



NEWS

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WICANDERS LAUNCHES THREE NEW
COLLECTIONS AT DOMOTEX 2017





PORTUGAL

amorim cork

NEWS LETTER

NOTÍCIAS DA CORTIÇA - CORK NEWS - NOUVELLES DU LIÈGE - ANO/YEAR/ANNÉE - 1 N.º 1 JUNE 84

INAUGURAÇÃO DO LABORATÓRIO CENTRAL TEVE A PRESENÇA DE RAMALHO EANES

«A qualidade nunca é um acidente. É sempre o resultado de um esforço inteligente. Esta é uma «divisa» bem conhecida da associação de empresas, constituída, essencialmente, por Amorim & Irmãos, L.ª, Corticeira Amorim, L.ª, Ipcork, L.ª e Champcork, cujo embrião, nascido em 1922, está cotado como o mais importante grupo industrial da área da cortiça. É como o segredo reside na preocupação permanente de encontrar resposta às reais exigências da sua vasta clientela, foi dado mais um passo significativo, sem dúvida, nesse sentido, com a inauguração de um moderno laboratório central, cerimónia à qual esteve presente o General Ramalho Eanes, Presidente da República, entre outras entidades.

Na circunstância, Ramalho Eanes distinguiria Américo Amorim com o grau de Comendador da Ordem do Mérito Agrícola e Industrial, não deixando de proferir elogiosas palavras àquele dinâmico empresário.

Dizia o Presidente da República: «A decisão é, obviamente, minúscula e as decisões assumem-se em plenitude. E, para conhecimento Nacional, gostaria de focar a qualidade e a importância do seu trabalho e, naturalmente, do trabalho da sua equipa e dos seus colaboradores».

Comovido por tão solene condecoração, Américo Amorim diria: «Fui surpreendentemente colhido, de tal maneira que não preparei nenhuma palavra para vos proferir, a não ser aquelas que brotam do meu coração».

É continuaria, para afirmar, depois: «Ao longo dos anos habituei-me a ser colhido por agradáveis surpresas. Esta é mais uma. Porém, ela só tem para mim o mérito necessário, se for expressa a 2 mil trabalhadores que conosco colaboram ao longo de muitos anos. Não poderia subestimar a grande colaboração dos meus três irmãos, que me acompanharam desde há 30 anos em contínua luta... Praticamente partimos do zero. Tem sido uma luta árdua, mas falar do passado não importa (duas lutas que tivemos, noites de insónia, pela preocupação de querer investir e não ter dinheiro) tudo é passado e o que interessa agora é construir o futuro».

«A concluir, referiu ainda ao Presidente da República: «O mais importante hoje é que V. Ex.ª leve desta terra a profunda convicção de que cada dia para nós é um dia mais jovem para investir!».



INVESTIMENTO AVALIADO EM 50 MIL CONTOS

O moderno laboratório central, uma sofisticada unidade, vai apoiar outros já existentes em cada uma das empresas do grupo, em operações que transcendem o seu âmbito. Permitirá, deste modo, a realização das provas necessárias à garantia dos mais elevados índices de qualidade, de acordo com as exigências de organismos internacionais, quer em produtos químicos aprovados para estarem em contacto com alimentos, quer em matéria de revestimento e decoração.

A criação e montagem do citado complexo laboratorial, que exigiu um investimento da ordem dos 50 mil contos, representou mais um desafio, voluntariamente assumido por aquele grupo de empresas. Tudo isto sem pressões, nem da concorrência do próprio sector, nem de produtos alternativos, antes significa, única e exclusivamente, a permanente vontade de desbravar novos caminhos.

O laboratório recém-inaugurado permite obter a verificação do material em plano nunca antes atingido neste sector, de forma a melhorar cada vez mais a industrialização do produto, realizando pesquisas a níveis superiores sobre as possibilidades de utilização da cortiça em todas as aplicações possíveis e explorar novos métodos e combinação na sua associação com outros materiais.



À DESCOBERTA DE NOVOS PRODUTOS

Fica, aberta, deste modo, uma nova via de exploração e investigação, apenas viável nos seus objetivos, devido aos cuidados colocados na montagem e equipamento do laboratório central, seguindo as mais recentes indicações da ciência e da tecnologia.



Trabalhando com o que existe de melhor na matéria, uma equipa de engenheiros químicos e de técnicos auxiliares realiza diferentes operações em diversos domínios nomeadamente: Investigação, pura e aplicada; Controlo de qualidade de todas as matérias primas; Descoberta de novos produtos e suas aplicações; Estudo de novos tratamentos superficiais e novos processos de lavagem de rolhas; e Apuramento de diferentes fórmulas e aplicação de produtos extraídos da cortiça, em associação ao inexplorado espectro de outras matérias.

Refin-se, igualmente, que terá lugar todo um vasto campo de análise, apoiado em moderno equipamento de espectrofotometria de infra-vermelhos, absorção atómica, análise térmica diferencial e cromatografia gás líquido, entre outros.

Numa área útil de 700 metros quadrados, o laboratório central desenvolve todo o controlo do processo, com o acompanhamento das diversas fases da produção até ao controlo qualitativo final.

A tecnologia do Grupo Amorim, com presença activa nos cinco continentes, renova-se constantemente, para dar resposta à necessidade de avanço técnico, com o recurso à investigação. Se muito pouco são aqueles que se mostram aptos a responder tecnicamente a dúvidas levantadas pelos seus clientes, o grupo empresarial nortenho está entre eles, dispensando agora a consulta aos laboratórios estatais ou às facultades, com as consequências negativas inerentes ao ritmo produtivo que tal situação acarretava.

Em suma, o aproveitamento da cortiça - um produto que permite enorme espectro de aplicações e um vasto campo ainda por explorar - encontra, agora, novas soluções no «know-how» aprofundado do Grupo Amorim.

Tema importante tratado na VINORDE/83 A CORRECTA UTILIZAÇÃO DA ROLHA NO PROCESSO DE ENGARRAFAMENTO

«Sem dúvida alguma que a boa utilização das rolhas de cortiça natural passa por um profundo conhecimento deste produto, desde as suas características (físicas) até à fabricação e respectivos tratamentos. Além, em termos de história, o arrolhamento com aquele produto natural deve ter uma origem tão antiga como a conservação do vinho em garrafa. Nestes domínios, ainda hoje a cortiça guarda a sua superioridade e prestígio, sendo o único produto natural capaz de assegurar uma conservação a longo

prazo de vinhos de qualidade. Contudo, interessará conhecer as vantagens inerentes a uma correcta utilização, dependente de diversos factores, que foram tema, na Vinorde/83, de uma exposição apresentada pelo Dr. Mário Borges».

A cortiça representa a casca do sobreiro (*Quercus Suber*), árvore que tem a propriedade de reconstruir indefinidamente o seu tecido suberoso.

Apresenta-se como um tecido suberificado alveolar, composto por células mortas, dispostas em parênquima e obtido a partir de um meristema secundário - o felogénio. É formado por pequenas células hexagonais, cuja espessura da parede celular ronda 1 micron. Calcula-se que um centímetro cúbico de cortiça tenha cerca de 25 a 40 milhões de células. Estas são cheias com uma mistura gasosa (azoto e oxigénio), que ocupa mais de 85% do seu volume.

O sobreiro não será a única árvore a produzir tecidos suberificados, mas é, com certeza, a única que apresenta um desenvolvimento homogéneo àquele nível. Esta estrutura, finalmente compartimentada, é que caracteriza e explica as excelentes qualidades mecânicas, físicas e químicas da cortiça. O tecido suberoso é atravessado na sua espessura por poucos canais, as lentículas, de paredes mais ou menos lignificadas, cuja função será de permitir trocas gasosas entre o interior do tecido e a superfície. A classificação comercial da cortiça em prancha e rolhas baseia-se, aliás, no número de lentículas e respectiva espessura.

CORTIÇA: PORQUÊ UM MATERIAL ÚNICO PARA O FABRICO DE ROLHAS

Interessa referir porque é que a cortiça se apresenta como material único para o fabrico de rolhas. Isso deve-se, unicamente, às suas características muito específicas, nomeadamente: densidade baixa; elasticidade; compressibilidade notáveis; impermeabilidade; longa conservação em contacto com líquidos; estrutura da sua superfície polida, etc.

Como se referia anteriormente, 85% do volume celular é constituído por gás, o que confere à cortiça uma densidade média de 0,20. E, também, esta volumosa fase gasosa que lhe confere uma excepcional elasticidade, o que faz com que diminua fortemente o seu volume sob o efeito de uma compressão, mas também que o recupere rapidamente, quando cessa esse efeito. Neste capítulo, uma rolha comprimida a não mais de 35% do seu diâmetro, recupera numa hora cerca de 96% do seu volume inicial e 98 a 99% em 24 horas.

Este poder elástico tem a ver, paralelamente, com a qualidade da matéria prima e teor de humidade. O teor de humidade, no caso das rolhas, deverá situar-se entre 6 a 10%, não apenas por uma correcta aplicação, posterior ao tratamento de superfície, como também para originar um perfeito arrolhamento nas máquinas.

Só que ali terá que se considerar a velocidade de arrolhamento, sugerindo-se teores de humidade entre 6-8%, para máquinas rápidas (15.000-20.000 garrafas/hora) e 8-10%, para lentas (3.000-6.000 garrafas/hora).

A COMPOSIÇÃO QUÍMICA

A cortiça, como se sabe, desliza mal sobre as superfícies lisas e é anti-derapante, devido ao seu elevado coeficiente de fricção, ocasionado pelo «poder de ventosas», dado pelas células celulares, formadas a partir da fabricação das rolhas. A cortiça adere perfeitamente ao vidro e mascara, por vezes, certas imperfeições dos gargalos.

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IN MEMORIAM Masaru Nagaku

EDITORIAL

Amorim News was launched in June 1984, on the occasion of the visit to Corticeira Amorim by the President of the Portuguese Republic, General Ramalho Eanes, to inaugurate the company's first laboratory. At the time the publication was called "Amorim Cork newsletter", and was printed in an A3 format in two colours.

After 33 years and 130 issues of this quarterly publication, that reaches over 20,000 stakeholders around the world, I have contradictory feelings as I finally sign off as editor and hand over the reins to the group's Public Relations department. I feel a deep sense of belonging, pride and mission accomplished, accompanied by an inevitable tinge of sadness, as I leave this publication and a company where I have developed my career and which has inevitably shaped who I am today.

After many thousands of pages, this has been a fantastic experience, filled with many happy moments and certainly some mistakes along the way, but even those always made in complete conviction that it was the best option for the Amorim group at the time, a company that I have served with complete dedication, since September 20, 1973.

Over the 130 editions published to date, the publication has evolved considerably in terms of its layout and content, accompanying changes in the market and the group. Amorim News is generally considered to be the group's strongest regular publication and a fundamental outlet for communicating the company's activities to the four corners of the world.

As this cycle draws to a close, and in the certainty that the publication will continue for many more years, I would like to emphasise, above all, the rare privilege it has been to work with two generations of an extraordinary family - people blessed with a rare sense of geniality, work ethic and humility.

I'd like to convey my special thanks to Mr. Américo Amorim. I will never forget his vision, irreverence, unique drive, friendship, and willingness to listen to a word of advice and express his support for the projects we have developed together.

I'd therefore like to conclude with my expression of gratitude to the Amorim family, my sincere thanks to all the group's directors, and to all the teams with whom I have worked and with humility I encourage everyone to enjoy the fantastic experience of working in the Amorim group.

My warmest regards,
Eduardo Correia



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PENFOLDS REITERATES ITS PREFERENCE FOR CORK STOPPERS

Australia's most prestigious winery declares: "Screwcaps are not the future"

Peter Gago, chief winemaker at the distinguished Australian winery, Penfolds, has announced that the company now believes that screwcaps are not the best option for its wines, especially for higher-end wines, and that the winery will now focus on cork closures. Speaking at Penfolds' re-corking clinic in London, Gago reinforced this idea. He explained that his main concern with screwcaps continues to be heat damage – since there is no way of telling if a screwcap-sealed wine has been exposed to excessive heat.

He stated that another factor underpinning the company's decision is the current state of the cork stopper industry. He stated that for cork stoppers in general and especially for premium wines, examples of TCA in cork stoppers now lies below 1%. The vast majority of Penfolds' red wines are cork-sealed. In the early 2000s the winery experimented with screwcaps for its red wines but reached the conclusion that cork is the better option.



LAROCHE RETURNS TO CORK STOPPERS WITH NDTECH

Ten years after its announcement that it would use screwcaps with its wines, the prestigious winery Domaine Laroche has disclosed that it will return to cork stoppers.

The pioneering NDtech solution was a key factor underpinning this decision. According to Grégory Viennois, the winery's director of oenology: "When Corticeira Amorim introduced us to NDtech, we immediately realised the progress that has been made to avoid problems of TCA in our wines, preserving them at their best."

NDtech technology will be adopted for all wines produced from the 2015 vintage onwards. It should be noted that NDtech is a fast gas chromatography technology that offers unprecedented individual screening of cork stoppers on production lines, removing any stopper when the presence of TCA higher than 0.5 nanograms per litre is detected.



CORTICEIRA AMORIM AT WINE VISION 2016

Corticeira Amorim was one of the main sponsors of Wine Vision 2016, held in December in Sonoma, California.

In this context, Carlos de Jesus, Marketing and Communications Director of the company, was a speaker on a panel dedicated to the theme "Future packaging – what's in it?", which discussed topics such as: innovation in the cork sector, new packaging formats and how innovation combines tradition with the most commonly accepted formats for wine consumers.

Recognised as the world's largest forum for strategy and innovation in the wine trade since its launch in 2013, Wine Vision has hosted over 650 CEOs and decision makers, from more than 30 countries, providing a current and future transversal view of the various business areas related to the wine industry.



NDTECH WINS TWO MAJOR INNOVATION AWARDS

The path-breaking technology that individually screens cork stoppers on production lines to prevent TCA-contaminated corks reaching winemakers, has won a Gold Innovation Award at Vinitech Sifel 2016 and an Innovative Tech silver medal at Intervitis Interfructa Hortitechnica. These major wine fairs linked to innovation are held in Germany and France, two of the world's most important wine markets.

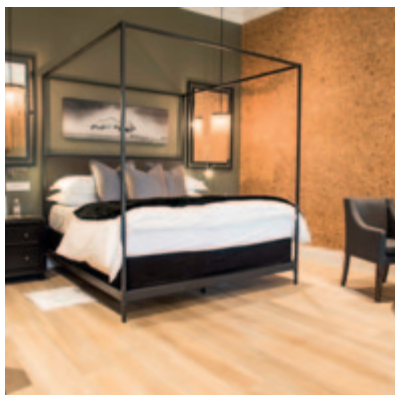
Jean-Luc Berger and Pierre Gaillard, presidents of the Vinitech Sifel 2016 jury, when attributing the Gold Innovation Award (category Vine and Wine) to Corticeira Amorim, highlighted the fact that NDtech is the most advanced technology for combatting TCA and mentioned the important contribution that this innovation has made to the quality of wines.

The award ceremony took place at the end of November, during the international fair that highlights leading innovations in the wine, fruit and vegetables sectors.

In Germany, NDtech won the silver medal in the Packaging Technology category of the Innovation Awards of the biennial international wine technology fair, Intervitis Interfructa Hortitechnica, which ran 27-30 November. The prizes were awarded by the German Wine Producers Association, in cooperation with the German Agricultural Society.

NDtech is the culmination of Corticeira Amorim's long-term strategy to combat TCA. It is the result of a €10 million investment and is already available in 6 countries, with some of the world's most valuable wine brands already using this technology.

REFERENCE WORKS



Work: Fairlawns Boutique Hotel
 Location: Johannesburg, South Africa
 Product: Dekwall, Hawai Natural

Work: Brisa's head office
 Location: Lisbon
 Product: Hydrocork

Work: Restaurant Le Priuré
 Location: France
 Product: Hydrocork Cinder Oak

Work: Lusovini – Cooperativa de Vinhos
 Location: Nelas, Portugal
 Product: CorkComfort

Work: Hotel Parkschlössl
 Location: Thyrnau, Germany
 Product: Vinylcomfort Arcadian Soya Pine

Work: EuroFit gym
 Location: Herford, Germany
 Product: Hydrocork Alaska Oak and Limed Grey

Work: Bakery / Café
 Location: Hveragerdi, Iceland
 Product: Hydrocork Sawn Twine Oak

WICANDERS LAUNCHES THREE NEW COLLECTIONS AT DOMOTEX 2017

Wicanders, part of Amorim Revestimentos, will be attending Domotex 2017 in Hannover with the Hydrocork range – its bestselling waterproof flooring solution, and will also reinforce its range of cork visuals by launching three new collections inspired by the latest trends in interior design.

From 14 to 17 January, Wicanders will be attending Domotex 2017, the flooring industry international trade fair at Hannover, where more than 1,400 exhibitors and 45,000 visitors are expected in an event that will help shape the future world trends for the coatings sector. In line with its practise over previous years, Amorim Revestimentos will launch three new collections at the event: Vintage and Fusion in floor coverings and Brick in wall coverings.

Given that DOMOTEX is a leading trade fair in the sector, this is an opportunity for the company to reinforce the current success of its Hydrocork line, the world's first product to endow cork-based floors with the undisputed benefit of waterproofing. It's the fastest growing product in Wicanders' entire sales history.



Brick

Evoking New York's industrially-inspired decorative environments, where exposed bricks blend with cement, pipes, and other metal objects, this decorative wall collection from Wicanders has been developed to enable versatile transformation of such spaces.

BRICK
 — INDUSTRIAL TOUCH —



Fusion

“New and old, local and global, industrial and craft, wood and stone” are combined in this new collection, that can be defined as “contemporary hybrid”. Inspired by travertine, the line combines cork visuals with wood reliefs and stone textures. Given the natural indentations of these raw materials, the appearance of the final product is always distinctive. It’s perfect for “fake casual chic” environments.

fusion



Vintage Stones

This collection comprises trendy visuals divided into three lines: Limestone, Concrete and Shabby Chic. It is aimed at consumers who like to follow the latest trends and want to combine the benefits of a cork-based floor with a stone aesthetic, thus making it possible to create more personalised environments.

VINTAGE
stones



HYDROCORK NOMINATED FOR TOP HOTEL STAR AWARD

Top Hotel magazine, by the publisher Freizeit-Verlag Landsberg, has just launched the Top Hotel Star Award, aimed at hotel industry suppliers. Amorim Deutschland competed in the non-food category with the innovative flooring line Hydrocork and was named a finalist.

The award categories include design, hardware, promotion, online / software, F&B, profitability and technology. After nomination of the three finalist products in each category, the magazine’s readers will be able to vote online for the products that will receive the gold, silver or bronze prizes. The results will be presented at the international gastronomy fair, Internorga, in Hamburg, in March 2017.

hydracork

CORTICEIRA AMORIM LAUNCHES A BOOK ACCOMPANIED BY THE FIRST CORPORATE APP...



The recently published book, *“Amorim, The Future is our Present”*, follows many other books previously published by Corticeira Amorim. This is the first time that presentation of the company is compiled in a single 300-page volume.

Developed in partnership with Experimentadesign, this is a work of great contemporaneity, whose look and feel positions cork as a raw material of excellence for the areas of design and architecture, but also in highly technological areas, without forgetting wine stoppers, which play an absolutely critical role for the company’s business sustainability.

Organised across “Themes” and “Projects” and with a layout featuring high-quality photographs, the book includes contributions by opinion leaders from different areas who, when working with cork, have played a decisive role in the international perception of this raw material, transforming it into an aspirational object and, above all, a solution for the future.

Corticeira Amorim’s first corporate app was also developed to accompany the book’s launch. Available on Google Play and the App Store, it is a versatile tool that, among many assets, includes a gallery of small videos from the different business areas presented.

With a history spanning almost 147 years, the book profiles Corticeira Amorim’s worldwide leadership in an industry that uniquely combines economic, social and environmental development. The book also highlights cork’s premium and

aspirational positioning. Cork’s technological profile and strong foundations in nature, are the hallmarks of the company’s identity, which strives every day to ensure that its future is even better than its past.



... AND PRESENTS ITS NEW CORPORATE VIDEO

“The Beating Heart of Cork”, Corticeira Amorim’s new corporate video, presents the company as a key player in the cork industry and enhances the differentiation of this singular business activity, which lies close to nature and also involves sophisticated technology.

Developed in partnership with the Portuguese film producer, BRO

Cinema, the video portrays several everyday situations that involve cork, often without us noticing it – in a universe that ranges from best-known applications such as wine corks or cork flooring, and unexpected applications, such as its use in the transport industry.

The film’s narrative aims to present the different applications and then return to the industrial process, revealing the environment in which they are developed, including the cork oak forest, which is a natural asset for ensuring the viability of an industry in which Portugal is a world leader.

“We work alongside those who dare to do things differently, risk-takers who will go down in history” is one of the video’s key phrases. Examples of the use of cork include space missions or an innovative surfboard, and reflects the company’s overall positioning, not only in terms of R&D and innovation, but also implementation of strategic partnerships and communication initiatives that aim to affirm cork as a highly relevant raw material for the contemporary world.

CORK AND ART IN THE PALAIS DE TOKYO



Between 12 October and 18 December, 2016, the emblematic Palais de Tokyo, in Paris, hosted, an original exhibition by Tino Seghal, that used cork as a decisive element in its performance-based language. In addition to Seghal's works, the second edition of the "Carte Blanche" project in the Palais de Tokyo hosted works by other equally renowned artists.

The different artistic works were presented in the exhibition space's 13,000 m² using natural forms of human expression – such as dance, speech and music.

Among the various proposals presented, the creation of a multisensory experience entitled "Occasion", designed by the performance artist, Isabel Lewis, highlighted cork. This artistic installation, in addition to involving the audience in the work, aroused synergies amongst the visitors, through the use of elements such as music, food, aromas and design.

Amorim Cork Composites accompanied implementation of the on-site project and provided the necessary raw materials for complete coverage of a structure that served as the basis for the set design of the artistic performances presented.

Cork's intrinsic characteristics – such as its excellent thermal and acoustic insulation capacity, appearance, softness to the touch, and also its associated sustainability values – were decisive for selection of this raw material, which complies with rigorous technical criteria and comfort and design requirements.



"I'm interested in cork as a building and decorative material for multiple reasons. In aesthetic terms, cork simultaneously explores many sensations, which is exactly what I focus upon in my work, which tries to unite the human senses. Cork is soft and warm to the touch, it can display a beautiful organic texture, the colour is enriched with a gentle shine and its natural earth aroma is highly pleasing. It does not have the harmful chemical scents associated to many others industrial building materials. The fact that it is a sustainable and biodegradable raw material is also an additional reason that particularly appeals to me. Artistically and ethically, I'm very concerned by the environmental impact of my projects."

Isabel Lewis



AMORIM CORK VENTURES PRESENTS SUGO CORK RUGS



Amorim Cork Ventures launches a new startup that is offering an innovative collection of cork carpets, produced using traditional weaving techniques

A second startup has been launched by Amorim Cork Ventures (ACV) – the world’s only business incubator exclusively dedicated to the cork business. SUGO CORK RUGS® is based on an innovative, patent pending method for producing cork carpets, which recovers traditional weaving techniques. It has resulted in the creation of a new collection of versatile and functional carpets, with the added value that results from the incorporation of cork - including thermal and acoustic insulation, comfort, and anti-allergenic properties.



The new brand – SUGO CORK RUGS® – is owned by the startup, TD Cork – Tapetes Decorativos com Cortiça, Lda., run by designer Susana Godinho and manager Sónia Andrade.

Susana Godinho explains: “In the years prior to starting the company, I discovered that cork’s unique characteristics gave me the opportunity to develop an innovative product – to weave a cork rug combined with other materials. The opportunity to work in close partnership with Amorim Cork Ventures came at a crucial time in terms of our product development, so we didn’t hesitate to submit an application.”

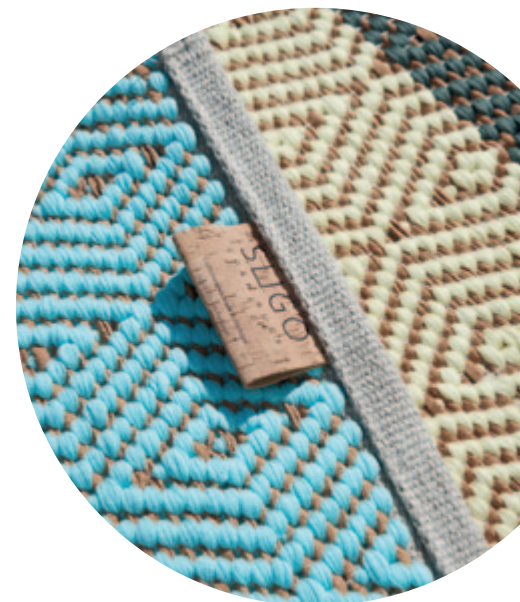
As with other projects supported by Corticeira Amorim’s business incubator, cork is the differentiating element in SUGO CORK RUGS® and delivers several competitive advantages. The added value of the new carpet brand is based on its natural features, a diversity of patterns and colours, a new creative concept and multiple performance benefits, in terms of durability, thermal and acoustic properties, anti-humidity, minimisation of the risk of allergies.

In the opinion of Nuno Barroca, Corticeira Amorim’s deputy chairman, “When we analysed the value proposition of SUGO CORK RUGS®, we immediately realised that the idea had significant potential for the world market, where we typically position ourselves. A cork carpet produced using a loom is a brand new innovation. The collection’s aesthetic versatility is obviously an added value and the fact of combining cork with other sustainable materials fulfils one of the main success criteria for the interior design market.

In addition to cork, the new carpet brand includes Portuguese wool and cotton, recycled from large industrial productions. The new collection of SUGO CORK RUGS® is contemporary - combining simple and stylish solutions with bolder works that complement cork’s natural colour with one or more of the colours of the textile fibres used.

Responsible competitiveness and high social and environmental performance are important values for the brand’s intended positioning. Thus, and despite being a newly established firm, TD Cork has already obtained international certification

from Pending BCorp – a fast-growing international movement that evaluates companies on the basis of their environmental, social and economic performance.





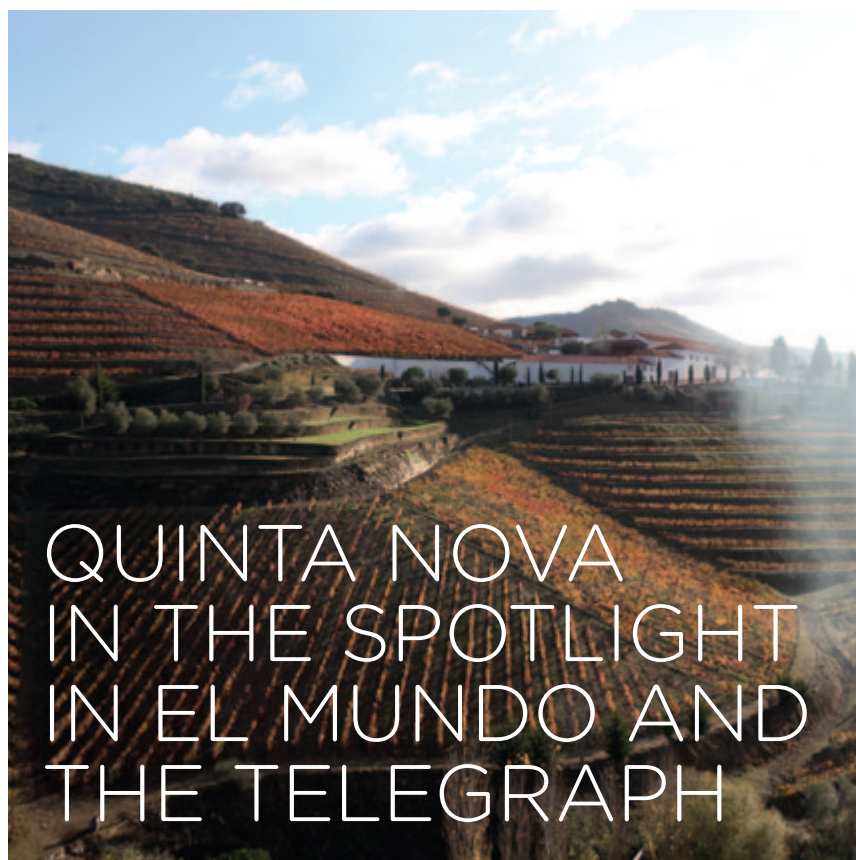
D'UVA IN THE WEB SUMMIT

At the invitation of the Secretary of State for Industry, the D'Uva – Portugal Wine Girls project was presented at the Web Summit, held in Lisbon at the end of November, in a space dedicated to Portuguese startups.

Surrounded by investors, the group of eight producers representing renowned Portuguese wine brands brought the quality and diversity of Portuguese wines to the global technology conference.

The initiative promoted wine as a high quality Portuguese product, that also provides a vital link and catalyses meetings in the business sector. It suggested new approaches and new contexts for the dissemination of this product, that is intimately linked to Portuguese identity and has a strong emotional dimension.

Representing vineyards from the North to the South of Portugal, including the Alentejo, Lisbon and Douro regions, the group presents a portfolio of fine wines and diversity of styles, so characteristic of Portugal: Catarina Vieira, Herdade do Rocim; Francisca van Zeller, Quinta Vale D. Maria; Luisa Amorim, Quinta Nova N. S. Carmo; Maria Manuel Poças Maia, Poças Júnior; Mafalda Guedes, Herdade do Peso / Sogrape; Rita Cardoso Pinto, Quinta do Pinto; Rita Fino, Monte da Penha and Rita Nabeiro, Adega Mayor.



The prestigious newspapers, El Mundo and The Telegraph, have praised the exclusive nature and tranquil atmosphere of wine tourism activities in the Quinta Nova estate, and recommend that their readers visit the region.

In its article "Vinas y río: Oporto en versión slow" (Vines and the river: Porto in a slow version), El Mundo explained that: "There are many options for rural tourism activities in this wine region, including visits to vineyards, wineries, wine tasting and simply appreciating the tranquil atmosphere of the countryside, enjoying luxuries such as swimming in a terraced pool overlooking the river and sleeping in a quiet cosy room. A "deluxe" treat". The journalist Mar Muñiz highlights the fact that "In this region, where wine production is the main engine of economic growth, it is possible to stay in places such as the unique 250-year old Quinta Nova de Nossa Senhora do Carmo. "

In the renowned British newspaper, The Telegraph, Mary Lussiana recommends that readers visit the Quinta Nova estate. She praised the estate's "magnificent setting, perched above the river Douro, surrounded by vineyards". Among other attributes the journalist highlighted the estate's location: " One of the most beautiful settings in the country, with far reaching views over the Douro River and the vineyards that run down to it."

The Telegraph also identifies other reasons to visit the Quinta Nova estate: "The Quinta Nova wines are highly respected and the Mirabilis Grand Reserva White is reason alone to come here."

QUINTA NOVA WITH EXCLUSIVE WHARF AND NEW ACCESSES

The tourism river wharf in Ferrão, fruit of a renovation initiative at the end of 2016, will be a leading reference in the Douro region, both due to its integration in the landscape and because it has a pioneering design. Quinta Nova N. S. Carmo – that has used this wharf to receive tourists throughout the year – will now benefit from a functional and contemporary structure offering access to the estate from the river. The wharf is managed by the Douro, Leixões and Viana do Castelo Port Authority (APDL), and is an intervention that has been long-desired by the local populations and wine tourism economic agents operating in the municipality of Sabrosa.



Prizes won by Quinta Nova in previous editions:

2014

Wine Restaurant

2010

Innovative Experiences

2009

Art and Culture

2008

Architecture,

Parks and Gardens

2007

Accommodation



QUINTA NOVA WINS BEST WINE TOURISM AWARD

The *Best Wine Tourism Award*, in the *Sustainable Wine Tourism Practices* category, was awarded to Quinta Nova N. S. Carmo, in recognition of its premier sustainable wine tourism practices at the national level.

Quinta Nova is the Portuguese project with the highest number of awards from the Best Wine Tourism Awards initiative, thus demonstrating that it is possible to develop a sophisticated proposal, with high levels of sustainability, compatible with the expectations of some of the world's most demanding markets, such as the USA, Scandinavian countries and Germany, for which "sustainability" is a key factor when choosing a tourist destination.

In the opinion of Luísa Amorim, "It's an honour to receive a prize that highlights various components that we cherish in the company, because we seek to promote environmental awareness through wine tourism activities".

"This approach allows us to create a reciprocal dynamic via which this service contributes to the local economy and the region contributes to development of our business activity. This is the basis of our entire wine tourism project".



ETICO RECYCLES 350 MILLION CORK STOPPERS

Amorim Cork Italia's ETICO recycling programme has already recycled more than 350 million cork stoppers since its launch in 2010.

In total, over 220 tonnes of cork have been recycled, generating revenues of around €150,000 that will revert to charitable causes.

This is a leading project in Italy, which, in addition to making it possible to recycle cork and extend the benefits associated with its use, also draws attention to the countless possibilities of reusing this 100% natural material.



VOLUNTEERS FROM CORTICEIRA AMORIM PLANT 2000 CORK OAK TREES IN MORA

On November 12, 2016, as part of a joint initiative, 80 volunteers from Corticeira Amorim planted 2000 cork oaks in Mora, with the support of Quercus – the National Nature Conservation Association. The planting took place in the Herdade da Barroca, in the parish of Pavia, owned by the Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Mora.

Promoted by volunteers from Corticeira Amorim, within the scope of the company's Natural Choice programme and Quercus' Floresta Comum (Common Forest) project, the new reforestation initiative has contributed to planting 15,500 native trees in Portugal since 2011, above all cork oak trees.

As in previous planting exercises, the cork oak trees were ceded by the Common Forest project. This time, however, the plantation took place in the Alentejo region – an area of Portugal where there are extensive cork oak plantations and where the National Tree of Portugal has ideal conditions to survive and prosper.

Corticeira Amorim has been a partner of the Common Forest project since it was launched. The project is supported by the proceeds from the Green Cork stopper recycling programme, whose revenues revert in full to financing preservation of Portugal's native forests.



AMORIM & IRMÃOS WINS THE EXPORT AND INTERNA- TIONALISATION PRIZE

Amorim & Irmãos, S. A. received the Special Jury Prize of the 2016 edition of the Export and Internationalization Prizes awarded by NOVO BANCO and Jornal de Negócios.

These prizes, awarded in partnership with IGNIOS, pay tribute to the success of SMEs and large Portuguese companies in terms of exports and internationalisation of their business activity.

Amorim & Irmãos is the parent company of the Stoppers Business Unit and lay at the origin of the creation of Corticeira Amorim. It is the world's largest producer and supplier of corks, with 96% of its sales turnover generated outside Portugal, to more than 80 countries.



IN MEMORIAM MASARU NAGAKU

Kobe Cork, a leading Japanese company in the cork flooring market and a longstanding business partner of Corticeira Amorim, announced the death of its founder, Masaru Nagaku (Nagahisa), in late 2016.

Born in 1935, Nagaku became interested in cork after visiting Portugal in the early 1970s where he first came into contact with Corticeira Amorim. The desire to bring cork to Japan, where it was relatively unknown, led him to found Kobe Cork in 1972, which became the main representative of Amorim's products – a strong and reliable partner, with a high innovation capacity.

Committed to the social impact of his business, Nagaku always stood out as a socially responsible entrepreneur and for believing in the potential of cork as a high quality raw material with major future potential. From the outset, his relationship with Corticeira Amorim was marked by his sense of loyalty and his constructive attitude as a business partner.

One sign of this was the fact that when Corticeira Amorim had its initial public offering in the stock market in 1988, Kobe Cork decided to become a shareholder, and maintained its shareholding for a long period of time. Nagaku thereby became the leading ambassador of cork in Japan.

His dedication and commitment included an annual visit to Amorim with a group of clients, architects and other professionals. Today, an unusually high percentage of cultural buildings (libraries and concert halls), educational facilities (nursery schools and schools) and health care infrastructures (old age homes) in Japan use cork in their facilities. The Nezu Museum in Tokyo, which was awarded the Cork Award in 2011 as part of the InterCork project, is one of the best-known projects that involved Kobe Cork.

By virtue of his generous and captivating character and his extensive business dealings with Corticeira Amorim, Masaru Nagaku became a close friend of the Amorim family, with whom he shared countless moments of friendship and complicity.

[Corticeira Amorim thus pays a simple homage to a highly cherished partner.]





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