

sustainability

CORTICEIRA AMORIM, S.G.P.S., S.A.

'09



NATURAL CHOICE PROGRAMME

Translating best practices in Sustainable Development into a positive differentiating factor for different groups of stakeholders is a key goal of CORTICEIRA AMORIM's Natural Choice Sustainability Programme.

100 Sustainability Ambassadors;

1000 Students participated in the environmental education activities;

500 Employees signed up "en masse" to the Gaia Declaration of the Earth Condominium;

2 Tons of used cork stoppers collected by employees for recycling;

15 CORTICEIRA AMORIM volunteers participated in a Junior Achievement programme.

To add value to cork in
a competitive, distinctive
and innovative way that
is in perfect harmony
with nature.

(CORTICEIRA AMORIM's mission)



Challenges and main objectives

Increase knowledge and encourage the use of best practices for sustainable forest management.

Increase the number of patent applications.

Strengthen the corporate culture guided by innovation.

Increase knowledge regarding the ecological footprint of the value chain.

Reduce CO₂ emissions.

Reduce water consumption.

Encourage cork stoppers recycling.

Strengthen position in the sustainable construction sector.

Goals for 2010

- Award for best research project in the field of "Cork Oak Forest Sustainability and Associated Biodiversity";
- Provide free technical advisory services for at least six forest owners.

- Submit applications for four new patents.

- Implement in Portugal the Innovation for the whole organisation mobilization project.

- Conduct a case study on the environmental services of the cork oak forest ecosystem.

- A 2.5% reduction on 2009.

- A 4% reduction on 2009.

- Increase the number of cork stoppers recycled in Portugal as part of the Green Cork programme by 50%.

- Produce a new proposal of value for the sustainable construction sector.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

Projects and activities of R&DI in 2009:

- enhancement of components extracted from cork;
- new partnerships and projects in areas such as the aeronautic and automobile industries, as well as in road and rail transports;
- ROSA® new technology boosts the reduction in TCA levels, when present, from 80% to 90%;
- launch of Top Series®, an innovative and exclusive collection of luxury capsulated stoppers;



17
patents submitted
for registration
in the past three years.

- new collection of cork and wood finishes in the Wicanders® **Corkcomfort** and **Woodcomfort** product lines;
- new range of noise reduction underscreed materials, which complement the AcoustiCORK® range for the reduction of impact and percussive noise;
- new AcoustiCORK® NRT 94 designed for floating floors for increased acoustic and thermal performance;
- launch of a new cork rubber gasket designed for the new diesel motors;
- presentation of a line of absorbents for spillages of oils, hydrocarbons and organic solvents.

FSC FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

Membership of the WWF's Forest and Trade Iberian Network, which began in 2008 with Amorim Revestimentos, was extended to the Cork Stoppers and Composite Cork BUs, strengthening the commitment of CORTICEIRA AMORIM to this worldwide network of companies that envisages the conservation of the earth's forests.

The world market is beginning to show clear signs of adopting responsibility policies. Regarding wine stoppers, Sainsbury's and Co-Op – two major supermarket chains in the United Kingdom – announced, at the end of 2009, the adoption of policies of engagement with the progressive bottling with FSC certified cork stoppers.



11

CORTICEIRA AMORIM's
units with FSC
certification.



HUMAN RESOURCES, HEALTH, HYGIENE AND SAFETY

Improvement in educational qualifications of employees: over **300** employees completed the RVCC programme – a system for Recognition, Validation and Certification of Skills – in the last three years.

Important investments made in the safety area: the amount of training in Health, Hygiene and Safety totalled **7270** hours, which represents an increase of **5%** on the 2008 total.

BIODIVERSITY

As part of the European Business & Biodiversity Initiative, CORTICEIRA AMORIM funded a free technical advisory service for forestry producers for identifying and adopting the best practices in the management of cork oak forests and associated biodiversity. During its first two years (2008 and 2009), **8000** hectares of cork oak forests were considered.

In 2009, a forest management best practices award was launched with the aim of rewarding cork estates and forest landowners for implementing best practices in the management of cork oak forests and associated biodiversity. At the same time as presenting the award, the best practices were also promoted and disseminated, with the aim that these will be adopted by as many forestry producers as possible.

Cork oak forests:
the basis of a recognized
biodiversity hotspot
in the world.



In 2009,
CORTICEIRA AMORIM
recycled more than
20 million cork
stoppers.

CORK RECYCLING

CORTICEIRA AMORIM recycled a total of **662** tons of cork. This raw-material was incorporated into the manufacture of other high value added cork products, extending the life cycle of cork and prolonging the CO₂ retention associated with cork products.

In 2009, CORTICEIRA AMORIM recycled more than **20** million cork stoppers. Within the scope of the Green Cork Programme that was launched in Portugal, about five million cork stoppers were recycled and the resulting income was used for supporting the "Create Forests, Conserve the Biodiversity" programme, which main objective is to plant **85** thousand cork oak trees.

Also worthy of a mention is the implementation of international cork recycling programmes in France, Italy and South Africa as well as the joining of renowned partners – such as American Airlines, Sodexo, Sole and Spier Wines – to existing recycling programmes.





GLOBAL WARMING

The business activity carried on by CORTICEIRA AMORIM ensures the sustainability of an ecosystem that plays a vital role in CO₂ retention. Considering Portugal only, it is estimated that the cork oak forests are responsible for the retention of 5% of this country's emissions.

Biomass, a carbon-neutral energy source, meets about 60% of CORTICEIRA AMORIM energy needs. This, combined with the implementation of additional energy-efficiency measures, allowed the company to record a 16% reduction in CO₂ emissions in 2009 compared with 2008, a fall of 22.4% over the last three years.

CORTICEIRA AMORIM HAS RECORDED A FALL OF 22.4% IN CO₂ EMISSIONS OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS.

Source: Sustainability Report, available at www.corticeiraamorim.com