



## Wednesday, August 31st 2011 Gstaad Classic Audemars Piguet: First day

Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>: the prestigious Swiss Alps resort was animated by the sound of some 70 collector car engines come from all over Europe, and even further, to take part in the much awaited second edition of the Gstaad Classic Audemars Piguet. The event should keep all its promises, in particular thanks to beautiful weather. The competitors were able to complete their last preparations in optimum conditions before taking to the road, Thursday September 1st, in direction of the wine growing region of Lavaux.

In the Gstaad Classic Audemars Piguet « parc fermé », situated in the heart of the village, the event's competitors and partners were delighted to be back together for the first classic car meeting after the summer break. Among them, regulars of Peter Auto events, such as Swiss Eric Traber, who won the General Classification in 2009 or Sally and Dudley Mason Styrron with their splendid Ferrari Daytona Groupe IV. The Audemars Piguet crews: Nicolas Kappenberger, General Manager Switzerland, Fabrice Deschanel, General Manager – Renaud Papi and Olivier Audemars, member of the board and representative of the brand's founders, have all come to confirm that the implication of the famous watch making manufacture is above all a shared passion for fine pieces of engineering. The EFG bank is represented by Keith Gapp, co-driver for the first time on an Aston Martin DB2 of 1952.

The Gstaad Classic Audemars Piguet has gathered an exceptional grid, offering both diversity and quality. Two Jaguar SS100s, a Bugatti Type 50 and an Alfa Romeo 1750 GS proudly represent the pre-wars. Several cars are seen for the first time such as the magnificent Ferrari 250 GT SWB n°89; which boasts a second place in the Tour de France Automobile 1960 on its prize-list.

Late in the afternoon, Bernie Ecclestone, great classic car connoisseur came to visit the “parc fermé” and many fascinating exchanges were held between the competitors and the spectators. More than a “moving museum”, the Gstaad Classic Audemars Piguet is above all a real competition beginning tomorrow and offering no less than ten special stages on closed roads between Thursday and Saturday.

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