

## Sinn U2 S (EZM5) ....an owner's review.

I purchased this watch five years ago. I don't know about you, but my internal commentator told a convincing story of how I could justify adding another watch if only I had an event to or special occasion to mark. I wanted the EZM 5, a tough, no-nonsense tool watch so what could I do? Then I hit on it. I had a struggle that I had overcome and that was it. Decision made and I purchased the watch online from a Sinn authorised dealer in Germany.

The watch arrived in a small box. Along with the watch Sinn supplied it with an Allen key and a small bottle of blue thread locking fluid, more on that later. And so like many collectors the watch enjoyed its honeymoon, its time in the sun, its photo shoots and then a place in my watch box. It now is reserved for its part in the regular rotation or for travel to places where a bright wealth signal is not sensible. Its never been back for service but likely I will send it back to Sinn HQ sometime in the next twelve months, not because its faltering but because its a machine that should be serviced.

Let's talk the tech and there's a lot. But starting with its vital statistics it is according to my callipers (the plastic ones you see all the pros using) its 44 mm side to side 16.5 mm thick, the space between the lugs is 22mm and it is 51 mm long, but if you include the male end links it comes to 56 mm long. I haven't weighed it but Sinn claim the watch minus strap is 114g At time of writing my scales don't have a working battery so I can't check. But it feels heavier in the hand and the first few moments after you strap it on where it feels top-heavy until you dial in (see what I did there?) bracelet size. Then, like all watches in my experience, you forget about the weight and it just takes on a reassuring presence on the wrist. The reason for the weight? Well that's down to the Sinn version of a Faraday cage and true to form they go the Full Monty here. The dial, the movement holder and an intermediate bottom are made of solid pieces of "soft iron" what ever that is. Then the case (and bracelet) heft is added to by being constructed of the now infamous U-boat steel that is supposedly heavier, more corrosion and magnetic resistant than 316 steel. The result of all this, 1000 Gauss (or 80,000A/m) magnetic resistance.

I'm not sure if the clasp is also made of the same U-boat steel. Its a rather flimsy and cheap looking (if not actually tried and tested for millions of hours of real time use) stamped variety. It has little prominences that click into place but these are not ceramic balls like a Tudor and might wear down with time. Strangely the fold out dive extension is made of full-thickness milled out steel as are the actual arms of the clasp. Anyway, Sinn, please, you need to up this side of your product please. That being said once the watch is on I don't look at the clasp or spend the day fiddling with it.



The version I have is the blacked out one. This is where Sinn go deep into tech once again. Noting that PVD coatings are extremely hard they can crack when applied to a softer, more easily deformed surface. Sinn have hardened the steel case and bracelet to an almost scratch proof hardness by what their manual describes as a "special process" (thank you Sinn) and then applies the PVD coating of titanium-aluminium-carbonitrite. The result is it's black and built not to scratch or chip off. And it has not disappointed. I've dropped it scraped against the sea bed a few times and not a mark on it. I pamper my watches to be honest but just in case an

accident happens, Sinn has it covered, literally.

Now I like, no, I mean I love GMT complications. I have real need for them, at least that's the narrative I have created despite that my brain can do the sums sometimes faster than my eyes can accommodate to the small hand on the dial. I'm a watch collector, I think I mentioned that? So this watch has a great type of GMT, the caller GMT thanks to the movement the Sellita SW330-1. I know some times it is written off as "not a real GMT" but firstly I don't know what "proper" is referring to and secondly it does exactly what it is supposed to do...displays a second time zone. done! And unlike and better in my opinion than "a proper GMT" or flyer/traveller GMT it allows quick-setting of the date. Bliss. Pop the watch away for a few days if you like then when you want to wear it just fire her up, set the time then quick set the date and second time, done. Added to the GMT and date you have a dive bezel. Now I fall into the Tim Mossi school here and think dive bezel is are better than chronographs in many real-life scenarios above the waves. for me the most useful role for this is in the kitchen. Wet/greasy hands whilst cooking? No problem turn the bezel get on with the job. After the cooking is over rinse off the watch with a little soap. Job done! So much more practical for messy me than a chronograph pusher that might allow stuff to get inside the case. And the scale of the bezel compared to a typical small sundials (not Sinn but that's another review) its easy to read.

Theres still more tech but I want to get onto the experience of the watch. Lets just note for now there's the inert gas filled case, copper sulphate capsules, special oils and more. Let's talk about the owning and wearing. As I mentioned I purchased this online as Sinn don't have an authorised dealer or any retail presence where I live and this is part of the "experience" when buying from smaller independents. If you want to play just suck it up and buy online, enjoy your postal service and customs experiences and it will get to you... It is however worth remembering that if you want to service the watch or if something goes wrong then you have to ship it at your own expense back to Sinn HQ. This is the main reason why I haven't sent it for routine service even though its 5 years old now. At least the copper sulphate indicator is still fine, the time keeping is as good as new so I'm keeping it safe at home for now.

To be honest I don't wear my EZM 5 for extended periods much theses days. Its a great travel watch though and that's when it mostly comes out to play, especially when I want something fully water proof for holiday activities like imbibing too much, tough enough to not care about modern airport experiences, jumping in the sea (and not being able to rinse it off) and also playing safe in unfamiliar environments all while keeping steady dependable home and holiday time (and date for the return flight).

The blacked out look, that wont chip really helps is stay under the radar and if the worst happens, whilst not cheap, its no more expensive than a phone and iPad which many people dont think twice about taking on holiday.

I am a watch collector, I have "the sickness". I have more watches than I should and so my particular "way" is to wear my watches in rotation. The good the bad and the ugly they all have to rotate. Its my way of discovering which watches I want to keep and this one is a keeper. Is the EZM 5 my favourite? No, but I don't really have one nor need one nor know how I could whittle away my collection to "The One", nor do I plan to. Also this watch has some sentimental value, a personal meaning so I don't foresee any day that I will sell it.





There are some bad points or more apptly some areas where my old teachers would have written "could do better". One is the nonsense of having hex-s/crews with thread locking glue holding the links then connecting to the case with good old (cheap) spring bars. Clasp too is help to the mega bracelet weigh spring bars. What what all about? The claps I mentioned, looks cheap, is cheap and is not the standard we expect theses days. The sapphire is a beautiful thick domed piece of glass but they put AR coating on both sides. Makes no sense on a tool watch to have a scratch able coating on the outer surface of the glass in my opinion. Last gripe, or really its a proper moan is the lume. The lume game is poor. Maybe they have a supply issue I dont know but it fades so quickly. There are so many brighter lumed and longer lasting lumed watches out there so this is definitely a "could do better" aspect of the watch.

Any regrets? Rien! I like this diver gmt watch quite a lot. Its here to stay in my collection regardless of the sentimental value as despite its shortcomings its good points are far too many.

