



## **Report of the AWCI Spare Parts Committee**

**Submitted to the AWCI Board of Directors – October 8, 2009**

**Mr. President and Directors,**

**The Committee has collaborated openly via email and various conversations culminating in a teleconference held on October 7<sup>th</sup> 2009. The Committee proposes the adoption and publication of the included Opinion and Policy Statement. AWCI's legal counsel has reviewed this statement and The Committee has unanimously agreed upon its content.**

**There are several objectives motivating us to produce this Opinion and Policy statement. The spare parts issue has been dividing our horological community. It has been the single most significant issue affecting the future of horology in the US in general and AWCI in particular, and is probably a key explanation for the attrition of members. Access to replacement parts, equipment, technical data, and training is the foundation of AWCI's certification program; and this statement represents our response to brand name manufacturers' clear intent to control such distribution. This issue is the single most driving motive to induce horologists to pursue certification. It is also a**

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source of major controversy and membership dissatisfaction. This ongoing disenchantment is harming the continuance of our profession and devaluing the perceived membership benefit of participation in our organization, AWCI. Our proposed response to this current situation is intended to take advantage of the opportunity that exists for AWCI. By taking a stand without participating in litigation, AWCI can define itself as a trade organization, an organization that adds value to a vocation and an industry. A healthy horological industry is the goal. This requires cooperation by the various factions and each must see a benefit in cooperating. If AWCI's realm of influence is to grow it must define itself as substantively valuable. It must lead and take a stand for reason.

Therefore the committee moves for adoption of the Opinion and Policy Statement attached to this email.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ernest R. Tope, Committee Chairperson  
Henry Kessler, Committee Member  
John Safranek, Committee Member  
David Douglas, Committee Member  
Manuel Yazijian, Committee Member  
Mark Butterworth, AWCI President and Ex-officio Committee Member

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