



NEWS

Amorim Group news



Quinta Nova awarded a distinction by the New York Times

Eric Asimov is the NY Times wine critic, and has great influence over consumers. Known for his pragmatism and simplicity, he likes to present new, moderately priced brands to the market. Whether or not you like his style, Eric Asimov is provocative, sometimes stating that there are fantastic wines, but which cost a fortune to drink.

On the Douro, he is clear - it is a region with great potential, which has it all: "It has looks... It has brains... It has history... It has grapes..."

The fruit intensity and the spice aromas (aromatic notes typical of high-quality wines), alongside good acidity, take this region to the very top of the world winegrowing scene.

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GRAMMY Awards®
serve only wine sealed
under cork

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EcoBouchon programme
by Amorim France
recycles over 32 million
stoppers

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The Cork Oak is
Portugal's National Tree

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NEWS



EDITORIAL

Congratulations are in order for Quinta Nova de Nossa Senhora do Carmo wines. At a time when these wines are successfully expanding into various markets, international recognition of their quality continues: the New York Times praised the Colheita Unoaked 2009, and highly regarded wine critic Mark Squires (who tastes wines for Robert Parker) awarded excellent scores to four Quinta Nova wines.

Wine and cork have an inseparable history. And cork is Amorim, the group at the head of this sector which plays such an important role in Portuguese exports and which recently saw - with great pride but also with a profound sense of responsibility - the cork oak being named Portugal's National Tree. The distinction was approved unanimously by the Portuguese parliament, in recognition of the importance of this endogenous tree and its outstanding environmental performance.

The connection between CORTICEIRA AMORIM and the cork oak forest puts Portugal at the forefront of a pioneering sector which demonstrates, practically and unequivocally, that an economic activity can coexist with - and contribute to the viability of - the

environmental preservation of ecosystems, while promoting social equilibrium. Such harmony does exist, and is entirely based on the concept of Sustainable Development, which from the outset has been one of the pillars of the development and activities of our entire Organisation.

On this subject, initiatives for the recycling of cork stoppers are flourishing. Portugal, Spain, the US and France - with its EcoBouchon programme, which has already collected over 32 million stoppers - are now joined by Italy and its Etico programme, combining the benefits of recycling with support for local charitable institutions. After they are recycled, the stoppers can be used in a variety of products and solutions. Challenge creative minds, and the result can be as brilliant as a Pinha or as intriguing as a Lasca. All part of MATERIA®, CORK BY AMORIM!

Keep reading to find out about this and many other topics currently engaging the Organisation's efforts, pride and enthusiasm!



When the Douro offers you its greatest treasures

THE QUINTA NOVA DE N. S. DO CARMO, IN COLLABORATION WITH QUINTA DA AVESSADA WINERY – ALSO A RECIPIENT OF INTERNATIONAL AWARDS - OFFERS YOU A JOINT PROGRAMME TO DISCOVER THE DOURO, IN THE HEIGHT OF SPRING OR AMID THE AUTUMN COLOURS WHICH CLOTHE THE REGION IN NOVEMBER.

The 2-day package gives you the opportunity to experience the winegrowing village of Favaios, observe traditional bread-baking, stand at the belvedere and look out over the region's largest plateau, and visit the winery for a commented tasting of Douro and Moscatel liqueur wines.

The trip is rounded off with accommodation at Quinta Nova Rural Hotel, a regional dinner, a guided tour of the vineyards and a Douro and Port tasting session.

The stay can be concluded with a walk along the Quinta Nova footpaths and a visit to the Wine House in Pinhão, among other optional activities.

Come and let the Douro seduce you.

For more information (hotelquintanova@amorim.com).

Robert Parker praises Quinta Nova wines

THE DISTINGUISHED WINE CRITIC MARK SQUIRES, WHO TASTES PORTUGUESE WINES FOR THE FAMOUS ROBERT PARKER, HAS FOR THE SECOND TIME PRAISED THE 2009 QUINTA NOVA VINTAGES, AWARDING OVER 90 POINTS TO 4 WINES:

- 94 points – Quinta Nova Grande Reserva Referência 2009
- 93 points – Quinta Nova Grande Reserva Clássico 2009
- 92 points – Quinta Nova Grande Reserva Touriga Nacional 2009
- 91 points – Quinta Nova Reserva 2009

According to the website www.erobertparker.com, "Quinta Nova, owned by the Amorim family of cork fame, has burst on the scene of late, making very high quality if also rather pricey wines mostly based on old vines field blends.

It will be interesting to see where this winery goes in the future. The first vintage presented to me was the 2007 — and they were impressive. This set of '09s is significantly better. They got this vintage just right. The aim here is clearly high and the early results are already impressive, quickly turning Quinta Nova into a **major player in the Douro.**"



Quinta Nova awarded a distinction by the New York Times

A recent tasting showcased unique and original wines boasting more confident and straightforward winemaking - elegant wines which are a pleasure to drink. In all, the selection comprised 20 Douro wines, priced at between \$7 and \$87 on American shelves. The Quinta Nova de Nossa Senhora do Carmo Colheita Unoaked 2009 was considered the second best, with a retail price of around

\$20 in the US and €8.80 in Portugal, with the first place going to the Redoma 2008 (Niepoort), available for \$45 in the US.

“We are very pleased with this recognition”, said Luísa Amorim, director of Quinta Nova. “This wine is not characterised by wood like our Reservas and Grandes Reservas. By announcing this feature (the label includes the word ‘unoaked’) we are stating that this did not happen by chance, but rather with the intention of demonstrating to end consumers the quality of the quinta’s grapes and their typical characteristics (4 main varieties: T. Nacional, T. Franca, T. Roriz and T. Cão). I think it is our most genuine wine - stresses Luísa Amorim - as without wood, this level of quality and structure can only be reached with excellent raw material and highly rigorous and meticulous oenology!”

Cork used in a contemporary architectural project with an Alentejan soul

THERMAL AND ACOUSTIC INSULATION, SMOOTHNESS TO THE TOUCH AND DURABILITY ARE THE REASONS BEHIND THE CHOICE OF MDFACHADA EXPANDED CORK AGGLOMERATE FROM AMORIM ISOLAMENTOS

Villa Extramuros is an Alentejan refuge located in the heart of the town of Arraiolos (Portugal), notable for its construction using a limited range of materials and its formal simplicity, in which cork has pride of place alongside other elements which characterise the region, such as marble and white walls.

The concept underlying the architecture of this unique building revolves around the idea of a cosy country home, with markedly contemporary lines, inspired by various Alentejan traditions: the Roman “castrum”, the historical architecture of convents, and features of the typical villages and montes of southern Portugal.

According to Jordi Fornells, the architect in charge of the Villa Extramuros project, the use of MDfachada expanded cork agglomerate from Amorim Isolamentos “heralds the arrival of a new level of façade coverings. Thanks to its natural origins, it satisfies current sustainability standards, while having roots in the cultural and building traditions of the Mediterranean.”

Cork was chosen as it fits in perfectly with the concept of the building, and was applied over a total surface of 250m², both inside and out. The choice of this raw material is explained by Jordi Fornells on the basis of its technical performance: “It provides extraordinary thermal insulation in addition to notable sensory features: its velvety feel and intense perfume add value to indoor spaces, enhanced by its powerful acoustic absorption. It is an excellent product combining industrialised processes from the cork sector with a pleasant, modern finish. The nobility with which it ages and its durability outdoors confirm the unique nature of this material.”



GRAMMY AWARDS® serve only wine sealed under cork

For the second year running, cork stoppers were a feature of the Grammy award ceremony. In line with its stated commitment to sustainable development, the 54th Grammy gala hosted two events at which only wines with natural cork stoppers were served. The stoppers were subsequently recycled.

The wines sealed under cork were served at the MusiCares Person® of The Year dinner, an event which this year paid tribute to Paul McCartney, and at the official GRAMMY Celebration®.

The two venues were equipped with containers to collect the cork stoppers for recycling, provided by ReCORK, CORTICEIRA AMORIM's recycling programme in the US, which has collected around 31 million stoppers so far. The recycled cork is used in the products manufactured by Sole, a specialist Canadian company which produces shoes and sandals made from recycled cork.

With this step, the Recording Academy® joins a growing list of organisations which recognise the environmental benefits of natural cork, namely the Major League Baseball Association and the National Basketball Association, among several others.

The initiative was carried out as part of the InterCork communication campaign by the Portuguese Cork Association, under way since 2010, under the slogan 100% Cork in the US.

CORTICEIRA AMORIM, returns to ExpoVin Moldova

CORTICEIRA AMORIM attended the 21st edition of ExpoVin Moldova, making it the only foreign company to have taken part in every edition of the fair.

In a market enjoying undisputable growth, in particular with regard to the quality cork stopper segment - in contrast to the previous focus on quantity - the participating companies presented major technical improvements, with particular note to the appearance of small producers in the premium segment.

CORTICEIRA AMORIM, which enjoys a solid position in this market as a result of repeated readjustments at critical points in the past, cultivates great proximity with its clients, identifying their needs and providing solutions suited to any moment, maximising the value achieved by the market for its wines.

This has given CORTICEIRA AMORIM a privileged position from which to follow the region's flourishing wine industry.



Kurko Group visits Amorim Flooring

Amorim Flooring was recently visited by a committee of 21 people from the Kurko Group, a Spanish client specialising in the sale of various kinds of materials for flooring and coverings.

The group had the opportunity to visit a number of CORTICEIRA AMORIM factories, observing various stages of the transformation process *in loco*.

Subsequently, in fulfilment of the main purpose of the visit, the committee was introduced to the new Wicanders® collection for 2012-2014, which boasts great innovation both in technical terms and in its inexhaustible decorative potential.





Amorim Cork Composites and Amorim Isolamentos at BIG 5 SHOW

AMORIM CORK COMPOSITES (ACC) AND AMORIM ISOLAMENTOS ATTENDED THE BIG 5 SHOW 2011, HELD IN DUBAI - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT FAIR OF THE ENTIRE MIDDLE-EASTERN REGION IN THE BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS SECTOR, AND THIS EDITION WAS THE MOST POPULAR TO DATE.

In light of the current needs of this market, ACC presented its AcoustiCORK® natural and sustainable underlay for acoustic insulation and CORKwall® - a product available in 16 colours intended for restoration of exterior façades and interior walls, applied by spraying, which provides acoustic and thermal insulation, preventing energy loss and cracks and providing a final finish.

Amorim Isolamentos' attendance was centred on promoting expanded cork agglomerate, a 100% natural solution with unlimited durability which provides excellent technical performance, particularly in terms of thermal and acoustic insulation.

Construction is a sector with great potential in Arab countries, where sustainable cork solutions for construction are expected to enjoy significant growth.

Wicanders® displays continue to seduce North-American market

LAUNCHED IN THE NORTH-AMERICAN MARKET AROUND A YEAR AGO BY AMORIM FLOORING NORTH AMERICA, THE NEW WICANDERS® DISPLAYS ARE STILL IN HIGH DEMAND.

The popularity of these modern displays, which serve as an efficient merchandising tool with a look which highlights and amply demonstrates the potential of the Wicanders® range, is largely due to the events held by Shaw Flooring Network in various cities.

Atlanta, Dallas, Chicago, Atlantic City, Anaheim and Niagara Falls are among the locations for these sales events showcasing over 100 displays, which are hoped to boost the sales of Amorim Flooring North America's clients, further reinforcing the reputation of premium brand Wicanders® in the North-American market.

Korke Schiesser renews Hygiene and Quality certification and joins Facebook

In pursuit of its goal of implementing continuous improvement throughout the company, Korke Schiesser - Vienna Factory successfully renewed its HACCP and BRC/IoP certification.

This official recognition provides a boost to the commitment to quality which the company has always undertaken towards its clients.

And it is with its clients in mind that Korke Schiesser has joined Facebook, one of the most powerful and comprehensive tools for online communication.

In the company's profile, in addition to news about the factory and the sector, Korke Schiesser provides some interesting facts about the world of cork and links to Austrian winegrowing companies.

Korke Schiesser's aim is to expand its network of friends in order to disseminate knowledge of this unique raw material and its environment.



PINHA at LYNfabrikken

The Raw Edges design studio has been invited by the LYNfabrikken creative platform to prepare an exhibition at the BOX gallery in Aarhus, Denmark.

PINHA, from the collection MATERIA®, CORK BY AMORIM, curated by experimentadesign, designed by Raw Edges duo Yael Mer and Shay Alkalay was chosen, and 10 items were provided by CORTICEIRAAMORIM for the purpose.

“When we were invited by LYNfabrikken to display our work at BOX, we thought it would be an excellent opportunity to display PINHA” - a functional and decorative cork element for suspended lamps - “We wanted to do something very special in the available space, so we took the exhibition to the extreme, with seven lamps suspended at different heights between the ceiling and the floor, generating different light intensities”, said the designers.

LYNfabrikken is a platform for design and creative development in Aarhus, Denmark’s second largest city. Since 2002, it has provided inspiration to a number of artists in the fields of design, architecture and communication, promoting concepts in its own gallery, in museums, and in other public spaces.

<http://www.lynfabrikken.dk/en/>

Yael Mer & Shay Alkalay - LYNfabrikken - Aarhus



MATERIA. CORK BY AMORIM, curated by experimentadesign

Natural multifunctionality

- by Marco Sousa Santos



The primordial instance of appropriation of raw materials by humans took place thousands of years ago, with the chipping of a stone in order to use it as a knife or some other instrument of survival. This event is a memorable one, and my small tables pay homage to that moment.

During the project, coming into contact with this material for the second time (the first was in the setting of the SusDesign – Design for Sustainability project), I sought a more elementary approach, closer to its nature, beginning with a block of agglomerate and sculpting it.

Intuitively, the shape of a pebble, naturally formed by nature, seemed to best represent this elementary approach.

This smooth, natural and familiar shape turned out to be the basis for a new kind of functionality. Maybe, just like thousands of years ago, I intuitively discovered that simply chipping away at that form, sculpted not by nature, but by me, now served a new purpose, as a new instrument, not of survival but of visual pleasure and memory. The different size of the three small tables is also a result of this perception that natural form is uneven and therefore each table is born with a unique shape and format, the result of a creative moment which, for one reason or another, takes on a different form.

Biography

With a track record spanning three decades, Marco Sousa Santos completed a licentiate's degree in Product Design at the Lisbon Faculty of Fine Arts.

A founding member of the iconic Portuguese studio Protodesign (99/01) and the cultural platform Experimentadesign (98), Marco established his own studio in 2002, collaborating with Tronconi (IT), Moroso (IT), Kvetna (CZ), Atlantis (PT), Renault (FR), TemaHome (PT) and Sixinch (BE), among others.

Marco Sousa Santos' items have been included in exhibitions at the prestigious V&A Museum (UK), Triennale di Milano (IT) and Interieur Courtrait (BE). Alongside his work for major international brands, Marco Sousa Santos also pursues experimental projects of his own, focused on a particular material or typology, incisively questioning and challenging set ideas and frontiers.

www.marcosousasantos.com



LASCA by Marco Sousa Santos

Like a polished pebble from the riverbed, the smoothly rounded shape and rich texture of Lasca reintroduce a sense of nature into the contemporary domestic habitat. With different sizes and shapes, Lasca serves as a supporting or work surface.

More stable than a tray, more practical and versatile than a table, it can be a spot for the remote control or your glass, a surface for your laptop or your notes and reading materials.

With its resistant, non-slip body made of cork and its elementary, earthly presence, Lasca can be used indoors or out, by the pool, in a sunny courtyard or in your favourite corner.

Massandra Association celebrates 75th anniversary with tasting of connoisseur wines



Roman Kurbanov, João Paulo Amorim, Nikolay Boiko, Eduard Vasich (left to right)

CORTICEIRA AMORIM was invited to the 75th anniversary of one of its most highly-valued clients in the Ukraine, the Massandra Association. The event brought together a number of celebrities who had the opportunity to taste several connoisseur wines, a unique experience of iconic varieties representing different centuries.

Massandra Winery, which makes up the Association along with the other *sovkhoses* (properties), is located on the Crimean peninsula, on the breathtaking coast of Yalta, and is the region's oldest winery, world-renowned for the exceptional quality of its hundred-year-old wines.

The extraordinary architecture of the winery, built in 1894-1897, along with the subtropical climate and the mountain range of the surrounding countryside, create unparalleled conditions for the production of high quality wines, making Massandra one of the Ukraine's most iconic locations.

Find out more at: <http://www.massandra.co.uk/>

Quinta Nova joins lobby in defence of Douro wines and region

In late February, a group of companies connected to the Douro region entered into a pioneering agreement in pursuit of a common goal: the promotion of tourism in the world heritage Douro winegrowing region, Port and Douro wines, and other related products.

Under the title Alltodouro, a group of premium companies recognised for their top-end products aim to bring high-quality integrated tourism to the Douro, convinced that they are stronger together than individually: Casa de Mendiz, Casas do Côro, Restaurante Chaxoila, Restaurante DOC/DOP, Douro Family Estates, Ervas Finas, Galeria Momentos (Luís Soares Duarte), Hotel Teatro, Lavradores de Feitoria, Museu do Côa, Pipadouro – Turismo Fluvial, Quinta Nova N. S. Carmo and Wine & Soul.

The calibre of the companies forming Alltodouro is a sure sign of success for this project to present the Douro region to the world.



New Pomares

The new Pomares vintages are available on the market, with the varieties Moscatel 2011, White 2011 and Red 2010.

Excellent value for money, intensity and complexity are the secrets behind the success of these wines. Try them for yourself!



New Wicanders® collections cause a stir at Domotex



HANNOVER RECENTLY HOSTED ANOTHER EDITION OF DOMOTEX, A MAJOR WORLD EVENT IN THE FIELD OF CONSTRUCTION AND INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE, WHERE AMORIM FLOORING PRESENTED ITS NEW COLLECTIONS FOR 2012/2014.

An impressive open stand with an area of over 300 m² showcased the new Wicanders® products, which stood out from the other offerings as a result of their distinctive design and wide range of materials used, making a powerful impact on visitors to the stand. Alongside the innovative **Artcomfort**, based on a design which makes use of pure materials to explore countless organic structures with a natural, three-dimensional appearance, glue-down **Vinylcomfort**

also attracted a great deal of attention, with its current market status as the most sustainable and modern vinyl flooring, boasting a central layer of cork providing outstanding comfort.

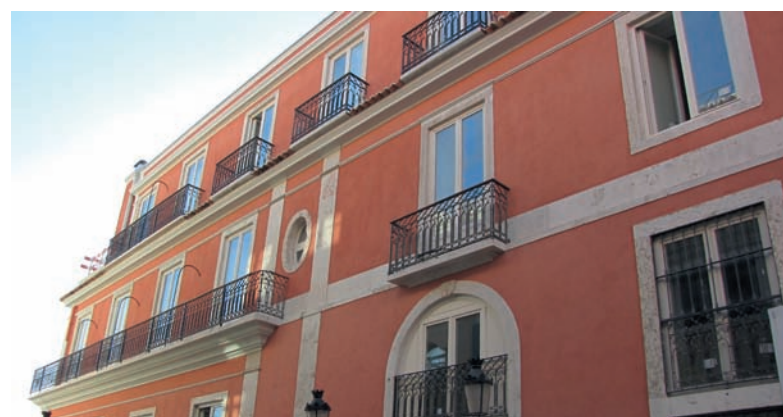
Also in the limelight was the new **Corkcomfort FASTCONNECT** application system enabling easy and quick installation without recourse to glue. Each tile, with a thickness of just 5.5 mm, is glued to the next rather than to the floor/underlay, making it ideal for practically all types of underlay.

Tomas Cordes, General Manager of Amorim Deutschland, was enthusiastic about the outcome of the event, which attracted 45,000 visitors and 1371 exhibitors, highlighting the positive feedback garnered by the new products and solutions.

AcoustiCORK® - Masonry support used in luxury apartments

The AcoustiCORK® solution for sound insulation of masonry was recently used in the restoration of the former residence of the UK ambassador in Lapa, Lisbon, which was converted to luxury apartments with a unique character.

In all, around 900 m² (940 x 120 x 8mm) were installed, with the goal of separating the masonry connections from the structure of the buildings. Using this product enables the masonry walls to fulfil other functional requirements, in particular stability, water and air tightness, acoustic and thermal comfort, and greater durability and functionality in economic terms.





APCOR BRINGS TOGETHER MEDIA IN CHINA

THE PORTUGUESE CORK ASSOCIATION - APCOR HELD AN EVENT IN SHANGHAI ON 30 MARCH, ATTENDED BY 12 OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL FIGURES OF THE CHINESE MEDIA IN THE FOOD & BEVERAGES AND LIFESTYLE SECTOR, SUCH AS WINE PRESS, LIFE STYLE, LIFE EXPRESS, SHANGHAI TATLER AND OTHERS.

The subject of the event was cork, cork oak forests and the main benefits of natural stoppers compared to the alternatives, with a focus on the reasons which lead the major wine brands to continue to choose cork stoppers.

It is worth highlighting that CORTICEIRA AMORIM has had a presence in China for over 40 years, establishing a subsidiary in Beijing in 2001 and more recently in Xian (Shaanxi province) in order to better serve the needs of its clients.

As far as the winegrowing sector is concerned, China has become a significant growth market, and according to the Global wine and spirits exhibition group Vinexpo, in three years it will be spending more on wine than the United Kingdom (with a growing preference for whites), making it the second largest consumer in the world, after the US.

This event was part of a wider programme for promotion and education of Chinese consumers, which began with the Intercork campaign for this important market.

CORTICEIRA AMORIM presents the benefits of cork in Australia

CORTICEIRA AMORIM WAS INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A GATHERING ORGANISED BY THE WINEMAKERS FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA, AT THE NATIONAL WINE CENTRE, TO GIVE A PRESENTATION ON THE EVOLUTION IN PERFORMANCE OF CORK STOPPERS AND THE COMPANY'S PERSPECTIVE ON THE GLOBAL TRENDS OF THE WINE AND CLOSURE MARKETS.



Christophe Fouquet, representing CORTICEIRA AMORIM, underscored the clear preference of the Chinese and North-American markets for cork stoppers in his presentation. It is worth noting that the US has recently become the world's largest consumer of wine, having been an important trendsetter for some time.

The event served to highlight once again the important role of CORTICEIRA AMORIM, which has long been at the forefront of the industry including with regard to R&D, boasting significant technical advances in its products, especially in the last two decades.

The Winemakers Federation of Australia (WFA), WFA Packaging committee, Wine Australia (formerly Australian Wine & Brandy Corp), Grape Wine Research Development Council, South Australian Wine Industry Association and Wine Industry Suppliers Association were the other companies making up the panel of the event.

Amorim Cork Italia

promotes technology and sustainability at Simeil



At the end of last year, Milan hosted another edition of Simeil, Italy's most important biennial fair in the field of specialist equipment for winemaking and winegrowing.

Amorim Cork Italia's stand was visibly inspired by two central themes of the cork industry: Research and Development, and Sustainability, conveying the unparalleled qualities of this natural closure, which combines like no other cork's flawless technical efficiency with environmental credentials.

During the five days of the event, the stand received around 1300 visitors, who were given a glimpse of Amorim Cork Italia's various technical solutions and the latest developments in the company's sustainability policy.

Also on this subject, the Company recently started up a cork stopper recycling programme called ETICO. Initially limited to northern Italy, but with plans to expand throughout the country, the programme already has at its disposal 1000 ETICO kits, progress which was only made possible by the involvement of a number of Amorim Cork Italia's partners.

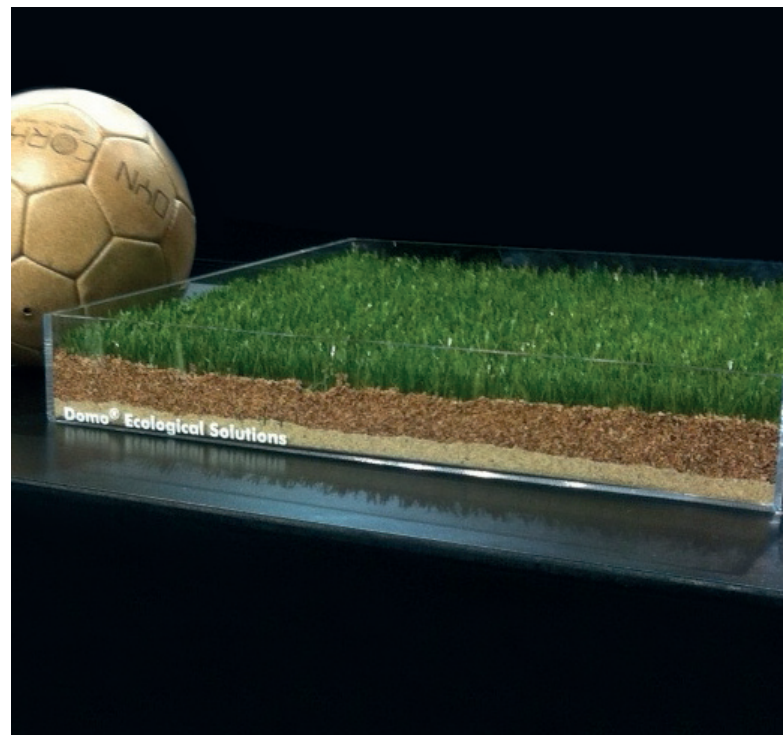
The stoppers collected are sent to an Italian bio-construction company, and the proceeds are donated to local charitable associations.

Cork used in ARTIFICIAL TURF systems

AMORIM CORK COMPOSITES HAS BEEN SUPPLYING CORK TO THE ARTIFICIAL TURF MARKET, A GROWTH SECTOR PARTICULARLY IN COUNTRIES IN THE MIDDLE EAST, EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA WHERE CLIMATE CONDITIONS ARE UNFAVOURABLE TO NATURAL TURF DUE TO A SHORTAGE OF WATER.

Maintenance-free, as it does not require irrigation, mowing or pesticides, artificial turf has a lifespan of 8 to 10 years.

Cork, specifically calibrated for use as one of the components in the substrate of artificial turf, is a sustainable product with no artificial ingredients, which helps make this alternative a more natural system. The use of cork as compared to other solutions available on the market has a number of advantages, including thermal comfort for sports activities. In turn, the inimitable structure of cork cells provides greater resilience and impact resistance, an important feature in avoiding injury to sportspersons, and water tightness, ensuring efficient drainage of the turf.



EcoBouchon programme by Amorim France recycles over 32 million stoppers



LAUNCHED IN 2009 BY AMORIM FRANCE, THE ECOBOUCHON RECYCLING PROGRAMME HAS COLLECTED OVER 32 MILLION USED STOPPERS.

The programme has enjoyed huge success, thanks in large part to partnerships with clients and associations with a concern for the environment and the vital role of cork in this regard, particularly in terms of CO₂ retention.

In addition to the environmental benefits of recycling cork stoppers, part of the proceeds of the programme are donated to charitable institutions, with the remainder being spent on cork oak reforestation in Portugal.

The programme's success reinforces CORTICEIRA AMORIM's commitment to this activity, which already includes a number of recycling programmes throughout the world, such as Green Cork in Portugal, in partnership with Quercus, ReCORK in the US, NH Cork2Cork in conjunction with Nh Hoteles in Spain and more recently the ETICO programme in Italy.

Quinta Nova ends 2011 with increase in exports

2011 was a year of intense commercial activity for Quinta Nova, with a 42% increase in exports and a powerful presence on the international market, with 24 export destinations.

The markets of Brazil and Angola have played a key role in this process of internationalisation, thanks to the formation of business partnerships, as has the penetration of new US states (Atlanta and California) and Canada. A new presence in Latvia and Mozambique were also of decisive importance to the company's international growth.

Wicanders® used in international projects

The **Corkcomfort** (cork look), **Woodcomfort** (wood look) and **Vinylcomfort** (vinyl look) ranges of Wicanders® cork coverings continue to be in demand for use in a variety of architectural projects throughout the world.

The wide range of choice and the combinations made possible by this premium coverings brand, combined with its numerous and widely disseminated performance and sustainability features make this line of Wicanders® products an international success story.

Corkcomfort

Miradoro Restaurant, Tinhorn Creek Vineyards, in Vancouver, Canada: 150 m² of Identity Caramel;

Leo's Jeans Shop, in Dortmund, Germany: 65 m² of Identity Timide;

Biblioteca Pública Municipal Lope de Vega (Lope de Vega Municipal Public Library), Madrid, Spain: 2000 m² of Identity Moonlight.

Woodcomfort

Hotel Haus Rheinsberg, in Rheinsberg, Germany: 1000 m² (until 2013), of Oak Rustic;

Ärztelhaus (Health & Care), in Bad Pyrmont, Germany: 700 m² of Mahogany Light;

Restaurante Cantaloup, in São Paulo, Brazil: 220 m² of White Oak.

Vinylcomfort

Bistro Globus Markt Berlin, in Berlin, Germany: 300 m² of Ebony Petal, Mystic Tweed, Cinder Oak and Exotic Cherry.



Miradoro Restaurant, Tinhorn Creek Vineyards, Vancouver



Biblioteca Pública Municipal Lope de Vega, Madrid

Corkcomfort on stage at the Tokyo Motor Show

AT THE LATEST EDITION OF THE TOKYO MOTOR SHOW, JAPAN'S MAIN AUTOMOBILE SHOW, ONE OF THE MANY WICANDERS® PRODUCTS WAS IN THE LIMELIGHT.

Corkcomfort, in the Floating Identity Moonlight variety, was the flooring chosen for the main stage, where the most innovative concepts were presented, with a special focus on electric vehicles. In the specifications for a perfect exhibition of this innovative vehicle, the star of the show, a silent floor was requested which would not produce noise even under the great stress caused by the manoeuvres involved. **Corkcomfort** was the chosen flooring, for a total 350 m², and actually surpassed the expectations of the technicians in charge.

The Tokyo Motor Show, held every 2 years, is a major event in the Japanese automobile industry, at which the greatest innovations by top automobile brands are presented, attracting the attention of specialist press worldwide.



Amorim Cork Composites at Paperworld

Amorim Cork Composites (ACC) attended Paperworld 2012, in Frankfurt, from 28 to 31 January, where it presented the new Neon and Taylor collections, as well as the entire Organizer range, with its products for SOHO (Small Office and Home Office) and for Organizer. Alongside these products, the corkleather and corkpaper solutions also attracted a great deal of attention, drawing large numbers to the ACC stand.

This edition of Paperworld received a record number of visitors - 87,000 - reflecting the growing success of this major trade fair.

Amorim Cork Composites launches new Home and Organizer catalogues

Lovers of nature now have the opportunity to complete their lifestyle with products from the Organizer (SoHo - Small Office / Home Office) and Home (Eating and Living) lines.

These offerings are both functional and decorative, for small offices or the everyday setting of contemporary homes, fostering communication and interaction in a more familiar environment.

This marks Amorim Cork Composites' arrival on the mass consumption market, with the choice of a concept based on sustainable and versatile products which are easily incorporated into modern decoration.



The Cork Oak is Portugal's National Tree

On 22 December, the Portuguese Parliament unanimously approved the draft resolution establishing the cork oak as Portugal's National Tree.

The cork oak, which has widespread distribution in mainland Portugal, currently covers 716 thousand hectares in Portugal, the highest proportion of cork oak forest of any country in the world (34%). And while forests are the basis for a sector which accounts for over 10% of the country's exports and 3% of GDP, cork oaks are of unparalleled importance to the country, in particular in the south, where they form the last line of defence against the onslaught of desertification. Other significant environmental services provided by cork oak forests include CO₂ retention, preservation of biodiversity and regulation of the water cycle.

To paraphrase Miguel Freitas, socialist MP and member of the commission for Agriculture and Sea, "from now on, whenever a cork oak is felled, it is not just a protected species that is harmed, but a national symbol."



CORTICEIRA AMORIM

plants 3400 cork oak trees in an area devastated by wildfires

CORTICEIRA AMORIM employees planted 3400 cork oaks at the end of January in an area devastated by wildfires in Três Minas, Vila Pouca de Aguiar, in Portugal.

The 3400 trees symbolise the number of workers employed by CORTICEIRA AMORIM all over the world. The initiative sought to directly involve the employee community in preserving Portuguese forests, increasing the area covered by cork oaks.

This tree-planting activity is part of the Company's Natural Choice Sustainability Programme and was carried out in the context of the Quercus Floresta Comum (Common Forest) project, which aims to ensure the preservation of indigenous forests in Portugal.

The planting of cork trees in Vila Pouca de Aguiar will help create a barrier against the advance of wildfires in the future. It is worth pointing out that planting forest areas with native species such as cork oak trees, which are naturally fire resistant, is one of the

recommended strategies for prevention of forest fires in the northern and central areas of Portugal (those most affected by fires). It should also be noted that in the past, the cork oak, as an indigenous species, covered large parts of the country.

Paulo Magalhães of QUERCUS highlights the importance of the initiative: "The various forest species provide different environmental benefits. By planting cork oaks, a tree which is more resistant to fires and boasts greater resilience, we are building the future."

This reforestation project began a year ago, when over 700 acorns were planted by CORTICEIRA AMORIM employees, with the support of QUERCUS (Portuguese Association for Nature Conservation). The project will be continued in the context of CORTICEIRA AMORIM's corporate culture, in light of the importance given to sustainability as a pillar of the company's business model.



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