

Open letter to all exhibitors of the Baselworld 2013



## **CITES to protect rays and sharks**

### **Two rays and five more sharks species soon to be protected by CITES**

At the last conference of the parties to CITES (Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species) in Bangkok, Thailand, in March 2013, the two Manta ray species and 5 more species of Sharks were listed on appendix II of CITES.

This will regulate their trade in the future. Leather from endangered rays and sharks known as galuchat, is also used in the watch and luxury industry.

„No to galuchat!“ asks all watch and luxury exhibitor of the Baselworld 2013 to stop using endangered animals by sign with their name to „No to galuchat!“. Other renowned brands as the SWATCH Group or Blancpain have already done so.

Galuchat is derived from wild animals in danger of extinction: rays and sharks.

Rays and sharks are very much affected by overfishing. The watch and luxury industry contribute to their threatened status through the use of galuchat, the skin of rays and sharks.

The oceans' shark populations have already been diminished to 10 percent of their original size, and rays are the most endangered species in the Mediterranean Sea!

Rays and sharks cannot be bred for use in the leather industry.

Please refrain from buying, selling or using galuchat in any way. Thank you!

**Sign for a watch industry without galuchat: [www.galuchat.ch](http://www.galuchat.ch)**

See the list of the watch brands that have said **NO to galuchat!**

**Read about the CITES Conference in Bangkok which took place from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of March, 2013: [www.galuchat.ch](http://www.galuchat.ch) -> Tagebuch (in German).**

Thank you very much for your support in protecting rays and sharks.

Sincerely

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