

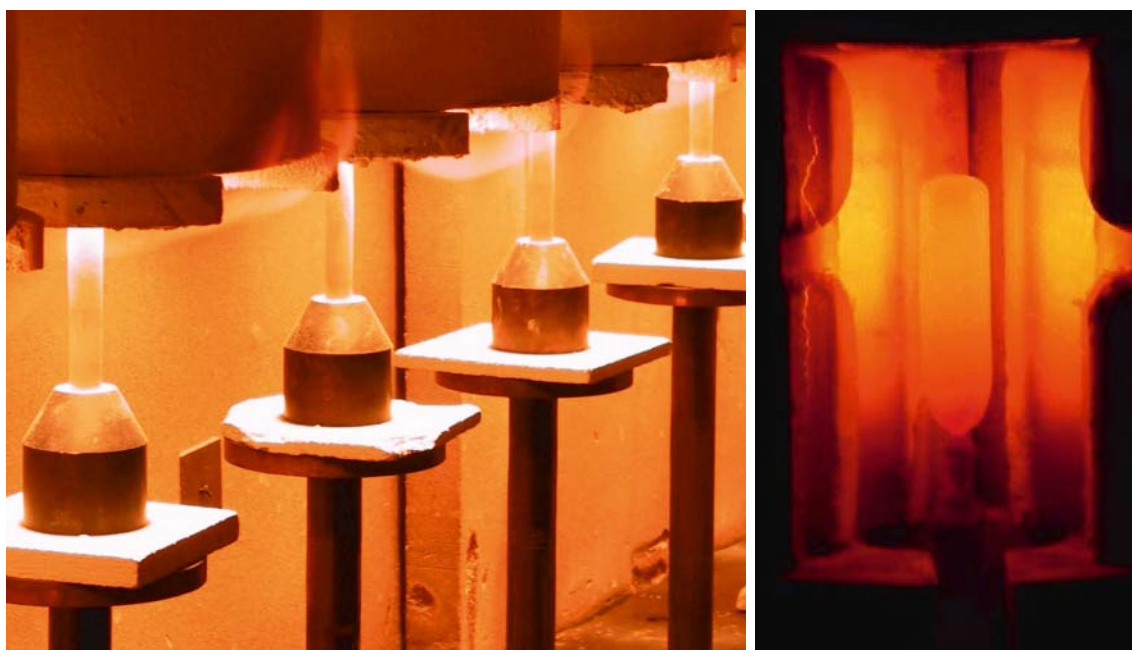
## Technical Features

# Sapphire Crystals

**Sapphire crystals are more expensive than any other kind, which is not surprising if one takes into account the raw material and the hours of work that are required. But they offer both your customers and yourself considerable advantages.**

Longines' sapphire crystals are acid-resistant, scratch-resistant and practically unbreakable. They combine zero porosity with total resistance to acids and alkaline substances and have a hardness of 9 on the Mohs scale. By comparison, mineral glass has a hardness of only 6.5. Only one other stone can scratch a sapphire crystal, and it's one that is not very common – a diamond.

The sapphire crystals made by Longines are crystal clear. Because they are made of sapphire, of course. But also because the craftsmen who make them are skilled in preserving the clarity of this synthetic stone through perfect polishing. For your customer this means that the crystal fulfils its role of being invisible.



Because, at the end of the day, if so many craftsmen take so much care in this process it is precisely with the aim of creating this invisibility. Creating a crystal that cannot be seen.

The polishing stage requires a diamond, oils and equipment of micrometric precision. There is only one possible tool that can be used to polish a Longines sapphire crystal, and that is a diamond. In powdered form it is mixed with mineral and vegetable oils, but the precise quantities are a secret that only the polisher knows!