



news



Amorim
Revestimentos
invests 10 Million
Euros to increase
Hydrocork
production

Stop time



Central Coast
CALLIE
COLLECTION

WINE MADE FOR MOMENTS THAT STOP TIME



Introducing Callie Collection, a love letter to California's Central Coast. With a unique resealable cork, these elegant and delicious wines are easy to enjoy—just twist to open and twist to close.



index

- 4**
Helix conquers Constellation, the world's biggest wine producer...
- 5**
... and is an option for the single varietal wines of Adega de Vila Real
- NDTech distinguished in the areas of Sustainability and Technological Innovation
- Amorim & Irmãos attends major Portuguese wine events
- 6**
Amorim Revestimentos invests 10 Million Euros to increase Hydrocork production
- 7**
Key Works
- 8**
Mega cork installation in the inauguration of the Museum of Natural History in Tel Aviv
- 9**
Cork snowboard wins major international award ISPO BRANDNEW 2017
- New generation of rockets incorporates cork for thermal protection
- 10**
Interview with Lars Beller, renowned Norwegian designer
- 12**
Corticeira Amorim wins National Agricultural Prize
- Corticeira Amorim involved in Meet 2030
- 13**
MDFachada Wave solution used in a project by PROMONTORIO
- 14**
Hydrocork distinguished in Las Vegas
- Wicanders with a strong presence in BAU 2017
- New collection of cork flooring from SCHÖNER WOHNEN
- 15**
Acousticork used in award-winning project from Strabag
- InterCork III launched in China
- Music to the sound of cork
- 16**
Quinta Nova relaunches two highly successful wines
- The Best of the Year
- Moscatal returns to the market



editorial

Corticeira Amorim recorded its best-ever annual results in 2016. All Business Units contributed to this outstanding achievement. The performance of the cork stopper business unit was once again the core element in the growth of Corticeira Amorim's consolidated sales.

In a particularly demanding year, these results reflect the dedication of a worldwide team of 3,600 employees. With professionalism and commitment, our employees dedicate themselves, on a daily basis, to promoting cork as an excellent material and Corticeira Amorim as an organisation that plays a key role in its valuation.

In this issue of Amorim News, the first of 2017, we demonstrate that this growth dynamic is expected to continue. "The Future is Our Present" - the title of the book we recently published – perfectly captures our outlook: a past that makes us proud and, above all, that motivates us to achieve more and better.

This commitment is demonstrated by our focus on strengthening Hydrocork's production capacity [a ground-breaking flooring solution, whose innovative qualities have been embraced by the market]; our partnership with Constellation to launch a new range of wines using the Helix packaging solution [following the recent announcement by Bronco, which means that Helix is used in the brands of two of the top five US wine producers]; market awareness of the importance of NDTech technology [recently distinguished in Germany with a Sustainability and Technological Innovation Award]; pioneering initiatives and visits that foster new approaches to cork [for example Lars Beller visited Amorim Cork Composites and told us about his enthusiasm for this raw material]; complemented by several new partnerships and actions that promote the uniqueness of cork in Portugal and abroad.

Finally, we have the Forest Intervention Project, which underpinned the award of the National Agriculture Prize to Corticeira Amorim, that aims to change the current panorama of the cork oak forest, through a commitment to in-depth initiatives, such as reduction of the first cycle of cork extraction. This is an ambitious new project which will be decisive for the sector's future growth.

The future presents us with great challenges, but I'm convinced that with our vision, competence, determination and passion, complemented by the unique credentials of our raw material, we will continue along this successful path.

Best regards,
António Rios de Amorim



Credits Headquarters: Rua de Meladas n.º 380, 4536-902 Mozelos VFR; Property of: Grupo Amorim; Co-ordination: Joana Martins; Editorial: ATREVIA; Publishing: Grupo Amorim; Design and desktop publishing: ATREVIA; Printing and Binding: Lidergraf – Artes Gráficas, S.A.; Translation: Expressão, Lda, English translation: Sombra Chinesa Lda; Distribution: Iberomail Correio Internacional, Lda.; Packaging: Porenvel Distribuição, Comércio e Serviços, S.A. Periodicity: quarterly; Issue: 22 000 copies; Legal Deposit: 386410/15



Helix conquers Constellation, the world’s biggest wine producer...

The innovative Helix wine packaging solution has been chosen by Constellation Brands for the US launch of its new Callie Collection.

“We’re proud and excited to be launching Callie Collection with the Helix cork closure,” notes Callie Collection Marketing Manager Marissa Glennon. “Callie Collection was created to be effortlessly enjoyed, for those special moments with friends when time stops, and we’re thrilled to offer our Callie Crew a truly unique and easy drinking experience with the innovative re-sealable Helix cork closure.”

The wines of the Callie Collection, that retail at \$ 13.99 in the United States, stand out for the fresh aromas and flavours typical of California’s Central Coast. The portfolio includes three wines: Pinot Grigio, Chardonnay and a high-quality red blend.

Carlos de Jesus, Corticeira Amorim’s Marketing Director states: “Cork and glass continue to be the benchmark for premium yet highly sustainable packaging for the wine industry. We’re obviously delighted with this partnership with Constellation, a genuine world leader in the wine and beverage industry, for launch of the Callie Collection, which will reinforce the Helix brand and Portuguese cork in the US - the world’s largest wine market.”

The twist-to-open concept combines an ergonomically-designed cork stopper and a glass bottle with an internal thread in the neck, creating a high performance user-friendly wine packaging solution. With Helix, the wines of the Callie Collection offer the sophistication of a cork stopper and a glass bottle, that guarantee the same technical performance, but dispense with the need for a corkscrew. The Helix packaging solution has been developed by two world leaders – Corticeira Amorim and O-I – which lead the cork and glass container sectors respectively.

Wines sealed with Helix:

- Red Truck, Bronco (USA)
- Hello World, La Estacada (Spain)
- La Cuvée Mythique, Vinadeis (France)
- Folie d’oc, Domaine Guizard (France)
- Adega Vila Real (Portugal)
- S de Sol, Ervideira (Portugal)
- Ziobaffa | Ocarossa | Toscano, Castellani (Italy)
- Twee Jonge Gezellen, Krone (South Africa)

Main retailers:

- BevMO!
- Carrefour
- El Corte Inglés
- Albert Heijn
- Whole Foods Market
- Kroger
- Trader Joe’s
- Makro
- Jumbo



Launch of Red Truck, in the USA, included 7 wines: 6 different varietal wines and 1 blended wine

... and is an option for the single varietal wines of Adega de Vila Real

Adega de Vila Real has launched an exclusive collection of single varietal wines, representing the various grape varieties that characterise the Douro region, sealed with the Helix packaging solution.

Nuno Borges, manager of Adega de Vila Real, explains: "Douro wines have become famous as blended wines (mixing several grape varieties). With this launch we want consumers to become more familiar with the distinctive characteristics of each grape variety and what it adds to the aromatic richness of the region's wines. At the same time, we aim to maintain the usual standards of high quality and affordable prices that characterise Adega de Vila Real's wines."

Adega de Vila Real's new range is composed of six wines - three red, two white and one rosé. Adega de Vila Real's launch of such a complete range of single varietal wines from the Douro represents a major platform for development of the Helix solution in Portugal.



NDtech distinguished in the areas of Sustainability and Technological Innovation

The ground-breaking NDtech technology – which removes any natural cork stopper contaminated with TCA from the production line – has once again been honoured, in two competitions.

The 2017 Sustainability Prize was awarded during the Nieder-Olm Machinery and Equipment Trade Fair in Germany, that distinguishes products, systems and services that support winegrowers. The jury, in addition to sustainability requirements, evaluates the direct applicability of the developed solution.

NDtech was also awarded the Technological Innovation Award in the 21st edition of Enomaq - International Show of Winery and Bottling Machinery and Equipment. Launched in 2016, NDtech is a state-of-the-art quality control screening technology designed for natural corks. It introduces the world's first individual screening process on production lines, thus ensuring the elimination of any cork stopper contaminated with TCA.

Amorim & Irmãos attends major Portuguese wine events

Amorim & Irmãos attended several major wine sector events in Portugal in January and February, 2017. At the end of February, the company attended the distinguished Essência do Vinho event in the Palácio da Bolsa in Porto, where it showcased the Greencork recycling programme – an initiative to collect wine corks to recycle and offered a pack of four Top Series personalised capsulated stoppers.

The 14th edition of Essência do Vinho was the most international to date - 30% of the 20,000+ visitors were foreigners.

To celebrate 100 issues over a 10-year period, the "Best of 2016" event organised by Wine - Essência do Vinho magazine highlighted projects and personalities that have pursued excellent work in favour of wine, gastronomy and wine tourism - with a total of 15 categories and 60 nominees. Amorim & Irmãos supported the initiative.

Finally, the emblematic "Best of 2016" ceremony promoted by the Revista de Vinhos in Porto's Alfândega building for the 20th consecutive year, distinguished Portugal's finest wines and its best wine and food companies. The awards ceremony – known as the "Wine Oscars" – brought together almost 1,000 people. António Rios de Amorim handed the Lifetime Achievement Award to João Portugal Ramos.



Amorim Revestimentos invests 10 Million Euros to increase Hydrocork production

Two years after the launch of Wicanders' innovative premium range of Hydrocork flooring solutions, Corticeira Amorim is investing 10 million euros that will increase its production capacity by four million square metres of floor space per year, from 2018 onwards.

This decision reflects Hydrocork's tremendous customer response across all geographical markets, which has delivered very rapid sales growth, making this product one of the fastest-growing in terms of market penetration in the history of Corticeira Amorim.



Hydrocork's rapid growth is based on its competitive advantages that have been extremely well perceived by customers: such as its water proof performance, reduced thickness (making it easy and quick to install), combined with the numerous benefits delivered by Corktech technology (thermal and acoustic insulation, walking comfort, body wellness and impact resistance) and a lifetime warranty for home use.

Its characteristics enable this cork flooring solution to be used in new areas – such as the kitchen and bathroom – and makes it ideal for the fast-growing market of renovations.



António Rios de Amorim, Corticeira Amorim's Chairman and CEO reveals that "This investment aims to provide one of Corticeira Amorim's most important business areas with a robust response capacity to market demands. This technology is even more relevant given that it also strengthens R&D processes for a new generation of truly innovative cork compound products."

Corticeira Amorim is a world leader in the production and distribution of cork-incorporated flooring solutions. From 2018 onwards it will now be able to develop a PVC-free cork agglomerate with reduced CO₂ emissions. The new technology will also enable a wider range of thicknesses, densities and widths.

Key Works

ANZ Learning Academy Docklands

Architects: Lyons
 Builder: Kwill Constructions
 Product: Medium Cork
 600x300x8mm
 Application Wall, ceiling and floor
 Country: Australia



Casserly House

Architects: Three C Architects
 Product: Corkcomfort Identity and Slate Eclipse
 Country: Australia

Higher Ground Café

Architects: Design Office
 Product: 600x300x8mm Cork, medium finish with personalised colour (grey)
 Application Floor
 Country: Australia



The work was produced in response to a challenge launched by the Museum to design an outdoor leisure area, in a space that offers magnificent views over its botanical gardens. Rona Meyuchas-Koblentz, founder and director of Kukka Studio - who organised a cork workshop in the Domaine de Boisbuchet in the summer of 2016 - didn't hesitate to develop a cork installation: "I was very excited about the possibility of working with cork once again, since it's a source of so much inspiration for me. It was also clear that we had to choose a sustainable material, in line with the essence of the Museum of Natural History itself and its botanical gardens."

"Blocks" is a 50 m² installation, entirely built using cork blocks. A total of 108 blocks of cork were used (940x640x20 cm), made from three different composites, thereby creating an informal seating area inspired by the topography of the surrounding natural setting. Rona Meyuchas-Koblentz explains: "I decided that I would solely use three different composites in order to create a topographical visual effect, in terms of colour and texture". From a technical point of view: "The blocks supplied by Corticeira Amorim are sufficiently heavy that no additional connection is required between them. In addition, cork is a waterproof material, absorbs vibration and has acoustic insulation characteristics. It's resistant and durable."

Mega cork installation in the inauguration of the Museum of Natural History in Tel Aviv

Coming into contact with cork, while socialising and enjoying this community leisure space, is the invitation made by Rona Meyuchas-Koblentz with her installation "Blocks", on display in the Museum of Natural History in Tel Aviv in the framework of the Fresh Paint Contemporary Art & Design Fair, between March 28 and April 1.





Cork snowboard wins major international award ISPO BRANDNEW 2017

The innovative cork snowboard developed by the Swiss company, Anticonf, based on Next Core © technology, incorporating cork supplied by Amorim Cork Composites was one of the products distinguished in the 2017 ISPO BRANDNEW awards - one of the most prestigious international awards in the sporting goods industry.

In the 2017 ISPO BRANDNEW competition, the cork snowboard was highlighted for its ecological characteristics and high technical performance.

In line with Anticonf’s philosophy of “products designed and made in Switzerland using eco-sourced and recycling-based materials for a minimal environmental impact”, the incorporation of cork in the snowboard was motivated by environmental issues, given that cork is a renewable raw material harvested from sustainable forests.

In this context, the adopted solution - that combines cork with bamboo - replaces the previous classic longitudinal wooden core, delivering a board that directs the transmission of energy from the user’s feet to the ends of the board, and also provides greater flexibility and stability (vibration absorption).

New generation of rockets incorporates cork for thermal protection

Amorim Cork Composites is going into space again, this time with United Launch Alliance (ULA) and Ruag Space. Next-generation launch rockets of ULA, using composite primary structures supplied by Ruag Space, will incorporate Amorim’s ablative thermal solution P50. These ULA launch rockets, named Vulcan, will replace the Atlas and Delta Launchers.

According to news on Composites World website: “The outer skin of the ogive section is layed up manually on a dummy mould. Thermal protection in the form of a compressed cork provided by Amorim Cork Composites is positioned over the layup.

Use of the P50 solution on the outside skin of the fairing’s composite sandwich protects the sandwich from the aerodynamic frictional heat generated on the fairing’s exterior.”





Interview with Lars Beller, renowned Norwegian designer

Lars Beller designs Knoll's new collection of cork coatings for interiors, Beller Collection.

How and when did you have the idea of using cork to create the Beller Collection?

It all started in January 2015 when Benjamin Pardo, executive vice president at Knoll, reached out to me. Both he and Roger Wall, president of Spinneybeck, had been interested in adding cork products to the Knoll and Spinneybeck collection. Spinneybeck is synonymous with high-end leathers, but they are also rapidly gaining ground in the world of tailor-made acoustic products and wall coverings. Working with sound and sound-absorption seemed like the perfect challenge, and I knew from previous experiences that cork could be an excellent fit.

The idea of using moulded cork as the starting point for a series of acoustic tiles came to me after visiting Amorim Cork Composites later that year. It was amazing to see the sheer scale of the Amorim operation and to see the entire process from the harvesting of the cork to the packaging of finished consumer products. I was especially curious about the moulding process, which eventually led to the idea of a series of wall-mounted tiles.

Cork is a natural, 100% recyclable and environmentally-friendly product. Were these characteristics important for your decision?

Cork is an amazing and unique material, and its set of unique properties is almost too good to be true.

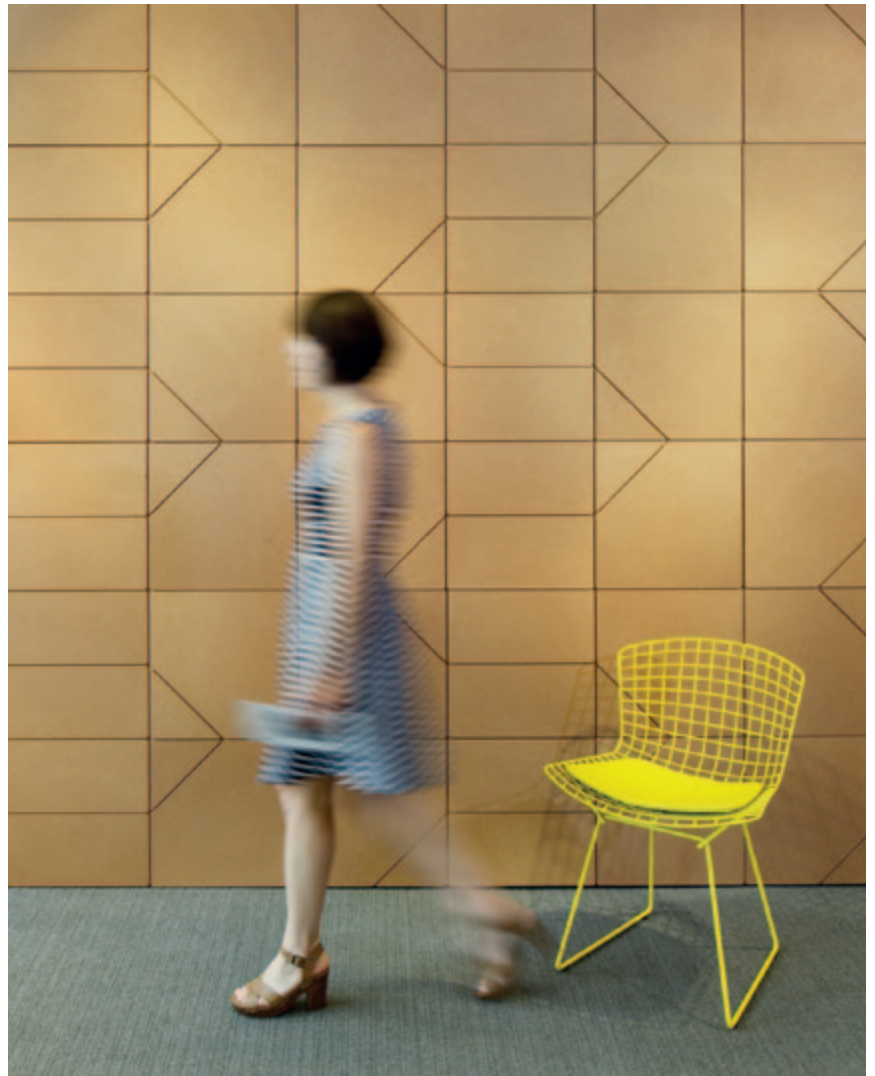
I try to incorporate an aspect of both innovation and sustainability in all of my projects, and this is perhaps also the reason why I have chosen to work with cork on several occasions in the past. The amazing thing about cork is that it's fully compatible with mass production in most of its forms, and I am convinced that we are going to see a lot of new and innovative uses for this material in the future.

If you had to highlight two major advantages of cork, which ones would you choose?

One of the things that I find really fascinating about cork is that, in many ways, it acts like a very dense memory foam. It always bounces back to its original form after being subject to mechanical pressure. This unique trait is a result of its iconic hexagonal cellular structure that also gives the material the ability to store energy.

It is truly remarkable that a wine stopper can keep a tight seal on a wine bottle for over a hundred years. I have tried to make use of this particular feature in several projects, but it is perhaps more obvious in the patent-pending snap-on solution I designed for the Beller Collection. The tiles are fixed to an extruded aluminium rail with the exact same force it took to snap them on.

This force remains more or less constant until the tile is removed. Tiny inventions like this one give me lots of joy and inspiration. It's almost impossible for me to choose my next favourite feature, as they are all equally great.



What feedback are you getting about this collection? How are people reacting to this artistic creation?

The reception of the Beller collection has exceeded all my expectations. We have already won two major awards in the US, and the feedback from architects, traders, and designers has been great. The collection was launched at NeoCon last year, and it was great to experience the visitor's reaction to the products first hand. I believe that about three out of four visitors couldn't resist touching the tiles while walking through the buzzing showroom, and I see this as the ultimate sign of approval.

How do you rate the support of the Amorim Cork Composites team throughout the process?

The support provided by Amorim is second to none. This is a team that will go the extra mile to achieve something that is seemingly impossible. It's a pleasure working with people that take such pride in what they do, and that offer a service and a product that is truly environmentally friendly.

*Full interview available at:
www.amorimcorkcomposites.com*





Corticeira Amorim wins National Agricultural Prize

Corticeira Amorim was awarded the National Agricultural Award in the category of the Innovation Project – Large Companies, at a ceremony held in the Ritz Hotel, Lisbon.

The award is based on the recently presented Forest Intervention Project, developed in close partnership with forestry producers, research institutions and local political entities, which aims to guarantee the maintenance, preservation and enhancement of cork oak forests and, consequently, of high-quality cork. The initiative covers a number of important intervention areas: the reduction of the first cycle of cork extraction; genetic improvement and vegetative reproduction of the cork oak tree; the maximum number of cork oak trees per hectare; cork oak genome sequencing; the fight against pests and diseases and, finally, fertilisation and compatibility of grazing.

The National Agricultural Prize fosters, encourages and rewards success stories in the fields of Agriculture and Agro-industry, Forestry and Livestock, valuing a commitment to increase competitiveness, innovation and internationalisation of Portuguese products. It is joint initiative of BPI, Correio da Manhã and Jornal de Negócios. According to Luís Capoulas Santos, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development: “Agriculture, forests and rural development are very demanding areas of work, but also offer the greatest opportunities. That is why we need to continue to stimulate and support entrepreneurship in this area, valuing innovation, effort and skills. Such valorisation is also achieved through this path of recognition, because attributing awards is also a form of valorisation.”

Corticeira Amorim involved in Meet 2030

Corticeira Amorim, as an associate company of the Business Council for Sustainable Development (BCSD), is involved in the Meet 2030 project: Energy, Climate and Economic Growth, developed by the BCSD and the Instituto Superior Técnico.

This innovative project is based on implementation of the Paris Agreement. It aims to identify how the Portuguese business sector will be able to position itself in 2030, using as a methodological basis the central role played by energy in economic growth, the competitiveness of different economic sectors and development of new business models.

The project aims to create scenarios for Portugal in 2030, in the context of a fourth industrial revolution, taking into account Portuguese, European and global commitments to achieve carbon neutrality. In this context, companies will be challenged to identify potential new sectors of economic activity, opportunities for innovation in products and processes, and the competitive advantages necessary for their success.

MEET2030
ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE
AND IMAGINE THE FUTURE



MDFachada Wave solution used in a project by PROMONTORIO

Renovation and rehabilitation of GSI Portugal's headquarters building, developed by the architecture and interior design studio, PROMONTORIO, includes extensive application of expanded cork agglomerate – Wave MDF, Amorim Isolamentos – in its interior.

Completed in 2016, the project was implemented with the participation of the artist Alexandre Farto (aka Vhils), internationally known for his distinctive work in reconversion of the exterior façades of buildings. This 1970s building is located on IAPMEI's campus in Lisbon, one of Portugal's first buildings specifically created for business innovation.

From the point of view of its architectural design, it was planned using an orthogonal grid, inspired by the Anglo-Saxon university model. The idea of reusing materials inside the building is intentional. The crudeness of the exposed concrete elements and the absence of a false ceiling, which exposes elements such as electricity cables and air conditioning ducts, contrasts with the comfort and soft feel of the materials and finishes, including the expanded cork agglomerate, as well as linoleum, carpets and other textiles.

GSI Portugal is a Portuguese subsidiary of the international organisation responsible for implementation of systems for the identification of technological licensing of companies and products.

Hydrocork distinguished in Las Vegas

Amorim Revestimentos attended The International Surface Event (TISE), in Las Vegas, to present its Hydrocork range, its bestselling waterproof flooring solution, and at the same time it reinforced communication of Wicanders' cork visuals.

The 4-day trade fair, with more than 700 exhibitors, defines global trends in the industry. Amorim Revestimentos had a strong presence in the event. Visitors were surprised by a water curtain falling onto Hydrocork panels, thereby emphasising its characteristics as a waterproof cork flooring solution, complemented by its other associated comfort features. TISE is North America's largest event for showcasing new trends in the flooring, stone and tile coating industries.



Wicanders with a strong presence in BAU 2017

Amorim Revestimentos participated in BAU 2017, one of the main international architecture and construction fairs, with a 300 m² stand, where it presented its latest innovations to a professional audience. The new collection of SCHÖNER WOHNEN flooring solutions was highlighted through the creation of a relaxed environment, complemented by furniture and a coloured wall, both specially aligned with the collection.

The Harvest collection, designed for Wicanders by the world-renowned architect Hadi Teherani, was exhibited through a presentation, developed in partnership with his studio. The walls featured a description of the context and Hadi Teherani's inspiration for development of this collection.

Wicanders' three new collections - Brick, Fusion and Vintage - were also presented and constituted the other highlight of the company's presence in BAU 2017.

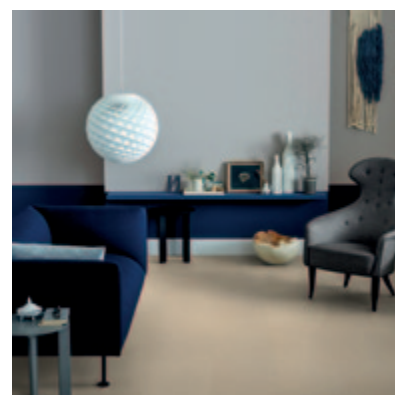
New collection of cork flooring from SCHÖNER WOHNEN

In partnership with SCHÖNER WOHNEN – a leading German interior design firm – Amorim Revestimentos has developed an innovative and comfortable collection of cork flooring solutions, with vibrant colours and a relaxed design.

The collection presents 21 avant-garde proposals, and has been developed to create closer proximity to the end consumer.

The new collection is produced using state-of-the-art digital printing technology, that perfectly replicates stone and wood in a plethora of attractive colours, complemented by neutral colours applied in the natural cork visuals.

According to Kirstin Ollech, coordinator of the SCHÖNER WOHNEN collection: "Cork is the solution that we have been looking for over recent years: it delivers flooring and materials that are sustainable, comfortable, robust and easy-to-maintain, offering efficient thermal and sound insulation".



Acousticork used in award-winning project from Strabag

Strabag – one of Europe’s largest construction companies – has chosen the Acousticork VC 7500 anti-vibration material from Amorim Cork Composites for its project to widen the A1 motorway between Matzleinsdorf and Pöchlarn in Austria.

This is a key project from Strabag, which won the tender for the best project to widen the motorway, by virtue of its performance in terms of work safety and quality. This low-load material from Amorim Cork Composites was supplied in sheets. It made it possible to widen the motorway, while helping to absorb vibrations and noise.

According to Thomas Birtel, Strabag’s CEO, “We are convinced that this construction project will be a reference for future motorway projects”. The work will be completed in May 2018.

ACOUSTICORK

InterCork III launched in China

The seventh edition of InterCork III — an initiative of the Portuguese Cork Association (APCOR) for the international promotion of cork, has been launched in China with an investment of €600,000, primarily channelled to the area of cork stoppers, including numerous initiatives to promote and publicise this natural stopper and its benefits.

With more and more informed and demanding consumers, the Chinese market is the world’s fifth largest wine consumption market, with an average of 1.2 litres of wine consumed per capita, and it is the world’s fourth largest importer of bottled wines – with €2 billion per annum. Given its size and role as a major wine importer, China has a major influence on some of the world’s largest wine-producing markets. According to independent studies, 84% of Chinese consumers prefer wines sealed with cork stoppers.

InterCork III has a worldwide budget of €7.8 million euros. In addition to China, it will include initiatives in nine other markets - USA, France, Germany, Italy, Brazil, Spain, Sweden, Denmark and the United Kingdom - with campaigns targeted at each national audience. The programme is financed by Compete 2020, Portugal 2020 and the European Union, through the European Regional Development Fund.

Music to the sound of cork

Cork has proven to be a very versatile raw material, especially in the world of music. Its properties recently attracted the attention of the Portuguese company, Audolici, which created the Airborne Turntable Mat. The use of cork mats, or rubber-and-cork mats on the turntable, delivers superb sound quality – absorbing resonance and vibration.

According to Miguel Guedes, manager of the Audolici Airborne brand, “for many years we have been interested in vibro-acoustic processes and effective methods for reducing undesirable resonance and vibration, both audible and inaudible to the human ear. Based on our experience, we have developed a unique product that improves sound quality, using a 100% natural material - cork.”



Quinta Nova relaunches two highly successful wines

Quinta Nova Nossa Senhora do Carmo has just released two new wines - Quinta Nova Rosé 2016 and Quinta Nova Unoaked Tinto 2015 - which ensure total consistency in terms of style. Recommended for immediate consumption, the delicate Rosé 2016, comes from a 25-year old vineyard. To preserve its aromatic richness, it was bottled early, after being stored for four months in a stainless steel vat.

After its success with Quinta Nova Reserva Rosé 2015, chosen as the “Rosé of the Year” by Wine magazine’s Luís Costa, Quinta Nova Rosé 2016 is expected to be a good vintage. Winemaker Jorge Alves highlights the “beautiful pale-pink colour, with a fresh aroma, delicate structure and silky texture, offering good complexity”. He adds that “it has a very long finish, with great precision”.

Quinta Nova Unoaked Tinto 2015, is also extremely promising, since 2015 was a year of recognised quality and great concentration, that is extremely evident in this wine. “It’s a ruby-coloured wine with blue hints, with a young, exuberant, mineral aroma. It has an intense, fresh, sophisticated and complex taste”. Jorge Alves concludes that this wine “has a long, rich, voluminous and tense finish”.



The Best of the Year

The Revista de Vinhos magazine, in the final distinction of the Best of the Year, highlighted Mirabilis Grande Reserva Branco 2015 wines and Mirabilis Grande Reserva Tinto 2013, two wines that were already highlighted in the tasting panels, due to their high quality.



A few days before, Wine magazine chose Mirabilis Grande Reserva Tinto 2013 as one of the Best of the Year. It thereby won a place on the podium, ranked among seven Douro wines, from a total of 27 Portuguese wines that received awards and a tasting note that explained this distinction: “Very defined fruit, polished, a high calibre barrel. Herbal, fine spices and mineral. Penetrating structure on the mouth, a harmonious body, fine-calibre tannins, despite its youth. Deep, rich, fragrant and with a notable finish.”

Moscatel returns to the market

Ideal for accompanying sushi, Asian or Indian food, the recently launched Pomares Moscatel 2016, stands out from the competition. The grapes are harvested from a mature vineyard in the Alijó plateau and then selected manually. The entire grape is pressed, and then fermented in stainless steel tanks at a low temperature, followed by four months storage, also in stainless-steel vats, and early bottling. The winemaker Jorge Alves explains that “this wine is likely to surprise the market because of its freshness, youth, exuberance and the presence of fruit – in particular an aroma of grapefruit and lychees with hints of citrus and tropical fruits. It has very intense presence in the mouth, balanced by its minerality and crispy freshness”.