



AMORIM

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YEAR 24

Letter

news

Amorim Group news

Agreement between CORTICEIRA AMORIM, government organisations and NGO's

CORTICEIRA AMORIM enters innovative partnership concerning Cork Oaks and Associated Biodiversity - Improving Derived Value and Sustainability



Signature of agreement – from left to right: Nuno Barroca (Director of Corticeira Amorim); Luis Silva (WWF coordinator in Portugal); Hélder Spínola (Quercus President); Francisco Castro Rego (Director-General of the General Forestry Resources Directorate); João Menezes (President of the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Institute); António Rios de Amorim (President of Corticeira Amorim)

In the context of the Business & Biodiversity initiative accorded top priority by the current Portuguese Presidency of the European Union and in the framework of the Action Programme for the Recovery of Cork Oak and Holm Oak Forests, an innovative agreement was signed in Coruche on 10 October between CORTICEIRA AMORIM,

the DIRECÇÃO GERAL DE RECURSOS FLORESTAIS (General Forestry Resources Directorate), the INSTITUTO DE CONSERVAÇÃO DA NATUREZA E DA BIODIVERSIDADE (Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Institute), QUERCUS and the WWF.

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Amorim Cork Deutschland successful in ISO 9001:2000 and Codex Alimentarius audits

At the start of November, Amorim Cork Deutschland successfully passed an NP EN ISO 9001:2000 standard audit. In addition to this achievement, the company also achieved a good result in the Codex Alimentarius (HACCP) audit.

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“The Great Cork Debate” – consensus reached regarding improvement in quality of natural cork bottle stoppers

Held on 27 October this year at COPIA - The American Centre for Wine, Food & The Arts, in Napa, California, “The Great Cork Debate” was attended by approximately 100 wine producers, journalists, industry professionals and ordinary wine consumers.

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Editorial

Welcome once more to the Amorim Newsletter. In this issue we are very pleased to be able to highlight the agreement signed between CORTICEIRA AMORIM, the General Forestry Resources Directorate, the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Institute, QUERCUS and the WWF, in the context of the Business & Diversity initiative – a priority of the current Portuguese Presidency of the European Union and in the framework of the Action Programme for the Recovery of Cork Oak and Holm Oak Forests. We also give special attention to “The Great Cork Debate”, held in California, at which consensus was expressed regarding the improvement in the quality of natural cork bottle stoppers. Awards and distinctions have also been a significant element in this, the final quarter of the year. Amorim Cork Deutschland successfully passed ISO 9001:2000 and Codex Alimentarius audits at the start of November, while Corticeira Amorim-Indústria was awarded the best stand layout prize at the National Floor Show 2007 – the largest United Kingdom event in the flooring and accessories area. Finally, Quinta Nova de Nossa Senhora do Carmo received the Best Of Wine Tourism 2007/8 National Award in the Architecture and Landscape category. We also invite our readers to find out more about the most recent gourmet offerings from Quinta Nova, which complement the existing product range: cherry jam, fig jam, quince jelly, rosemary honey, lavender, camomile, heather and “carqueja” infusions, and traditional sweets prepared using regional recipes.

And of course we must take this opportunity to wish all of our readers and a Prosperous New Year!

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ERRATA

Dear reader
 In the previous issue – Jul/Aug/Sept 2007 –, on page 12, the article “Amorim & Irmãos receives visit from Austrian wine makers” was accompanied by a photograph and legend unrelated to the text.
 The photograph was of a group of clients of Amorim Cork Deutschland who visited Amorim & Irmãos last July.

We apologise for this error.

Agreement between CORTICEIRA AMORIM, government organisations and NGO's

CORTICEIRA AMORIM

enters innovative partnership concerning Cork Oaks and Associated Biodiversity - Improving Derived Value and Sustainability



Representatives of the signatory organisations – from left to right: Nuno Barroca (Director of Corticeira Amorim); Francisco Castro Rego (Director-General of the General Forestry Resources Directorate); João Menezes (President of the Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Institute); António Rios de Amorim (President of Corticeira Amorim); Luis Silva (WWF coordinator in Portugal); Hélder Spínola (Quercus President)

In the context of the Business & Biodiversity initiative accorded top priority by the current Portuguese Presidency of the European Union and in the framework of the Action Programme for the Recovery of Cork Oak and Holm Oak Forests, an innovative agreement was signed in Coruche on 10 October between CORTICEIRA AMORIM, the DIRECÇÃO GERAL DE RECURSOS FLORESTAIS (General Forestry Resources Directorate), the INSTITUTO DE CONSERVAÇÃO DA NATUREZA E DA BIODIVERSIDADE (Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Institute), QUERCUS and the WWF.

This initiative represents a convergence of interests between the Portuguese Government, NGO's and the world leader in the cork industry, with a view towards strengthening the economic tools for sustaining cork oak forests, recognising the crucial role of this important national asset in supporting biodiversity and in combating desertification and climatic change.

The cork oak is the basis of an ecologic system that is unique in the world, contributing to the survival of many species of autochthonous fauna and to the safeguarding of the environment. Since the exploitation of these trees does not entail damaging them or any need to create on-site infrastructure, it has been possible to conserve, over the years, about 60 million trees in their natural state. The result is an eco-system with a richness of biodiversity that is unparalleled in Europe, responsible for approximately 100 000 jobs, representing an important barrier to the social and environmental desertification of the producing regions.

Simultaneously, the eco-system role borne by the cork oak is today recognised as being fundamentally important in the fight against climate change. In Portugal alone it is calculated that the national cork oak forests are responsible for annually retaining nearly five million tonnes of CO₂, one of the gases with greatest impact on global warming.

The convergence of the interests of all of the organisations involved has thus led to a unique and pioneering opportunity to combine the efforts of the five entities mentioned above, under the leadership and sponsorship of CORTICEIRA AMORIM, with a view to defending the cork oak forests and preserving biodiversity.

The agreement, symbolically signed in CORTICEIRA AMORIM's installations in Coruche, an important cork production and manufacturing centre, foresees a set of measures aimed at strengthening the forests. Of special note with regard to forest producers is the provision of free technical advice services for the identification and adoption of the best cork oak forestry management practices.

In a parallel move, two awards have been set up with the objective of encouraging improved scientific knowledge of the cork oak forest's notable eco-system: one of the awards will go to the best research work contributing towards improving the value derived from the cork oak forests and sustaining both the cork oak forest and associated biodiversity; the other prize will be awarded to the best practices for managing and deriving value from the cork oak forests and associated biodiversity.

The implementation of this agreement will be the responsibility of a technical committee made up of representatives of the five signatory organisations.



Mr. António Amorim (President of Corticeira Amorim) speaking

Amorim Cork Deutschland successful in ISO 9001:2000 and Codex Alimentarius audits



Gert Reis, General Manager of Amorim Cork Deutschland

At the start of November, Amorim Cork Deutschland successfully passed an NP EN ISO 9001:2000 standard audit. In addition to this achievement, the company also achieved a good result in the Codex Alimentarius (HACCP) audit.

The NP EN ISO 9001:2000 standard specifies the requisites for an organisation's quality management system, based on fun-

damental principles, in order to make it able to provide products/services that meet clients' requirements and the demands of applicable regulatory standards, to increase client satisfaction through continually improving processes, and to guarantee compliance with clients' requirements and applicable regulations.

The Codex Alimentarius Commission was created in 1963 by the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and by the WHO (World Health Organization) with the objective of protecting consumers' health, to ensure that best practices are used in food trade and to promote the coordination of all standards established by international governmental and non-governmental organisations.

The Codex Alimentarius is a global point of reference for consumers, producers, manufacturers, food control agencies and the international food market.

With these important achievements, Amorim Cork Deutschland has once again affirmed its position of note in the German market. Gert Reis, the company's General Manager, considers that these two results will have a very positive impact on the supply of cork bottle stoppers to this market.

Quinta Nova present in strength in Rossio



Between 1 August and 30 September, the well-known fair "Máscara Ibérica" (Iberian Mask), held in Rossio railway station, attracted more than 250 000 visitors.

A large number of initiatives were put on at the exhibition space during the fair and one which ran throughout the entire

time was the opportunity to taste Quinta Nova wines, often to the sound of Portuguese violas and guitars. Considered a successful combination, this initiative provided excellent results. Once again we have proof that wine and culture can, and should, walk hand in hand.

“The Great Cork Debate”

– consensus reached regarding improvement in quality of natural cork bottle stoppers



From left to right: Peter Marks, MW (COPIA representative), George Taber (book author and debate chairman), Carlos de Jesus (Amorim & Irmãos representative), Bruno de Saizieu (Alcan Packaging), Randall Graham (Bonny Doon Winery) and Pascal Chatonnet (Excell Laboratories)

Held on 27 October this year at COPIA - The American Centre for Wine, Food & The Arts, in Napa, California, “The Great Cork Debate” was attended by approximately 100 wine producers, journalists, industry professionals and ordinary wine consumers who listened to the debate between American and European experts on the pros and cons of the different types of wine bottle stoppers available on the market.

The event was part of a wine festival and coincided with the launching of a new book by George Taber entitled, “To Cork or Not to Cork: Tradition, Romance, Science and the Battle for the Wine Bottle”, which is a fascinating account of the history of wine packaging up to the present day and is compulsory reading for everyone directly or indirectly linked to the wine area.

The debate was chaired by Taber and included speakers such as Carlos de Jesus, representing Amorim & Irmãos; Bruno de Saizieu, Commercial and Marketing Manager of Alcan Packaging Capsules (Stelvin); Randall Graham, President of Bonny Doon Winery and the man who came up with the idea of the “funeral of the cork” several years ago; and Pascal Chatonnet, the world renowned wine producer and consultant and founder of the Excell Laboratories in France which is dedicated to the study of the organoleptic properties of wines.

Carlos de Jesus, the first speaker that morning, started by affirming that Amorim & Irmãos has made significant advances in fighting TCA and reminded his audience of Amorim & Irmãos’ world leading position in the sector, as well as the company’s financial investments in backing up its commitments to Research & Development, without neglecting its financial, social and environmental responsibilities. In this important debate, Amorim & Irmãos’ representative also mentioned the company’s concern not so much with synthetic oil-

based bottle stopper and metal tops but with the possibility that some producers may put bad cork bottle stoppers onto the market.

The company’s strong commitment to the environment was the subject of the final part of Carlos de Jesus’ speech in which he spoke about Amorim & Irmãos emphasis on environmentally sustainable business practices.

It is important to mention that just a very short amount of time was given to speaking about synthetic bottle stoppers at this event, giving the impression that this type of bottle stopper still has problems with regard to oxidation and bottle sealing.

Randall Graham, President of Bonny Doon Winery, stated that his mission was to produce excellent wines. In his speech he also mentioned some of the concerns that he has in relation to the screw-tops that he uses for his wines.

Pascal Chatonnet told the audience that all types of bottle stoppers have their drawbacks – from the rapid oxidation with synthetic bottle stoppers to TCA with natural bottle stoppers. His opinion was that “TCA is the worst and best thing to happen to the cork industry. This is a problem that was talked about a lot in the past but regarding which there was little progress. The cork producers seemed to ignore the problem because they never had to make major efforts to sell their products. But nowadays they have to make an effort.” Chatonnet, quoting from a study carried out at a prestigious tasting competition in the United Kingdom, said that occurrences of TCA in wine had dropped from 4.9% in 2003 to 0.2% in 2006.

“The Great Cork Debate” closed leaving the idea that meetings such as this one are very welcome and healthy since they show a common desire to find the best route to improving quality from the perspective of the main beneficiary: the consumer.

Corticeira Amorim-Indústria promotes Thematic Week dedicated to Sustainability and Social Responsibility



With cork, nothing is wasted, everything is used!

This principle, underlying our activities for a long time and which was confirmed once again by the Sustainability Report published this year, gave Corticeira Amorim-Indústria (CAI) the opportunity to celebrate with our local community the privilege of transforming this marvellous natural resource – cork!

During the week from 10 to 15 September, CAI promoted Thematic Week 2007, dedicated this year to the subject of Sustainability and Social Responsibility. Contributors to this event included our employees, suppliers, social solidarity institutions and organisations linked to the environment, as well as local schools.

During CAI's Thematic Week, the company's employees were encouraged to carry out volunteer activities for social solidarity institutions and they also had the opportunity to clarify many questions related to the environment at daily information sessions which took place in our installations.

During that week CAI supervised the collection of food, clothing and toys for social solidarity institutions and also kicked off a campaign for collecting used corks – with the slogan 'Vamos Rolhar: recolher para reciclar' encouraging people to collect cork for recycling. This campaign, which is ongoing, has been promoted at our employees' children's schools.

The Thematic Week ended with an open-air get-together at a locale where hundreds of cork oak trees had been planted – an excellent place for reminding everyone that

"What you do today makes tomorrow better!"



Planting cork oak trees

Amorim Revestimentos' International Sales Meeting 2007 at Europarque

On 15, 16 and 17 November, Amorim Revestimentos' International Sales Meeting 2007 was held at Europarque in Santa Maria da Feira. With the participation of about 120 people from both inside and outside the company, the programme was aimed in particular at aligning people with the business strategy and value creation.

The first day kicked off with a formal reception for the participants at Amorim Revestimentos' installations, followed by a series of talks mainly covering market aspects.

STRATEGY ALIGNMENT - ACTUAL PERFORMANCE AND AMBITION FOR 2010

- Amorim Revestimentos: Results and Strategy 2008-2010
- Amorim Revestimentos: Strategy 2008/10 (cont.) - Growth Strategy & Investment Plan
- Corticeira Amorim SGPS & Sustainability

VALUE FOR CUSTOMERS - WHAT WE WILL SELL AND HOW WE SHALL APPROACH THE MARKET

- Value Based Pricing - Disseminating Value
- Acrodur® Resin project & BASF Co-branding Amorim
- Presentation BASF - Acrodur® Resin & Open questions
- Update Product Innovation Time-Table 2008/09/10 and Update R&D activities
- Product Presentation: 2009 new Cork and Wood-on-Cork designs & collections
- AR's new sales approach: The Wow-factor, changing consumer's perception

- Wood Parquet flooring (Sales update, future Brands & Portfolio strategy)
- Development of new flooring product categories in Amorim's portfolio
- Contract Business Model + Segmentation Project
- AR's Cork underlayment and brand strategy (Corticeira Amorim Value Chain)
- Marketing (Brand webpages, Wicanders webpage-statistical hits, CRM update + Case Study-Live presentation, "Portal" photo/image bank, Wicanders Webpage case study - USA - using internet as a powerful tool,...)
- Marketing (Brands refreshment, Brand manual, 2009 available Marketing & communication tools, International stand concept)
- Bio Mechanical Comfort (features/attributes and Consumer Benefits) + Training Sessions Project
- Critical events/activities + Time table 2008-2009
- Product Presentation: 2008 wood parquet collections, "CLB"-concept", other product categories

The main objective of the event was to increase the support for and motivation of Amorim Revestimentos' sales force through providing information and recounting experiences which help, as far as possible, to meet sales staff's day-to-day requirements for dealing with clients. This objective is in line with Amorim Revestimentos' commitment to continually strengthening our sales activities and improving the value that we provide to our clients.

Hotel Quinta Nova offers new benefits

The Quinta Nova Rural Hotel has signed new agreements to add to those already in place (find out what these are at www.quintanova.com/hotel). Accordingly, the Ordem das Economistas, Clube TAP and Holmes Place can now offer their mem-

bers privileged access to the accommodation, wine tourism and wine purchasing services at special discount rates.

Now you have even more reasons to visit us in the Douro region.



CORTICEIRA AMORIM joins BCSD Portugal - Business Council for Sustainable Development

BCSD Portugal – Business Council for Sustainable Development is a non-profit making association created in October 2001 which has the mission of transposing into Portuguese reality the guiding principles of the WBCSD – World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

The main mission of BCSD Portugal is to encourage leading businesses to act as catalysts for change towards Sustainable Development and to promote eco-efficiency, innovation and social responsibility in companies. Since its creation, BCSD Portugal has been a member of the WBCSD regional network and it currently has 101 members.

The WBCSD is the leading world business advocate on the

subject of Sustainable Development and is currently composed of more than 190 world ranking companies that are leaders in their respective business areas, as well as a network of 60 national organisations, similar to BCSD Portugal, which represent more than 2 000 companies.

CORTICEIRA AMORIM’s move to join the BCSD is a coherent step in line with our policy of adopting and strengthening sustainable development practices which has been implemented throughout the entire organisation. Furthermore, this move strengthens our active role as the world leader in the cork sector and our effective contribution towards everybody’s well-being.



1967-2007

Korken Schiesser GMBH celebrates 40 years

On 8 November this year Korken Schiesser celebrated the 40th anniversary of its founding. The event was held at the PALAZZO’s Mirror-Palace, in Vienna, in the presence of more than 300 guests invited from ten countries.

Among those present were the Portuguese Ambassador - Joaquim R.C. Duarte, the President of the Amorim Group and his wife - Américo Amorim and Fernanda Amorim, the President of Corticeira Amorim, SGPS - António Rios Amorim, and Christophe Fouquet - Marketing & Sales Manager of Amorim & Irmãos S.A.

In their speeches on the company’s 40 years of life, António Amorim, Günter H. Schiesser and Gerhard Schiesser remembered the intense and excellent work carried out and, particularly, the business links

established with East European countries, which represented a significant step forward for the Amorim Group.

All three speakers emphasized that the success achieved over four decades was only possible due to the relationship of trust that exists between the Amorim and Schiesser families.

Korken Schiesser GmbH, which holds HACCP and BRC/IoP certifications, today occupies a top position as a cork stopper supplier, providing corks to the main wine producers in Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Macedonia and Montenegro.

Today, the Korken Schiesser team is still as highly motivated as ever and is totally dedicated to building on the company’s 40 year old tradition of success!

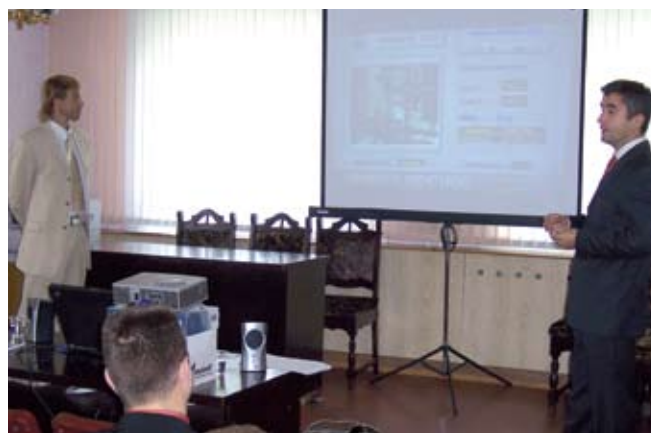
Amorim & Irmãos holds seminar on cork in Belarus

In September this year Amorim & Irmãos and our representative for the Belarus market - Maxivin – organised the first specialised seminar ever held in Belarus on cork and bottle stoppers where, naturally, we also spoke about the Amorim Group.

The main objectives of this initiative were to provide participants with information on the Amorim Group structure, our portfolio of products, our size and technological development, as well as making Belarus bottlers aware of the specific nature of the cork bottle stopper (characteristics, control methods, use of bottling lines, etc.).

A significant proportion of the bottlers in the market of that region, which is showing very robust growth, attended the seminar.

The event ended with a reception at which the participants mingled in a very relaxed and friendly atmosphere.



Hugo Mesquita and Eduardo Vasitch (Amorim & Irmãos) during the presentation

Revestimentos Amorim present at FILDA - Constrói Angola 2007

The 5th International Civil Construction, Public Works and Safety Fair – Constrói Angola 2007, took place in Luanda between 17 and 21 October at the FILDA (Luanda International Fair) installations.

Amorim Revestimentos was among the 22 Portuguese companies taking part, being represented with its WICANDERS brand at the stand of its partner ELECAFRIIO.

Approximately 13 000 visitors attended the fair during the five days, including various representatives of architectural offices and government leaders, such as the Deputy Minister of Public Works, who visited the stand and showed great interest in the products on display.



Finagra-Esporão visits Amorim



Photo of visiting group with Fernando Ribeiro – National Market Commercial Manager

On 28 October a group of employees from the bottling line of the well-known wine company Finagra-Esporão visited Amorim & Irmãos and the Coruche and Equipar industrial units.

The group of about 30 employees, accompanied by their production and quality managers, were able to find out details of what goes on inside those two companies and they were also

informed about the latest technical innovations implemented in the Amorim units.

After the visit, the representatives of Finagra-Esporão and Amorim, two companies which enjoy a good partnership relationship, lunched together in a friendly atmosphere.

Quinta Nova highlighted in Portuguese press

Although barely on the market for two months, the Quinta Nova super premium wine is already a success. At the start of November the winners of the “Press Choice” competition were announced. After an initial screening of the 300 national wines put forward, the tasting panel, made up of various specialist journalists and critics, carried out a blind tasting of the 30 best red wines and unanimously awarded Quinta Nova Grande Reserva Tinto 2005 the Grand Prize for the competition.

This press recognition, together with the enormous sales success, confirms not only the excellence of these wines but also the quality of the entire Quinta Nova project.



National Floor Show 2007 awards prize to Corticeira Amorim-Indústria

Corticeira Amorim-Indústria (CAI) won the best stand layout prize at National Floor Show 2007 – the largest United Kingdom event dedicated to floors and accessories. The main objective of CAI’s participation was the presentation of the new AcustiCORK brand lines, namely Comfort, Technik and Multiway. The principal theme at this year’s National Floor Show was Sustainability. In this regard CAI clearly stood out with regard to competing companies and products.



Quinta Nova Gourmet: innovation and success

Quinta Nova has managed to achieve the dream of making the most of its agricultural resources by creating a line of products that blend perfectly with its portfolio of Douro and Port wines.

To add to the extra virgin olive oil and the Touriga Nacional and Tinto Cão grape jams launched last year, the range is now completed with cherry jam, fig jam, quince jelly and rosemary honey.

Space has also been kept for 4 plants used for infusions (“teas”) and commonly found among the Douro flora: “Alfazema” (lavender), “Macela-Camomila” (camomile), “Urze” (heather) and “Carqueja” (a Portuguese plant used in herbal remedies).

The range of products, for which there are already lots of export enquiries, is rounded off with traditional sweets made using regional recipes.



Amorim Revestimentos and Quinta Nova at the 2nd National Portuguese Economists' Congress



Amorim Revestimentos and Quinta Nova were represented at the 2nd National Portuguese Economists' Congress, held at Lisbon Congress Centre from 11 to 12 October, at an Amorim Group stand.

Delegates visited the stand during the congress coffee breaks and showed considerable interest in the products presented – Floor and Wall Coverings and Wines.

Although this was not an occasion for product promotion but rather for providing information, the overall outcome was very positive!

Hungarokork–Amorim sponsors the 30th OIV World Congress



The 30th World Congress of the OIV took place in Budapest, Hungary, from 10 to 16 June.

40 countries were represented this year and, at the six sessions, 150 presentations were given on subjects including the following: impact of global warming and climatic changes on vine growing; bad wine production techniques; outlook for world competitive-

ness in the wine sector; development of wine tourism; the role of wine in health treatment and illness prevention.

Hungarokork-Amorim marked the occasion by hosting a gala dinner at which Carlos de Jesus, in the name of Amorim & Irmãos, welcomed the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. Gráf József, and thanked the guests for attending and for their interest.

Ukrainian client invites Corticeira Amorim-Indústria to Odessa seminar



Corticeira Amorim-Indústria was invited by a major Ukrainian client to undertake a promotion at a two-day seminar to be held in Odessa.

Approximately 30 local agents attended the seminar at which the company presented itself and introduced its products and gave technical construction training, focussing on the AcoustiCORK, Expanda and Expanded Cork Agglomerate brands.

The presentation ended with a practical demonstration of AcoustiCORK underflooring and, judging from the reactions and the interest shown by those present, this was a great success!

AcoustiCORK in Aveiro – the “Venice of Portugal”

The excellent acoustic and thermal insulation performance of the AcoustiCORK products led Corticeira Amorim-Indústria's Applications Engineering Unit to monitor their installation in yet another job.

Aveiro now has a new space called “Os Aveirenses” where the AcoustiCORK T61 product, ideal for insulating percussive noise on tiled floors, was applied. The use of AcoustiCORK eliminates the need for an additional layer of raised cement and is thus the optimum solution for ground floor commercial spaces in residential buildings. Even in zones with demanding requirements, such as those with machinery, the AcoustiCORK range has solutions for resolving problems effectively.

AcoustiCORK underfloor coverings are being used more and more in the Portuguese market in spaces with demanding acoustic and thermal insulation standards, ensuring that thermal energy is transferred to the top floor covering rather than being dissipated in the underlying concrete layer. The thermal barrier that this product represents makes it ideal for application in underfloor heating situations!



Amorim China clients visit Amorim Revestimentos

Amorim Revestimentos recently played host to a group of visitors from SHANGHAI YAJING INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO.,LTD, China, including the company's Vice President, Sales Manager and Logistics Manager.

During the six day stay, the group had the opportunity to visit three of Corticeira Amorim, S.G.P.S.'s most representative industrial units: Amorim Revestimentos, Amorim & Irmãos and Corticeira Amorim-Indústria.

In addition to the visits to these business units, several meetings were held in order to define the commercial strategy for the future.

To complement the professional component of their visit, the group was also invited to see some of the tourist attractions of the city of Lisbon.

At the end of the visit, the Vice President of SHANGHAI YAJING INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO.,LTD, Mr. Jin Xing, expressed his wish that we should continue working together to promote and develop our products on the Chinese market.



Left to right: Huang Yongxing; Jin Xing; Miguel Sousa; Ni Zhitao

Amorim & Irmãos, S.A. supports Eco-School Project in United Kingdom



Amorim & Irmãos has given 23 000 used cork bottle stoppers to the Dorothy Stringer School in Brighton, United Kingdom. The Dorothy Stringer School has been considered as an eco-school for the past six years and has been developing several environmental initiatives involving pupils, teachers, helpers, the local community and political backing. The major objective is to promote team work as a way of developing collective environmental awareness.

The 23 000 used corks are to be used for an eco-project for thermally insulating a roof area in a building being restored. As part of the project, the pupils have been studying the differences between the various types of materials that could be used for this purpose while, at the same time, taking respect for the environment into account.

In addition to contributing to the development of this important eco-project, this donation has also given the pupils, aged between 11 and 12 years, the opportunity to find out more about the ecological properties of cork, as well as learning

about all aspects of the cork sector, from the cork oak tree to the use of cork in a wide variety of areas.

The children were very excited at receiving such a large quantity of corks and their teacher Rob Sandercock was very grateful to Amorim & Irmãos for the donation. At the time of the donation, the company's representative gave a short talk on cork oak forests, the animals which live there, how cork forms and develops and the importance of its applications in various industries.

A short explanation was also given on cork bottle stopper production and on how this ecological material can be widely used without adversely affecting the Earth's natural resources. The Cork Cycle was a feature that attracted much interest and curiosity from the pupils who asked lots of questions and also had the opportunity to examine different types of corks and find out why these are used.

Amorim & Irmãos was very pleased with the enthusiastic reaction of both the school and the pupils.

Corticeira Amorim-Indústria at Composites Europe Trade Fair



Corticeira Amorim-Indústria (CAI) was present at the Composites Europe Trade Fair which took place in Stuttgart, Germany, between 6 and 8 November.

This trade fair, dedicated to the Composites Industry and WPC – Wood Plastic Composites, especially for the Central European market, is establishing itself as the main trade fair for these industries.

CAI focussed its participation on the presentation of two new materials:

- Corkcore – especially developed for the composites industry (glass and carbon fibres) in several applications.
- Cork Plastic Composite (CPC) - material developed in a unique partnership based on an innovative polymer and process, that yields an excellent combination of properties and processing features, through compatibility between cork and the polymer used.

A large number of the professionals visiting the trade fair expressed strong interest in both of the materials and the solutions presented.

“Branchentag Holz”, a new concept with excellent potential



For the first time ever, the “Branchentag Holz” was held in Cologne, Germany. The fair took place on 24 and 25 October, in Pavilion 8 of the Koelnmesse GmbH.

With its transfer from Wiesbaden to Cologne, this event has advanced significantly, not only in terms of exhibition space but also with regard to the number of visitors and contacts made.

Amorim Revestimentos was present with a 25m² stand at which the Ipocork brand and the Ipowood product range were exhibited.

In the wood segment, the high level of interest shown by the public in our premium floor coverings showed the growing trend towards natural construction materials with high technical standards.

Corticeira Amorim-Indústria advancing in project with ESA

In October this year, Corticeira Amorim-Indústria (CAI) started work on the project financed by the European Space Agency (ESA) for the study and use of cork in new space-related applications.

The project, which is planned to last for 18 months, will cover the behaviour of natural cork and, especially, that of several types of cork agglomerate in extreme environmental conditions (more specifically, in space).

In this project, CAI will be the prime (i.e. leading) partner and

will work in collaboration with Active Space Technologies (AST), a Portuguese company with long experience of thermal-related areas in the most demanding markets (space, nuclear, etc.).

To fully investigate the different types of cork agglomerate, tests will be carried out in the most advanced European laboratories.

This project is the outcome of efforts undertaken by CAI in the aerospace area with a view to expanding current knowledge of the behaviour of natural and agglomerate cork in the most demanding environments and conditions of use.

Quinta Nova receives “Best Of Wine Tourism 2007/8” National Award



On 14 November, at Oporto City Hall, the “Best Of Wine Tourism Awards 2007/8” ceremony took place. The event came at the end of the general assembly of the Great Wine Capitals Global Network, held this year in Portugal, and which lasted for several days.

In addition to the awarding of the international prizes, which gave recognition to what is available in Wine Tourism at the global level (www.greatwinecapitals.com), prizes were also awarded to “National Winners” in 3 different categories. Quinta Nova de Nossa Senhora do Carmo, which won a prize last year in the Accommodation category, was once again successful, winning this year’s “Best Of Wine Tourism” National Prize in the Architecture and Landscape category.

Only two years after the creation of the Quinta Nova Rural Hotel, these two consecutive prizes confirm the quality of the work carried out to develop top quality Wine Tourism.



Prize-giving ceremony

Quinta Nova 2004 / Gesto 2007 A Work of Art

For the third consecutive year, Quinta Nova de Nossa Senhora do Carmo and Gesto - Cooperativa Cultural are promoting the launching of a special issue of 1 200 bottles, in three bottle units in two collections.

The labels have been designed by artists and each collection includes the respective graphic works of these artists in the form of serigraphy.

This special issue links wine and art of a natural way, through the hands of six renowned artists: António Modesto, Carlos Barreira, Gracinda Marques, Joana Paradinha, Leão Lopes and Malangatana.

The units can be bought for the very reasonable price of € 50 (+ VAT) each in Gesto’s shops, in the Fundação de Serralves and from Quinta Nova.



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