

Patijn Scores on All Fronts!

He's a four-time winner of the Oregon Trophy, winner of the Manno Trophy, proud leader of the Stallion

Sporthorse Index, sire of three daughters who head the list of mares with the highest breeding values, and sire

of two young stallions registered in the Studbook. These achievements give us more than sufficient reason to

focus the spotlight on the KWPN stallion Patijn, the 2008 Harness Horse of the Year.

Patijn was born on Henk van Til's property in Haulerwijk on May 7, 1997. He is a Kolonel (s.Renovo)-son out of Julony ster preferent (Renovo out of Velony keur preferent by Hoogheid x Indiaan). Henk van Til, however, is not responsible for choosing Patijn's sire and dam, as Julony was in-foal to Kolonel when he purchased her from the Tel-family. "I bought a mare from the Tel-family, and a free breeding to the stallion Kolonel was included. I was crazy about that stallion, so I jumped on the opportunity to also buy Julony in-foal to Kolonel a year later," says Van Til.

Patijn is unique in that the Tel-family bred both his sire Kolonel and his dam Julony. Kolonel is by Renovo preferent out of Cituna (s.Unitas) keur preferent prestatie. Kolonel stood at stud from 1995 through 1999. In late 1999, his breeding career ended when he was gelded and subsequently sold through Roelof Harm Veenstra to a buyer in Germany to be used for driving.

Cituna is by Unitas, who is known more for his own performances than those of his offspring. It is likely that the sport talent in Kolonel's dam-line comes from the Hackney mare Suddie Citation, Kolonel's granddam. Her grandsires are Walton Searchlight (who is Cambridge Cole's sire) and Walton Diplomat. Based on his sport performances, Kolonel won the 1997 Stallion Competition with Lammert Vinke. That achievement coupled with those of his full brothers Jonkheer and Oberon qualified Cituna for the prestatie predicate.

Cituna is now 24 years old, and Lammert Tel still uses her as a broodmare. Tel: "Last year, Cituna foaled a colt by Manno, but I wasn't entirely pleased with him. That's when I decided to stop breeding her. But she's still in such good shape that I decided to breed her again after all, this time to her grandson Patijn. Cituna needs blood, so I

Patijn, the 2008 Harness Horse of the Year.



think it's a good match. I'm crazy about Patijn, and in addition to Cituna, I bred a Hackney mare and Kroonvorstin (s.Renovo) to him." Incidentally, Tel no longer has any horses out of the Lony line. "I sold every-

thing over the years. I'd like to get a good mare back from this line so that I start breeding again," explains Tel. Patijn is in-bred to Renovo preferent, as both Patijn's sire Kolonel as well as his dam



Patijn has won a great deal with Harm Jan Veenstra, including the Manno Trophy.

Julony are offspring of the foundation sire. Julony ster preferent died in 2004, leaving behind nine registered offspring. The first two, mares by Wouter and Kolonel, were sold. The third, a full brother to Kolonel, has earned a respectable number of points. J. Castelijns of Hapert is continuing this branch of the mare line with Tulony keur (s.Kolonel), and H.S.M. van der Kuil of Haaksbergen is doing the same with Ulony ster (s.Waterman). Tulony is a full sister to Patijn and has won 89 points in the hands of Peter Stevens. The broodmare Julony also produced a filly and a colt by Waterman. Her last foal, a chestnut colt named Zembla (s.Manno), was born in 2004. Tel subsequently sold him to Lambertus Huckriede. Van Til: "Things went wrong when the Manno-foal was born. It wasn't lying in the right position, so the vet had to pull it out. The mare sustained so much internal injury that we couldn't save her." Incidentally, Van Til no longer has horses. "I struggle with arthritis, so I sold the horses several years ago. But I keep close track of what Patijn is doing. I thought it was wonderful that he won the Oregon Trophy

for the fourth time! He's in good hands with Harm Jan Veenstra; he and the horse are made for one another," says Van Til. The following dam report was drafted with Patijn's approval: "Julony is a well-developed mare that embodies the harness horse type. She has well-sprung ribs and a good rectangular shaped body. The head is attractive. The neck is sufficiently long with good shape and length. The wither is well-developed but could extend a bit farther. The shoulder is positioned and shaped well. The mare has a strong back/hindquarters. The croup has good muscling as well as good shape and positioning. The front legs are somewhat lacking in length, but the hind legs are correct. The feet are shaped normally. The pasterns are short, and the legs are clean. The walk shows sufficient length of stride and activity. The trot is strong behind but cow-hocked. The mare uses her front end well but could show bigger strides with her front legs. Height: 16.1 hands. Patijn's granddam is Velony keur preferent (Indiaan out of Lony ster preferent by Hoogheid). She and her full sister Whony keur preferent are the founda-

tion of the Tel family's mare-line. Among Whony's offspring is the approved harness horse stallion Ganges (s.Renovo). Velony's most famous offspring is the keur mare Gelony. Although she is now deceased, this full sister to Julony was the five-time TAVENO champion in the hands of Lammert Tel, and in 1994, she won the title Top Sport Mare of the Year at the National Harness Horse Day competition.

Patijn's great-granddam, Lony ster preferent (Hoogheid x Roland), paired exceptionally well with the preferent stallion Indiaan (Oregon x Victor). In addition to the successful mares Velony and Whony, the Lony x Indiaan combination produced several show horses, the most famous of which is Rector T. He is among the horses shown by Stal van Tuyl and has won approximately € 5,000 in prize money. The Lony mare-line has produced seven mares that rank in the top 100 mares with the highest breeding values. Patijn's full sister, Tulony, holds the highest place on that list at number 13. (The full list may be viewed at www.kwpm.nl.)

Patijn's Achievements

Van Til eventually sold Patijn (who at the time was named Pulonist), along with his stablemate Pelonist (Kolonel out of Elony by

Heritability

Harness horse inspector Piet Lelieveld: "When we look at Patijn with respect to how he passes on conformation, several things stand out. Patijns have a light head-neck connection, very good correct legs, lots of carriage, a long moment of suspension, lots of front leg action, and powerful hind legs. However, there are several points that breeders should consider when selecting a mare for Patijn. With respect to conformation, we're generally seeing offspring body types that tend to be slightly square in shape and a bit smaller; for these reasons, we recommend that breeders choose big, long-lined mares as partners for Patijn. Furthermore, we're seeing necks that are set a bit low but are used well in movement, as Patijn offspring score well on their carriage. The backs are somewhat tight, and furthermore, we've seen rather narrow feet. However, with a total conformation breeding value of 108 and a movement breeding value of 109, Patijn's scores are far above average."



Waldemar is Patijn's first approved son. Last year, he won the Mitsubishi Stallion Competition.



Artiflex is the 2008 Stallion Selection Champion. Last spring, he was registered in the Studbook.

Renovo x Hoogheid) to farrier Peter Stevens. The stallions thrived with Stevens, who took them as two-year-olds to the National Harness Horse Day competition. Patijn finished eighth and Pelonist twelfth. Stevens had full confidence in Patijn and decided to present him at the Stallion Selection. He gelded Pelonist, who showed for several years before starting a career in international driving. After the National Harness Horse Day competition, Peter started Patijn in harness. Peter: "It went well from the start. We put him in front of the marathon carriage and drove off immediately. No problem, he's never taken a wrong step with us. He's all suppleness and elasticity. Still, his presentation in the first round viewing in Zwolle wasn't very impressive. In-hand, Patijn was always a bit afraid and not very bold. He really has a motor behind, and he showed that in a bit of an unusual way in-hand. The big audience was very critical of him. Fortunately, the Selection Committee was able to see past the weak presentation. They probably also had faith in the mare-line and gave Patijn the chance to prove himself in Ermelo. We've always believed in Patijn, but we've also always had to defend him--and actually, we still do. There came a point at which Patijn offspring got a bad name because some drivers couldn't get along with them. If you treat them fairly and accept them for what they are, they're fine. And this is true because Patijn offspring are successful in the show ring." During that period, Driekus Vonk and Hermannus Boelens saw Patijn in harness and decided to buy him. Patijn went on to do the performance test, which proved easy for him. Scoring an 8 for carriage and hind leg use; an 8½ for suspension, front leg action, and overall impression; and even a 9 for desire to work, Patijn became the Performance Test Champion and

was registered in the studbook. Furthermore, he received the distinction "abundant to very abundant talent as a harness horse." Very slowly, Patijn began to win over breeders and covered 42 mares after Ermelo. Following the National Harness Horse Day competition, when American buyers showed serious interest in Patijn, Hermannus Boelens became his full owner. "I didn't want to sell Patijn but Driekus did, so I bought out his half," explains Boelens. An unforgettable experience for Boelens was visiting the U.S. in the fall of 2000. Gene LaCroix of Kentucky invited Boelens and Patijn to do an exhibition at a sales presentation of Dutch harness horses. In Patijn's profile that was published in a 2001 issue of *In de Strengen*, Boelens said, "That trip to the U.S. was like a fairytale. In my wildest dreams, I couldn't imagine that I would ever drive my own stallion with my own carriage and harness in North America." Patijn made his show debut as a four-year-old in the hands of Kees van der Maat. Arrangements concerning training Patijn and showing him in the Stallion Competition had been made the previous year during the stallion's visit to the U.S. Given that Van der Maat was obligated to drive Manno at the

National Harness Horse Day competition and the Breeding Stallion Championship, Boelens enlisted the help of Thomas van der Weiden. The arrangement worked out well because Patijn gave Manno a run for his money at the National Harness Horse Day. Manno won, but the two faced off again a month later at the Breeding Stallion Championship. The four-year-old Patijn stole everyone's heart and beat Manno! A month later he won the Stallion Competition in the hands of Kees van der Maat.

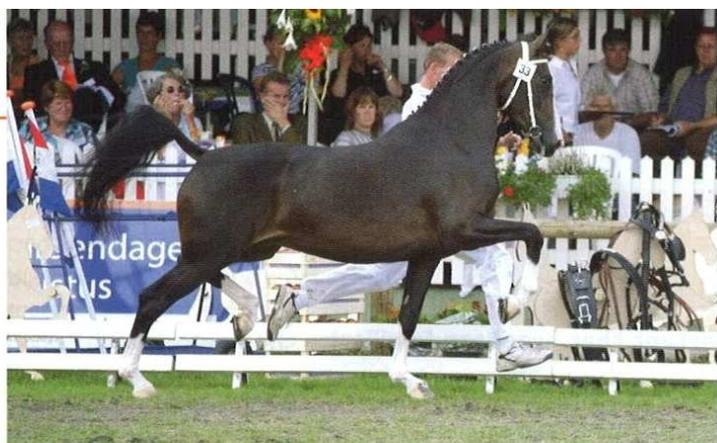
Over the years, Patijn has won grand prizes with various drivers. In 2002, he won the Oregon Trophy for the first time with Thomas van der Weiden. Then Linda Boelens, Hermannus Boelens' granddaughter, took over the reins and won the Oregon Trophy and the Breeding Stallion Championship in 2004. A year later, Patijn won the Oregon Trophy for the third time. Since late 2006, Harm Jan Veenstra has been Patijn's trainer and driver. Together, the combination won the Breeding Stallion Championship in 2006 and the first Master class in 2007. Furthermore, they made history when Patijn won the Oregon Trophy for the fourth time, achieving what no other stallion has. At the last National Harness Horse Day, Patijn won the much-coveted Manno Trophy, and after a great show season, in both sport and breeding, he was declared the 2008 KWPN Harness Horse of the Year.

Patijn Offspring

From the time of his approval in 2000 through 2007, Patijn covered 601 mares, resulting in 208 registered colts and 218 registered fillies. He stood at stud on Wim Cazemier's property through 2006, after which he came to Harm Jan Veenstra. Veenstra: "My father has always done a lot of business with Hermannus Boelens, and



With very impressive scores as the Performance Test Champion, Atleet was registered in the Studbook this spring.



As a two-year-old and as a three-year-old, Wendoline was honored at the National Harness Horse Day as the Champion of the National Mare Selection.



Whispering Hope is Patijn's first daughter to earn the sport predicate.

we often talked about Patijn but couldn't get him to our station. We were very interested in the stallion because we had so many good experiences with his offspring in doing business. We finally got him two years ago, and he's now in his second breeding season here. He didn't cover very mares last year, about 30. This year, he's already covered double that number. It definitely helps that he's number one on the index."

To date, eight Patijn sons have been awarded the ster predicate, eighteen 18 have qualified for the second round viewing, and six have been selected for the performance test. In addition, three Patijn sons have been registered in the Studbook: Waldemar (ds. Joviaal) in 2006, and Artiflex (ds. Fabricius) and Atleet (ds. Waterman) in 2008. A Patijn sire-line is currently being established alongside the influential Manno-Fabricius sire-line. Through 2007, eighty-five Patijn mares have been registered in the Studbook; fifty-five have earned the ster predicate (65%); and the following six have been registered as keur: Ursula (ds. Wouter), Ventola (ds. Wouter), Wizkid's Gonda (ds. Larix), Willemien (ds. Heineke), Zierona-Idee (ds. Milano), and Whispering Hope (ds. Fabricius). Since then, a sport predicate has been requested for the keur mare Whispering Hope, as she has earned more than 100 points.

Furthermore, the Patijn daughter Wendoline (ds. Majesteit) is a two-time winner of the National Mare Championship. This Patijn daughter won her division as a two-year-old and as a three-year-old at the National Harness Horse Day competition, after winning All-Around Champion of the Friesland Central Selection as a two-year-old and All-Around Champion of the North Harness Horse Central Selection as a three-year-old. Another Patijn daughter, Whizkid's Gonda, won All-Around Champion last year at the Central Selection in Norg. Furthermore, three Patijn daughters received invitations to

the class for keur and elite mares at the National Harness Horse Day. These were Wizkid's Gonda, Whispering Hope, and Ventola. In 2006, Wadora (ds. Fabricius) won Reserve Champion at the North Brabant Central Selection.

Top Horses in Harness

With a breeding value of 181 (75% reliability), Patijn leads this year's list for the first time. His 26 offspring competing in the sport are responsible for this breeding value, and several offspring are excellent advertising for Patijn as a stud. These are Ufried, Wadora, Waldemar, Whispering Hope, Wizkid's Gonda, and Wonder van de Ursahof, who all competed very successfully last year. Other notable show horses include Cees Brouwer's Urban; Stal Mekkes' Ventola and Vitz Randall (a full brother to Waldemar); Henri van Weeghel's Wesley VW; and Martin de Groot and Marcel Ritsma's Winkler Prins.

A discussion of top Patijn offspring in harness inevitably leads to the subject of driving. Veenstra: "Our sales of horses for driving over the past years have been almost exclusively Patijn offspring. They're

in high demand. Patijn's sire, Kolonel, who continues to have a successful driving career in Germany, has also contributed significantly to the demand. But now it's hard to find four-year-old or five-year-old Patijns; they're just no where to be found, or people don't want to sell them.

Dressage is becoming increasingly more important in driving, and for that, people need horses with presence. Patijn has that and so do his offspring. What's more, they have the right temperament for driving; they don't leave you in sitting in the obstacles. They want to work for you. Incidentally, you also see that character trait in Patijn show horses."

Over the last two years, Veenstra has excelled in the show ring with Patijn. Asked if he has further ambitions in this area, Veenstra responds: "I want to make sure that Patijn is going well, and then we'll see what awards we win. My goal is for Patijn to attract a lot of mares; the stallion has earned those mares, and using him is to the advantage of breeders when it comes time to sell their foals. In any case, we jump at the chance to get Patijn offspring, but they first have to be born!"



Wizkid's Gonda won the KNHS Singles Competition last year in the hands of Derk Jan Mekkes.