



Amorim's cork at the Istanbul Design Biennial

THE FUTURE IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE

2. İSTANBUL TASARIM BİENALİ 2014 2ND ISTANBUL DESIGN BIENNIAL

GELECEK ARTIK ESKİSİ GİBİ DEĞİL TUE EUTURE

"The chance for the Istanbul Design Biennial to work with Amorim has given us a unique opportunity to create a series of design solutions with cork that would otherwise not be possible. As a material that immediately gives a sensation of warmth and personality though highly engineered, cork complements perfectly the theme of the exhibition – The future is not what it used to be.

Cork is CO_2 negative material and its use has a value for the environment... That's why we used it because we were looking for something very well-known but it's actually a material for the future. Hopefully all these pieces will go to schools or to the interested people. The idea of the biennial is that you are not wasteful, everything that's done is about a sustainable future.

About the process of the design, Zoë Ryan and Meredith Carruthers set up a design community we were also in. They shared with us their ideas so we could, at the same time, develop ideas for how the school could be used that complemented their idea for the exhibition. We were very clear from the beginning that this entrance place is for the main home and the meeting place for the biennial, so it needs to be comfortable, people should stay here and prepare to go and see the building. So a kind of dialogue for eight months almost. Of course we didn't start to produce from the first day but it's been a dialogue going on between Zoe, Meredith, IKSV and try to figure out what's the right balance between all the pieces.

This is kind of an idea about splitting; with these cork pieces you can make straight parts and you can make curved parts without wasting any material. We also split the building, you walk in one side and see something and walk down the other side and see something else." Gregers Tang Thomsen, founder and leading architect of the

architecture firm Superpool

Expanded Insulation Corkboard, main properties

100% NATURAL

Expanded insulation corkboard is produced using just cork granules and without any additives, with a low energy consumption.

SOFT-TOUCH Due to its basic

Due to its basic materials and geometric characteristics, the cork surface transmits a smooth touch.

WARM-FEELING

Cork 's normal temperature is very close to the human body, which gives a warm feeling.

FLEXIBILITY

Cork is a flexible material, even at very low temperatures, as a result of the constituents and geometry of the cell walls.



"For the first time in Turkey cork is used in exhibition design and we are enormously happy about the results. The generous contribution from the Portuguese Cork Producer Amorim made the exhibition a unique experience for new innovative design solution. The warm, welcoming atmosphere of the new material surpasses all visitors and made them feel comfortable immediately."

Director of Istanbul Design Biennial

A partnership with the distinguished international architecture firm, Superpool

Cork was once again the centrepiece of a major international design and architecture event – the 2nd Istanbul Design Biennial.

Organised by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (IKSV) the Biennial opened on November 1, 2014. Over its 6—week duration, it was a privileged platform for rethinking the role of design in contemporary society and its potential as an active agent for change.

"The Future is not what it used to be" was the motto of the Design Biennial curated by British writer, Zoë Ryan. The main exhibition space – the Greek Primary School – 53 creative works from over 20 countries and all continents, arranged across the building's five floors, covering an area of approximately 2,300 m².

The overall exhibition space was greatly enhanced by the presence of cork, used in numerous innovative and creative items, such as lighting, furniture and coverings.

Corticeira Amorim was the exclusive sponsor of all cork used in the Istanbul Design Biennial. This includes supplying different types of cork, especially expanded insulation corkboard MDFacade - commonly associated with official Portuguese Pavilions in international exhibitions - and agglomerated cork, similar to the one used, with great success, at the Serpentine Gallery Pavilion in London.

By taking part of this remarkable programme that instigated the international community to embrace and rethink the future, Amorim's cork was, naturally, a source of inspiration and guidance towards a more resourceful, innovative and sustainable future.



"One of the most important features of cork is its organic origin and appeal. In a world filled to overflowing with anonymous industrial products, we are experiencing a growing demand for materials that convey their natural, individual entities. The irregular pattern and colouring of cork shows that it took its own time to grow and that's a product of life."

Alexander von Vegesack, Founder of the Vitra Design Museum and Advisory Board Member of the Istanbul Design Biennial



MOISTURE PROOF

The closed cell structure avoids water absorption. Water only covers the exposed surface.

STABILITY

Expanded insulation corkboard copes with major thermal variations, it remains stable between -180 and +120 °C.

DURABILITY

Expanded insulation corkboard retains its properties through its life but may change color from Winter to Summer due to UV effect on the material. It is 100% recyclable



WEATHERING

Temperature and humidity have a slight effect on cork, so it resists to deterioration and weathering.

FAVORABLE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Cork has a carbon negative footprint and by using expanded cork we are maintaining biodiversity in the cork forests and avoiding desertification.



