

## Title (en)

Decorative element particularly component of a timepiece

## Title (de)

Zierelement insbesondere Bauteil einer Uhr

## Title (fr)

Élément décoratif, notamment élément constitutif d'une pièce d'horlogerie

## Publication

**EP 0844539 A1 19980527 (FR)**

## Application

**EP 96118796 A 19961122**

## Priority

EP 96118796 A 19961122

## Abstract (en)

The wrist watch comprises four main pieces: an internal frame (2), an outer frame (4), a glass (6) and a base (8). The internal frame is made of a machined metal such as stainless steel and contains the mechanism. A part of the outer frame (4) is coated with a diamond layer having a micro-crystalline structure and 'cauliflower' type surface. This coating may be applied to specific surfaces of the frame (32,24,26). The coating offers a surface hardness of more than 800 HV, and is applied to a substrate of hard sintered metal or ceramic. If the material is too soft, then a shock to the outer casing can cause a fracture, since the outer thin coating does not have the elasticity which a soft substrate offers. If a metal substrate is used, then hard stainless steel may be used, sintered with tungsten carbide or titanium carbide, the carbides being attached with the aid of softer metals such as nickel, chromium, cobalt, molybdenum or a mixture of these.

## Abstract (fr)

L'invention concerne un élément décoratif comprenant un substrat revêtu au moins partiellement d'une couche protectrice et décorative en matériau dur, caractérisé en ce que le matériau de ladite couche a une structure microcristalline et une surface extérieure présentant une topographie régulière du type chou-fleur. <IMAGE>

## IPC 1-7

**G04B 37/22**

## IPC 8 full level

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## CPC (source: EP KR US)

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## Citation (applicant)

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## Citation (search report)

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## DOCDB simple family (application)

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