

CORTICEIRA AMORIM

joins the R & D core for designing components for the railway industry

Mozelos (Portugal), December 15, 2009

CORTICEIRA AMORIM, SGPS, S.A. (Euronext Lisbon: COR; ISIN: PTCOR0AE0006), the world leader in the cork industry, announces that its subsidiary Amorim Cork Composites, SA of the Cork Composites Business Unit is a member of the consortium that will develop the iseat project aimed at researching and developing integrated components for train seats.

In addition to Amorim Cork Composites, this consortium comprises also Caetano Components, Couro azul, INEGI, Alma Design and ALSTOM Portugal.

In this initiative are involved several suppliers to the rail and transportation sectors, design companies, a number of organizations included in the National Scientific and Technological System (NSTS) and ALSTOM Portugal (a member of the ALSTOM group), the world leader in the field of power generation and rail transport.

Further details on this project are set out in the partners' joint press release, which is reproduced below.

Amorim Cork Composites, Caetano Components, Couro Azul, Inegi, Almadesign and ALSTOM Portugal set up a R&D project partnership to design train seats

Iseat - Integrated Research and Development of Components for Train Seats - is a research project aimed at designing train seats by making use of new materials and innovative processes.

The project's main goal is to aggregate skills with a view to designing and developing technical and functional innovative design solutions based on more **eco-efficient**, **lighter** and more **comfortable** sustainability-oriented materials for train seats. State-of-the-art technology in combination with new materials such as cork composites, other advanced composites, high fire-resistant and low toxicity leather are just a few of the main products making part of this project.

In this initiative are involved several suppliers to the rail and transportation sectors, design companies and a number of organizations included in the National Scientific and Technological System (NSTS). Amorim Cork Composites (a member company of CORTICEIRA AMORIM), Caetano Components, Couro Azul and Inegi are the companies making up the consortium responsible for the project, which comprises also Almadesign (a design company providing services to the transport design area) and ALSTOM Portugal as project partners.

The involvement of ALSTOM Portugal (a member of the ALSTOM group) in this project - the world leader in the field of power generation and rail transport boasting recognized expertise in the integration and manufacture of trains - is of great importance because, on the one hand, it will make possible to know the extent of the actual requirements of the domestic and international railway market and, on the other hand, to open up new perspectives for future application scenarios and applied research.

The project will also serve to demonstrate the know-how and technological capabilities of the players involved in this partnership, not only at their individual level, but also collectively in this sector.

The **iseat** project has been allocated an amount of € 721,525, 50% of which will be funded by NSRF - National Strategic Reference Framework.

This is an integrating project with controlled cost and risk and good return potential, both as regards this specific module and other projects and investments. The project duration is 24 months and it is expected to be completed in mid-2011.



For additional information:

Cristina Amorim

Investor Relations

Tel: + 351 22 747 5400

E-mail: corticeira.amorim@amorim.com

www.corticeiraamorim.com

About CORTICEIRA AMORIM, SGPS, S.A.:

While tracing its roots to the XIX Century, CORTICEIRA AMORIM SGPS has become the world's largest cork and cork-derived company in the world, generating over Euro 450 million in sales throughout 103 countries. CORTICEIRA AMORIM SGPS and its subsidiaries are an integral part of a conservationist effort to guarantee the survival of hundreds of thousand of cork trees throughout the Mediterranean Basin. We are proud of our contribution to the correct utilisation of these important forests that are home to several endangered species throughout the region. We encourage you to learn more by visiting informative websites such as www.amorimcork.com or www.corkfacts.com

CORTICEIRA AMORIM, SGPS, S.A.

Public company

Edifício Amorim I

Rua de Meladas, n.º 380

4536-902 MOZELOS VFR

PORTUGAL

Share capital: € 133,000,000

A company incorporated in Santa Maria da Feira – Portugal

Registration number and corporation tax ID number: PT 500 077 797

AMORIM