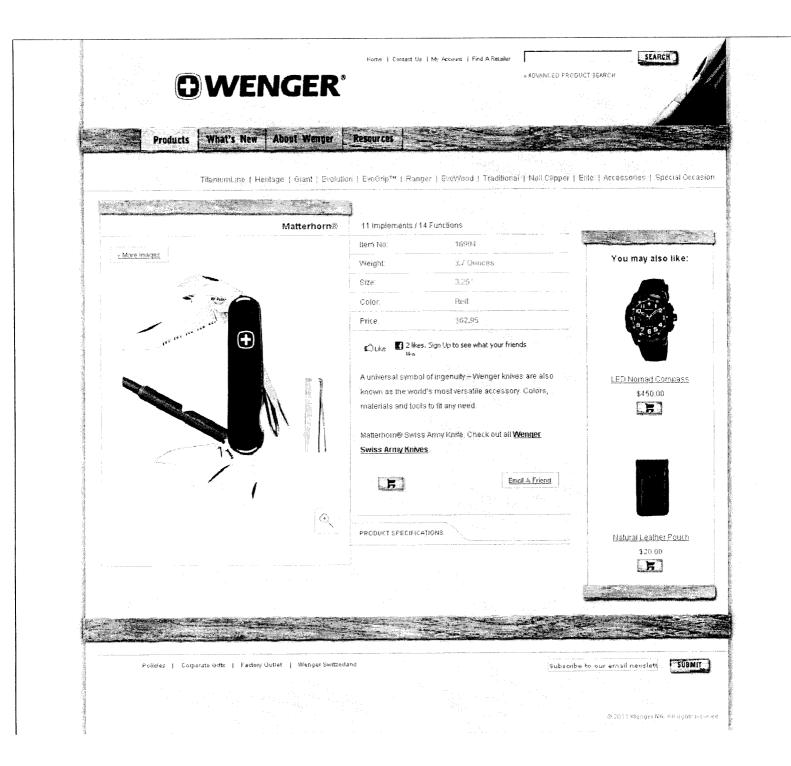


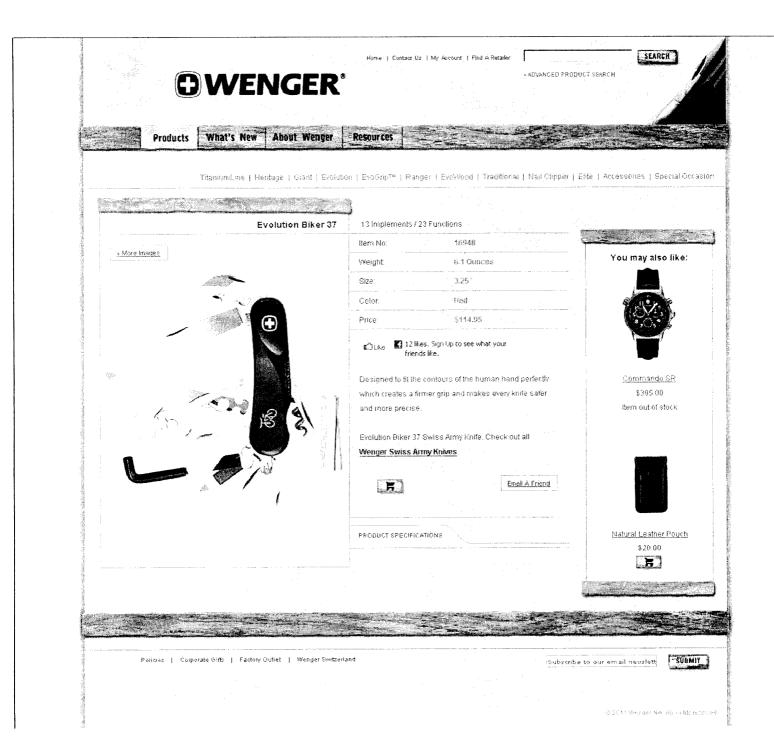
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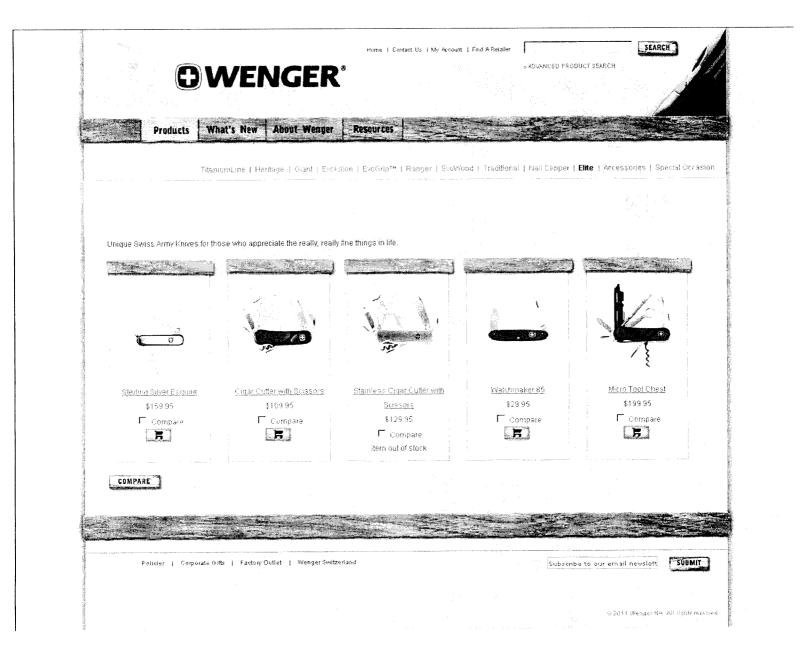


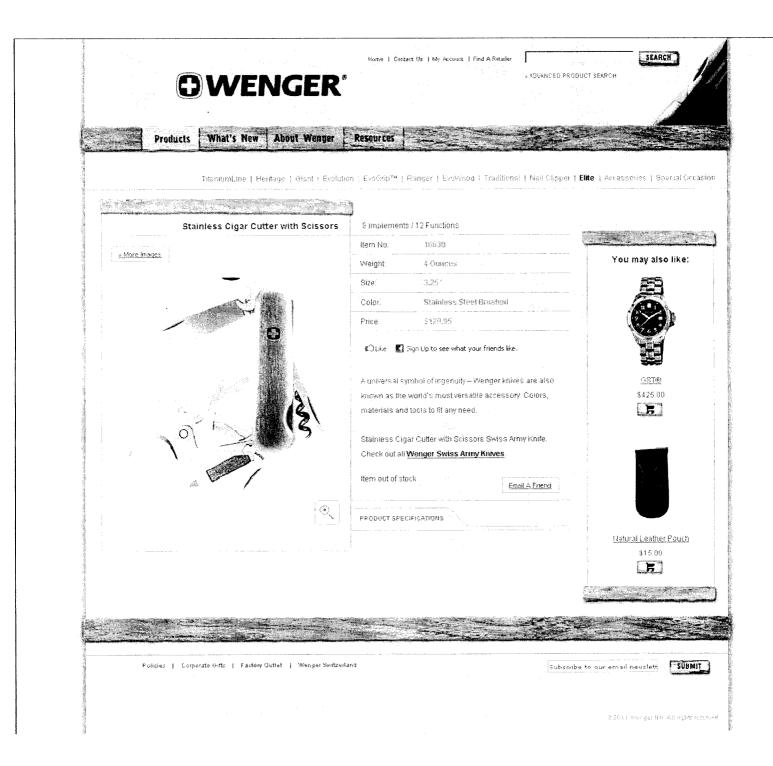












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□ Олеа ĐœĐ¼Ñ□аĐ²Đ,чÑ'Đ· July 20, 2011 @ 12'43 pm PDT

Thope the rest of the DOK manufacturers pick up on this exciting technology and stop including blades with their DOKs too. Incredible to know that actually NOT. including a blade with the DOK makes the whole thing slimmer. Shocking, What a step forward.

💬 Chi Ken Sup - July 21, 2011 @ 04:21 pm PDT

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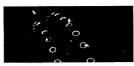


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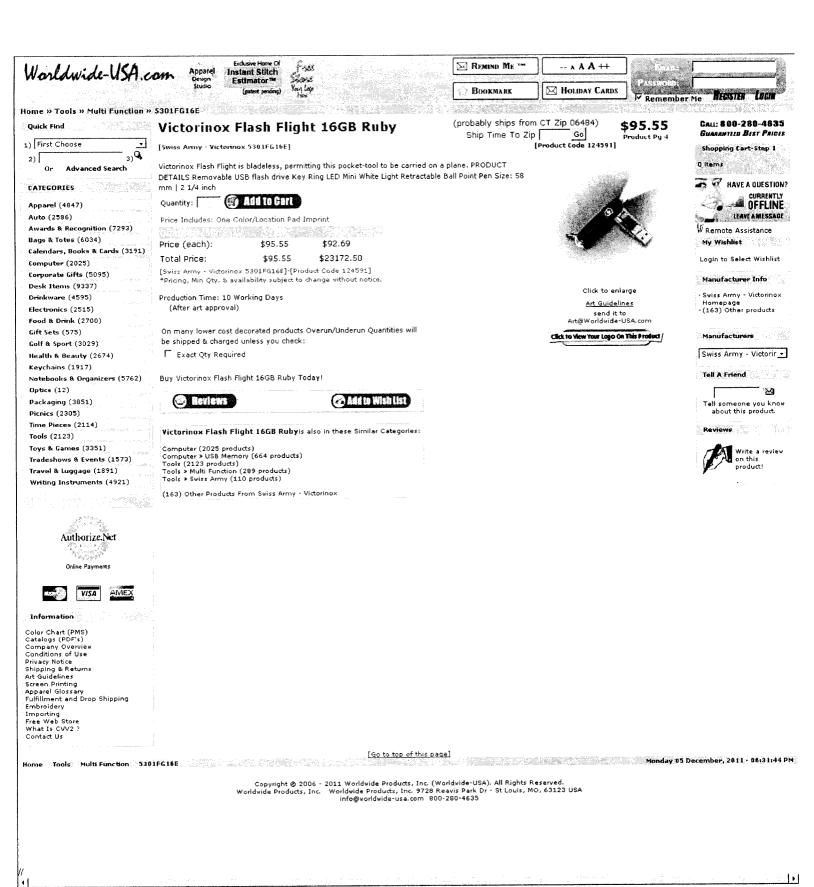
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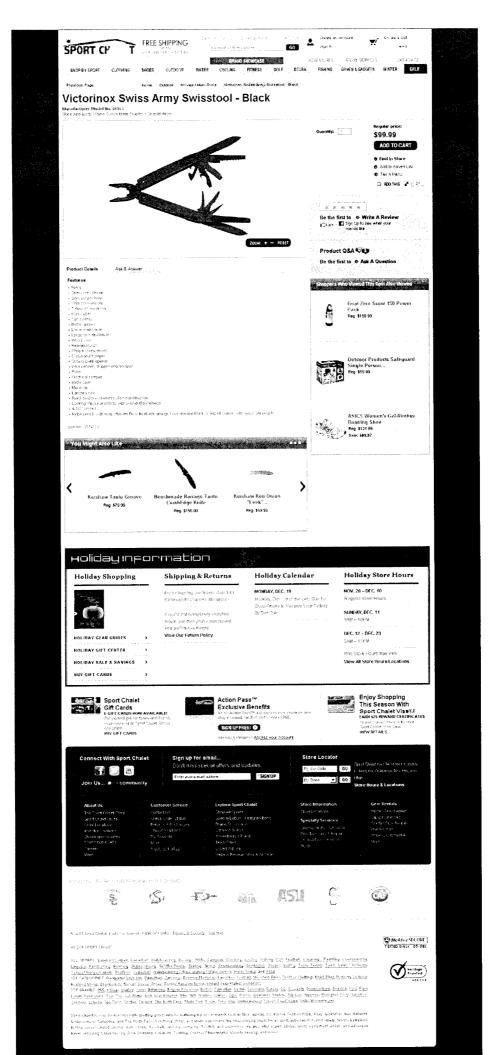
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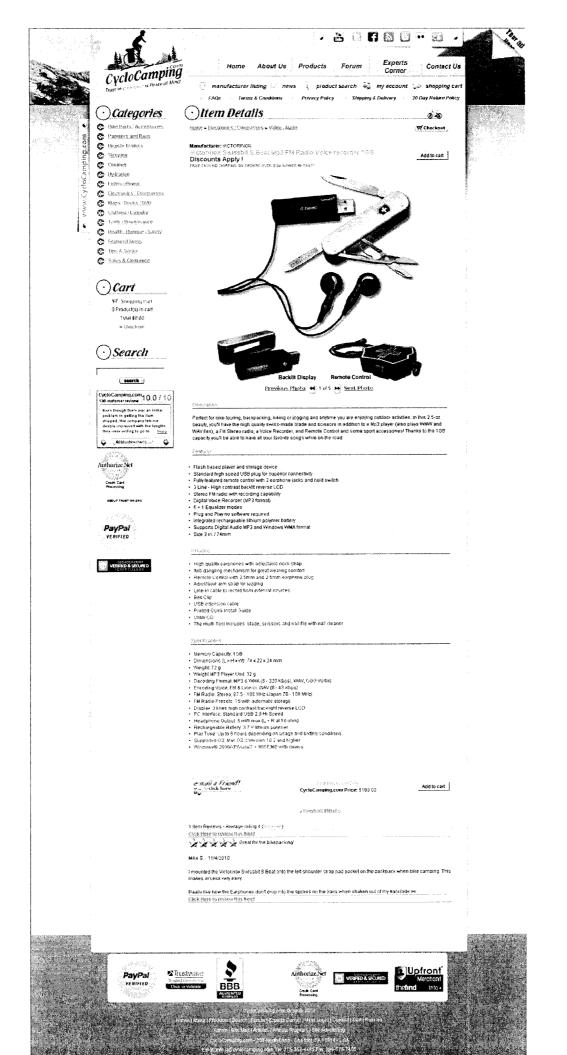
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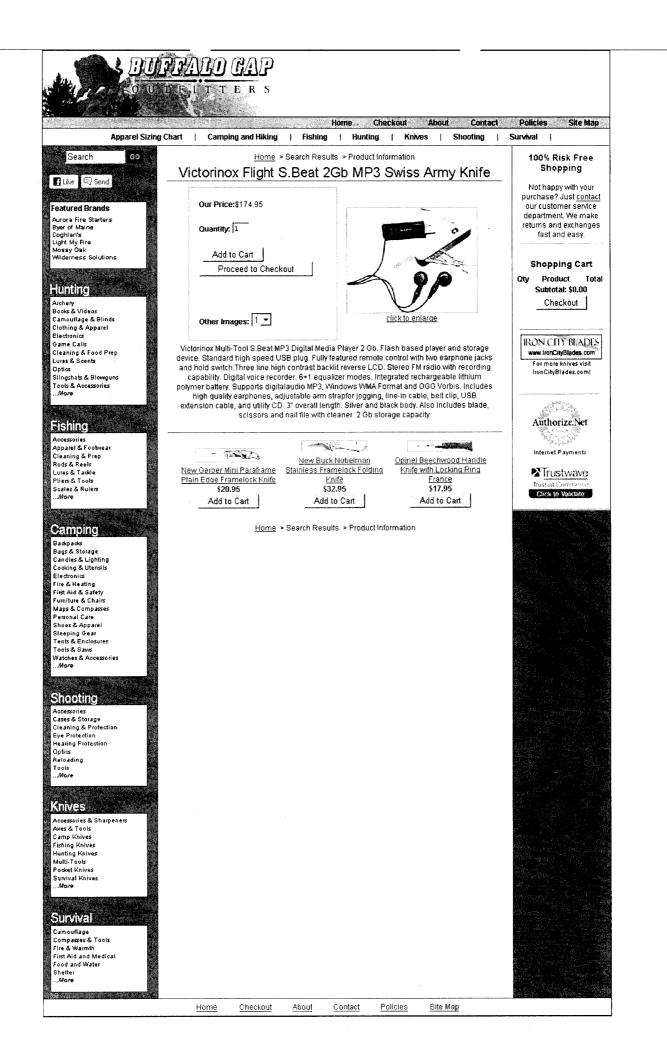
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Tools

Lindstrom has developed and produced high-precision tools since 1856 - making us the oldest continuous producer of handtools in existence today. From our large assortment of benchmark cutters and pliers to our Swiss-made precision tweezers, state-of-the-art screwdrivers and torque screwdrivers, we will fulfill the advanced needs of the professional user.

For information about our wide range of tools please pick the tool category of your choice.



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Tweezers

Lindstrom Tweezers - the Ultimate in Performance and Precision

Although tweezers are produced in many countries, firms with years of assembly experience turn to Swiss-made tweezers in order to be assured of the highest precision and consistent uniform quality.

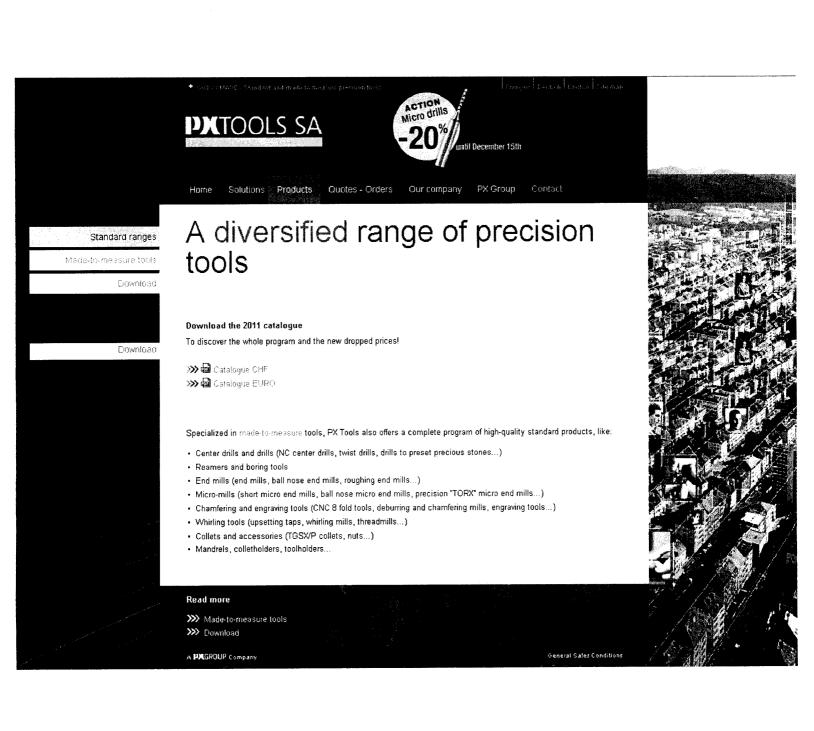
Sviss-made Lindstrom tweezers offer perfect balance, tip alignment and symmetry as well as a wide variety of materials and designs to meet the most sophisticated and demanding requirements.

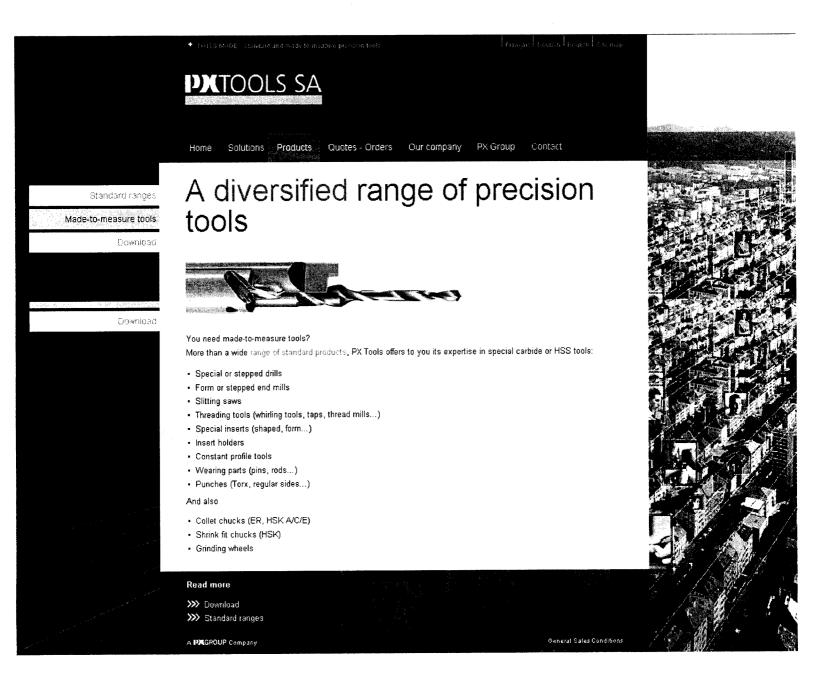
In addition to general assembly, our product line includes models specifically designed for SMDs, ESD-sensitive areas, and medical and laboratory applications as well.

Please browse through the Assortment section for our complete range of Tweezers!



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Know-how

Made-to-measure tools

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Facilities

A well-known expertise dedicated to the customer

It was not by chance that PX Tools was established nearly 60 years ago in the heart of La Chaux-de-Fonds, the cradle of the Swiss micro-mechanical industry.

Specialized in the manufacture of made-to-measure cutting tools, its geographical position enables the firm to dedicate its experitise to numerous actors of the region by being reactively and efficiently close to its customers.

It alone encompasses one of the most extensive ranges of skills in its field. The know-how, experience and dexterity of its specialized staff, associated with a mixture of the most recent CNC machines and manual machines now no longer to be found, enable it to come up with solutions to the most varied problems.

This unique expertise makes PX Tools one of the references in the very tight circle of precision toolmakers.

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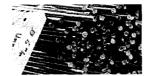
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O The PB Swiss Tools Process: 100% Swiss-Made Tools

The PB Special Alloy | The PB Internal Production | The PB Quality Controls | The PB Handle The PB Finish | The Automated PB Tool Manufacture | Serial Numbers | The PB Heat Treatment

The PB special alloy...



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The raw material source is a spring steel which has been developed into the PB special alloy after decades of joint research with the steel works. This PB special steel combines high coefficients of hardness with excellent toughness and elastic qualities.

Search: Byll'nyword .

- ٠ One condition for the manufacture of a first-class tool is a high coefficient of hardness which minimizes wear and tear. If a tool is overstressed it should neither shatter nor should brittle fracture occur without warning. Elastic deformation of a PB blade will warn the user if the tool is about to break.
- The toughness of the used material determines and restricts the permissible toughness which is around 55 57 HRC for an average screwdriver
 - PB screwdrivers, made from special spring steel, on the other hand have a hardness coefficient of 58 60 HRC thanks to the excellent toughness and elastic qualities. Special heat-treatment and strict quality controls guarantee constant values piece by piece.

back to top

The PB internal production...



- The production of all PB tools in the Wasen and Sumiswald factories guarantees the well-known, uniform PB quality. All the piece parts of the non-recoiling hammer, with the exception of the ٠
- .
- All the piece parts of the norm-tecting number, with the exception of the hammer handle, are manufactured in our own factories. Even the inserts, made from a tough special rylon, and the disks which are filled into the centre piece are produced entirely in our factories. The recoil cushioning principle, by means of disks a PB development ensure that the short, compact form of the normal hammer with synthetic
- inserts is maintained
- The centre piece of the non recoiling PB hammer consists of an exceptionally robust steel construction with a large wall thickness when compared, for example, with hammers filled with peliets. The introduction of highly developed automatic production equipment and industrial robots plays a decisive role in the manufacture of PB quality at a reasonable price. •

back to top

The PB quality controls...



- The path to high and uniform quality begins with the delivery of the raw
- The part to righ and uniform quality begins with the delivery of the raw material, Every delivery of steel is thoroughly examined in our mechanical control room and in our own metallographic laboratory. The manufacturing process is checked periodically and conscientiously. As the PB tools are totally produced in the factory each step in production can be monitored and any faults can be corrected immediately. Extensive evidencies receiver the divisions in uniformity. automation prevents deviations in uniformity.
- To remove even the last faulty piece, which cannot be avoided, all the PB tools from bit to chisel are checked once more, piece by piece, for material or manufacturing faults before they are finally packed. In this way each PB tool, which has not become unusable through misuse or natural wear and tear, can be • guaranteed.

back to top

The PB handle...

The PB handle consists of Cellulose Acetate-Butvrate (CAB), a modified natural



- agreeable to touch
 good gripping qualities
 extremely impact-resistant
 insensitive to stress cracks
 oil and fuel-resistant
 resistant to tropical conditions
 transparent (exception: multicraft)
 Together with the PB handle design, conforming to Swiss Standards VSM and proven over the last decades, this material constitutes the basis for a tool handle which cannot be bettered.
- The "multicraft" handle has been developed from the PB handle achieving exceptionally high hand torque. The roughened surface and the larger than normal external diameter increase the transfer of force and ensure high torque even when the hands are oily.
- The synthetic material, used for all PB handles does not contain cadmium

back to top

The PB finish...



- PB hexagon wrenches have, owing to the PB special steel, hardness coefficients which are far exceeding normal hardness, yet they are still
- coefficients which are rar exceeding normal hardness, yet they are still exceptionally lough. The measurement of the PB hexagon wrenches corresponds with Swiss Standard VSM, which specifies longer handle dimensions than the DIN or ISO standards. This results in a tool which is easier to use as the handle length fits in the hand more comfortably.
- The edges of the PB hexagon wrenches are easily chamfered so that the tools can be introduced into the hexagonal recess of the socket screws without any problem
- The PB hexagon wrenches with ball point are perfectly round. This facilitates the largest rake angle without the tool •
- slipping out of the screw recess. From 1.5 mm across flats all PB hexagon wrenches are nickel- and chrome-plated. They not only differ visually from normal makes but are totally rust-proof and exceptionally durable.

back to top

The automated PB tool manufacture...



- The use of PB special alloy demands considerable additional effort during production. Where other materials can be cold-processed without any problem, the PB steel requires hot working or additional heat treatment.
- The production of constantly precise dimensions and hardness of the tools also demands more effort.
- Even a relatively simple tool, such as a pin punch or a centre punch, undergoes approximately 20 separate production steps to become a PB quality tool. The tools are quality controlled many times during this process.
 To keep costs low, the manufacture of PB tools is automated as far as possible. The numerous technological alternatives these days (CAD, CNC, robots, laser) are not just cath words in the PB workshops but are actually put into use every day with the aim of achieving a uniform high quality at a reasonable price.

back to top

Serial Numbers...



Since some years the PB tools are provided with a serial number. The number that is labeled with laser, allows to trace back all production steps of the tool parts until the raw material. — This is a part of our Quality Management.

back to top

The PB heat treatment...



- Essential element of the PB quality is the regular, high hardness values of
- PS tools combined with exceptional toughness. Beside the suitable raw material the PB special alloy the application of the correct heat treatment of the steel is a decisive factor. This determines if the material has been used to its best advantage and if a uniform quality has been achieved.
- Alloying and a satisfactory heat treatment has developed from decades of innumerable tests to produce perfect PB
- All PB tools pass through a fully automatic hardening plant, which, together with strict monitoring, guarantees the required PB quality.
- All PB tools, from the bits to the chisels, are hardened over the whole length. The impact heads of striking tools are normalized by induction and are absolutely shatter-proof. A small bulge will only appear after long and intense application

back to top

Unlimited guarantee G 100% Made in Switzerland 🚱



About Count On Tools:

Count On Tools has been an exclusive North American distributor of PB Swiss Tools since 1991.

By maintaining and supporting a strong position in the hand tool industry, we have been able to offer customers the highest quality hand tools in the world with PB Swiss Tools. These PB Swiss Tools compliment any and all high tech environments requiring optimum performance from both their equipment and technicians.

We support PB partners and customers all over the world. Working flexibly and quickly to help them to find application-specific and customer-specific solutions. In our relationship as a distributor of PB Swiss Tools, we strive to offer our customers an exceptional price to performance ratio. The superior quality tools can be purchased at the same affordable low prices as our major competitor's brands. Why settle for less when you can buy a tool you know you can rely on time and time again.

About PB Swiss Tools:

PB Swiss Tools - since 1878, operating as a family business. Today, our products are still entirely developed in Switzerland and produced with sustainability in mind. This results in hand tools of unsurpassed precision, toughness, and flexibility.

Excelent tools for high-standard work

PB Swiss Tools can also cater for individual client demands for special tools. Ask for our news and note the serial number for a timely unlimited warranty on your tools.

Find out more about the PB Swiss Tools commitment below:

PE SWISS TOOLS 100% MADE IN SWITZERLAND: AGSURED QUALITY DUE TO PRODUCTS MADE 100% IN OUR SWISS WORKS

PB SWISS TOOLS INNOVATION. 1/3 OF YEARLY TURNOVER GOES TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PRODUCTS



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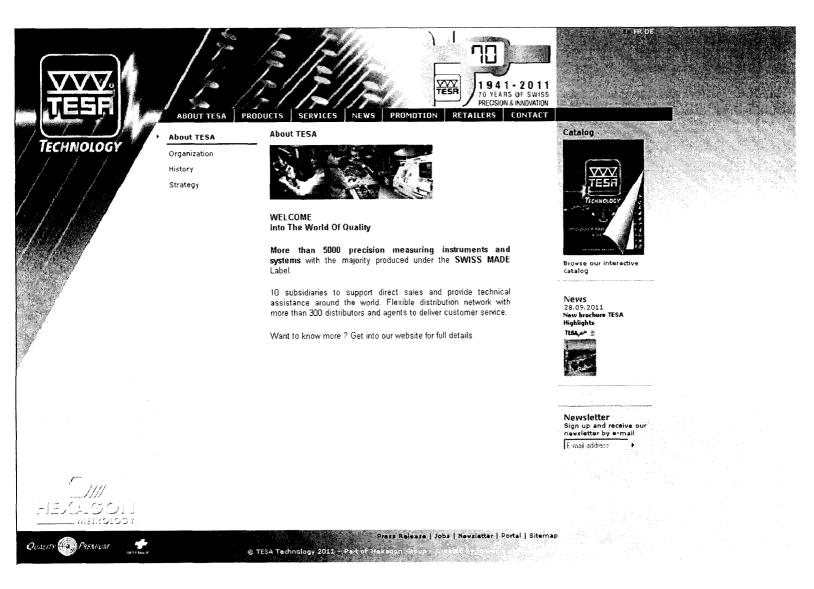
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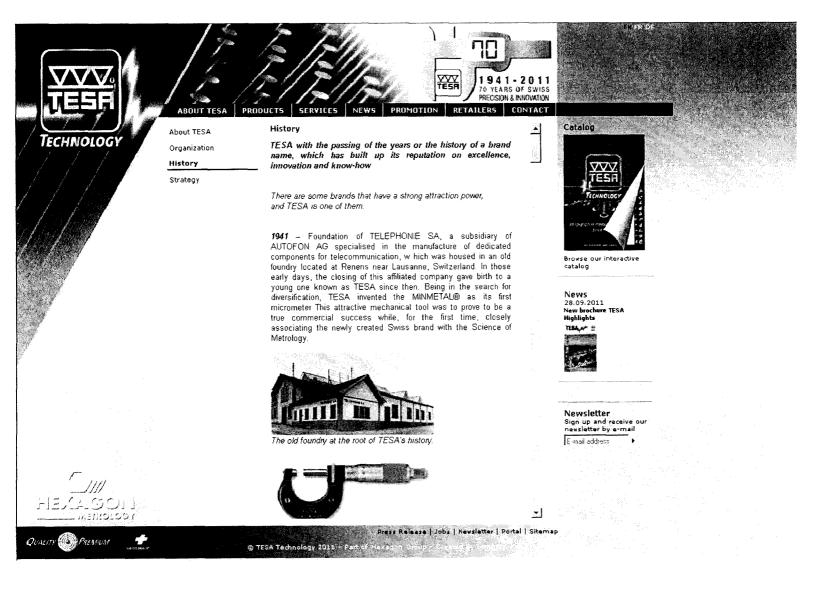
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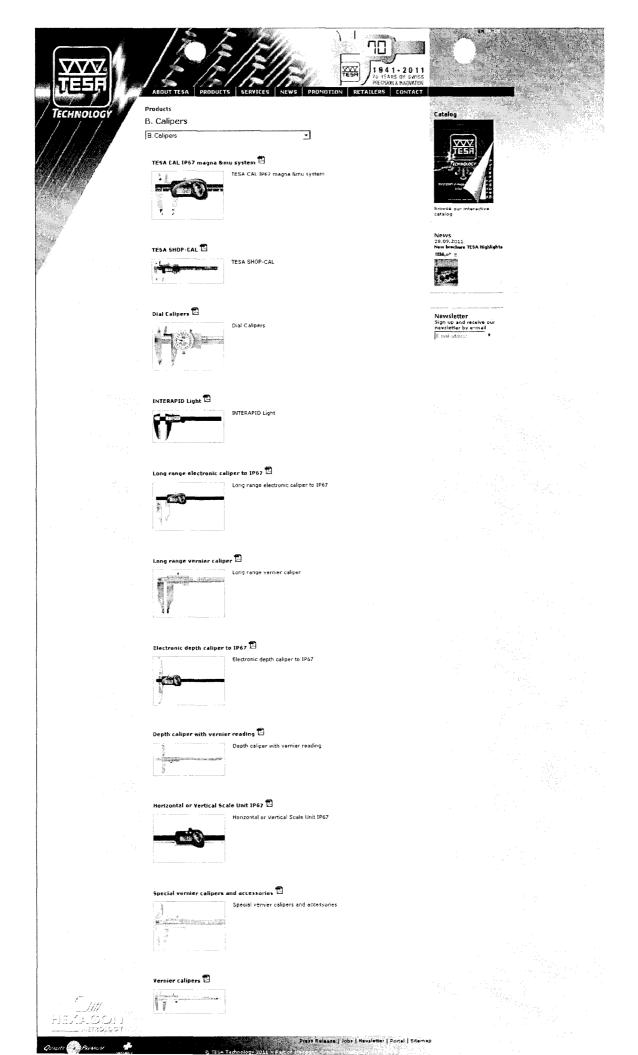
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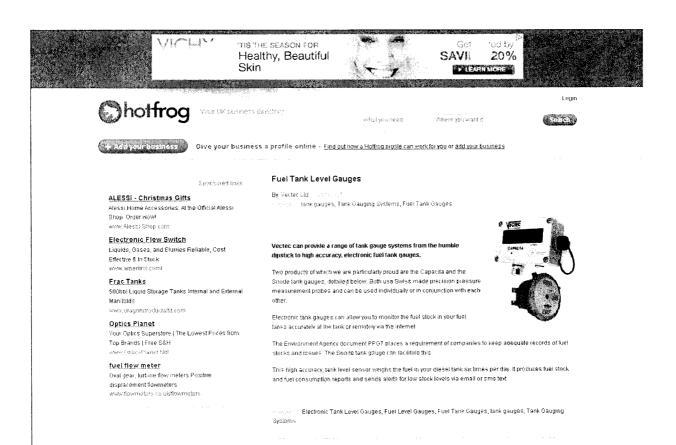
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It is necessary to service a rule installation in the same way as it is necessary to service a vehicle. Over the course of a year components on fuel dispensers can fail, meters and gauges become inaccurate and small leaks can appear in pipe work systems. The cust of a leak going unnoticed can run to tens of thousands of pounds in clean up costs and fines are levied on offending companies. Vectec Ltd addresses these issues by undertaking a multi part heck of the whole fuel installation.



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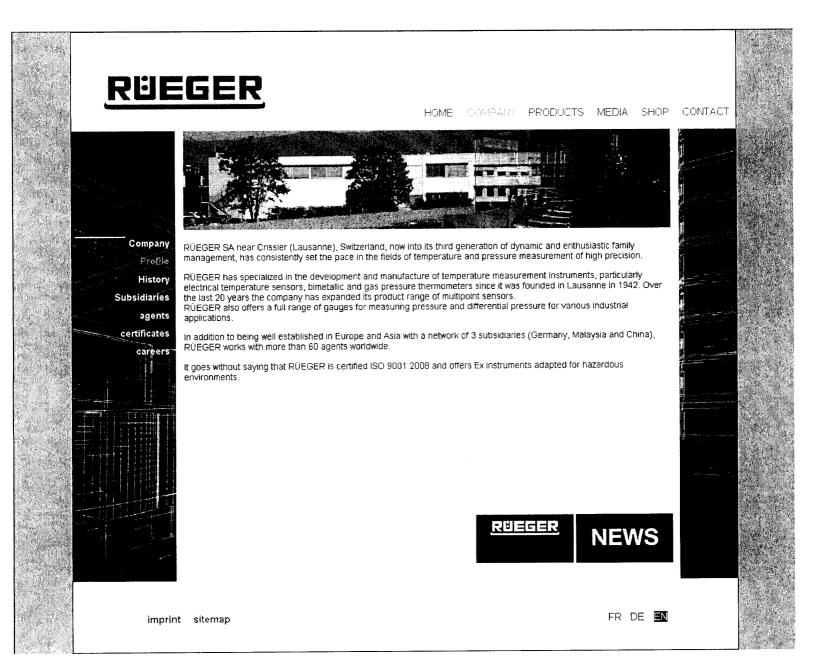
Vectec Fuel Management Systems secure a fuel dispenser against unauthorised use. They control when and how much fuel is dispensed and provide accurate records of the fuel dispensed on your PC via the internet. The cost of fuel and its usage is a significant overhead for any commercial or public transport organisation. Good fuel management can make a vitally important combinution to the profitability of such organisations.



Fuel Package Tank - above ground, bunded fuel tank (2007) FD I ADVANTAGES - Enclosed bunded tank - Reduced maintenance costs - Weatherproof, - Needs only a suitable

Level hard standing - Overfilled product can be recovered from enclosed bund - Compliant with control of pollution (OI Storage; England): regulations 2001 (PPO) - Easily transportable - Space saving - Finished in green or black oil resistant paint. - Clients own in-house colours can be accommodated on request -Sizes/caadrift to suit most situa.







Bi-directional Inverters [Inverter Chargers] Plug into Nature with your Elemental Energy Source 🖷 Renewable Energy Systems Products Services Technical FAQ Links Contact 🐺 Home < Products < Bi-directional Inverters [Inverter Chargers] 50% Australian Government rehate available on renewable energy systems Inverters Bi-directional Inverters [Inverter Chargers] Interactive Inverters 12 Volt 24 Volt 48 Volt Xantrex DR Series Xantrex TR Inverter / Charger 1,85 1500watt MSW priorer are subject t Enquire about this product Studer Compact sine wave inverter/chargers Quality Swiss made inverter chargers suitable for marine, vehicle, remote area and backup power applications. Features, high surge capacity sine wave inverter, four stage battery charger, complete internal protection (overload, overheat, short-circuit, reverse polarity) and adjustable threshold stand-by mode. Studer XP Compact 12V sine wave inverter charger 2,55 1100W/45A Model no. XPC 1400-12 inverter 1100W continuous power, 1400W for 30 min, 3300W surge rating charger 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 45A Remote control option add \$450.00; external battery temperature sense add \$65.00 prices are subject t Enquire about this product Studer Compact 12V sine wave inverter charger 3,50 1300W/55A Model no. C 1600-12 inverter: 1300W continuous power, 1600W for 30 min, 3900W surge rating charger: 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 45A Remote control option add \$450.00; external battery temperature sense add \$65.00 prices are subject t Enquire about this product S.E.A Compact Inverters S.E.A. XP Compact 12V 1100W inverter/charger 3,30 The XP Compact is a no fuss performer that is both flexible and simple to use. Transfer between inverter mode and alternate AC supply fast, smooth and safe. Has a max charge current of 45A Continuous power (W) 1100 30 min rating (W) 1400 Surge power (W) 3300 Battery draw S-By/ON (W) 0.5/4 Weight (kg) 11.7 prices are subject to Enquire about this product S.E.A. Compact 12V 1300W inverter/charger 4,08 These units handle all the big jobs, from microwave ovens to washing machines. This design incorporates flat line efficiency technology for excellent efficiency and minimum battery draw, even with the smallest load. Has a max charge current of 55A. Continuous power (W) 1300 Surge power (W) 3500 Battery draw S-By/ON (W) 0.6/6 Weight (kg) 17 prices are subject t Enquire about this product back to top of page 24 volt Xantrex DR Series Xantrex DR1524E 24V 1500W inverter/charger 1.52 inverter rating: 1,500W continuous with a 4,500W surge rating. The three stage battery charger will provide 35A @ 24V. prices are subject to Enquire about this product Xantrex DR2424E 24V 2400W inverter/charger 1.7t inverter rating; 2,400W continuous with an 8,000W surge rating. The three stage battery charger will provide 7DA @ 24V. prices are subject to Enquire about this product Studer Compact sine wave inverter/chargers Quality Swiss made inverter chargers suitable for marine, vehicle, remote area and backup power

applications. Features, high surge capacity sine wave inverter, four stage battery charger, complete internal

1600W/37A	
1600W/37A Model no. XPC 2200-24 inverter: 1600W continuous power, 2200W for 30 min, 4600W surge rating charger: 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 37A Remote control option add \$450.00; external battery temperature sense add	Azərban Məmlər Aləkəri Aləkəri ilə ilə Məmətəni də Aləkəri Aləkəri Məmlər Aləkəri Aləkəri Aləkəri Məmlər Aləkəri aləkəri ilə aləkəri yaşarı alakəri yaşarı alakəri yaşarı yaşarı yaşarı yaşarı yaşarı yaş
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Studer Compact 24V sine wave inverter charger 2300W/55A Model no. C 2600-24 inverter: 2300W continuous power, 2600W for 30 min, 6900W surge rating charger: 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 45A Remote control option add	
\$450.00; external battery temperature sense add \$65.00 Enquire about this product	prices are sub
S.E.A Compact Inverter	
S.E.A. XP Compact 24V 1600W inverter/charger The XP Compact is a no fuss performer that is both flexible and simple to use. Transfer between inverter mode and alternate AC supply fast, smooth and safe. Has a max charge current of 37A Continuous power (W) 1600 30 min rating (W) 2200 Surge power (W) 4800 Battery draw S-By/ON (W) 0.97.2 Weight (kg) 12.6	
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S.E.A. Compact 48V 3.5kW inverter/charger	
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Quality Swiss made inverter chargers suitable for marine, vehicle, ren applications. Features, high surge capacity sine wave inverter, four st protection (overload, overheat, short-circuit, reverse polarity) and adju Studer XP Compact 48V sine wave inverter charger 1600W/20A Model no. XPC 2200-48 inverter: 1600W continuous power, 2200W for 30 min, 4800W surge rating charger. 4 stage (boost, absorption,	age battery charger, complete internal stable threshold stand-by mode.
Quality Swiss made inverter chargers suitable for marine, vehicle, ren applications. Features, high surge capacity sine wave inverter, four st protection (overload, overheat, short-circuit, reverse polarity) and adju Studer XP Compact 48V sine wave inverter charger 1600W/20A Model no. XPC 2200-48 inverter. 1600W continuous power, 2200W for 30 min, 4800W surge rating charger. 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 20A Remote control option add \$450.00; external battery temperature sense add \$65.00 Enquire about this product	age battery charger, complete internal stable threshold stand-by mode.
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Guality Swiss made inverter chargers suitable for marine, vehicle, rem applications. Features, high surge capacity sine wave inverter, four st protection (overload, overheat, short-circuit, reverse polarity) and adju Studier XP Compact 48V sine wave inverter charger 1600W/20A Model no. XPC 2200-48 inverter. 1600W continuous power, 220DW for 30 min, 4800W surge rating charger. 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 20A Remote control option add \$450.00; external battery temperature sense add \$65.00 Enquire about this product Studier Compact 48V sine wave inverter charger 3500W/50A Model no. C 4000-48 inverter. 3500W continuous power, 4000W for 30 min, 10500W surge rating charger. 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 45A. Remote control option add \$450.00; external battery temperature sense add \$65.00 Enquire about this product Studier Compact 48V sine wave inverter charger 3500W//50A Model no. HPC Compact 48V sine wave inverter charger 5kW/70A Model no. HPC 6000-48 inverter. 5kW continuous power, 6kW for 30 min, 15kW surge rating charger. 4 stage (boost, absorption, float, equalise) adjustable to 45A Remote control option add \$450.00; external battery temperature sense add \$65.00	age battery charger, complete internal stable threshold stand-by mode. prices are sub
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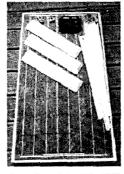
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As the Solar Caravan Lighting Kit plus a 275 Watt Pure Sinewave Power Inverter for Mains AC plug-in power.

This complete solar kit is ideal for providing lighting and mains power in remote places where solar makes sense such as:

garden sheds, stable blocks, workshops, boats & caravans,

or any situation where small amounts of power are required and mains electricity is not available.

The (Swiss made) AC Power Inverter supplies a reliable mains power source for laptops and small appliances. The Studer PSW 275Watt Inverter pure sinewave smooth current is much safer than other square or modified sine wave inverters which can damage sensitive equipment and do not recharge tool batteries efficiently.

Kit requires a 12 V battery which is not included. Any 12 V leisure battery can be used.

What's included in the kit:

- BP Solar SOWp module
- Studer AJ275 PSW Inverter
- 3 x Tri-Lite 8 W fluorescent light units
- PRO-505 Solar Carge Controller with battery condition indicator and low voltage load disconnect
- Panel Mounting Bracket (BPHV-1) for mounting module onto a roof or wall.
- Fuses and cabling.

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Additional Details: Vat included.

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