Cork
The natural choice for sustainable construction
Marcel Kies
Company’s profile

Amorim is the undisputed world leader in cork

Renowned for the development of high added value applications

Incorporating high standards of R&D

With an impressive portfolio of clients

And a unique range of products and solutions
142 years of sector leadership

35% of world cork manufacturing

495 M€ annual turnover

5 M€ annual R&D investment

20 patents submitted for registration in the past 5 years

5 Business Units

Nezu Museum, Tokyo
Global presence

79 companies
29 industrial units
227 key distribution players
Eco-Innovation in a sustainable value chain

Cork and cork oak forest → Process → Products
2.1. million hectares of cork oak forest
Cork is the outer bark of *Quercus Suber* L. (cork oak tree)

A noble tree that lives an average of 200 years, during which time it may be harvested 15 to 18 times

Cork harvesting is an environmentally friendly process during which **not a single tree is cut down**

The bark renews itself ready for the next harvesting
Environmental benefits
Cork oaks have a unique ability to:

- absorb CO2 from the atmosphere
  Up to 14 000 000 tonnes of CO2 per year

- preserve biodiversity
  One of the 35 global biodiversity hotspots

- combat desertification
  It stimulates the production of organic matter that produces fertile soil, improves rainwater retention and replenishes groundwater
Nothing is wasted and everything is valued.
Eco-Innovation in a sustainable value chain

Cork dust is used in the cogeneration of electricity, contributing to improved energy efficiency.

Biomass – a neutral source of energy in terms of CO2 emissions – guarantees the supply of 63% of Amorim’s energy needs.
Eco-Innovation in a sustainable value chain

Cork and cork oak forest

Process

Products

12th European Forum on Eco-Innovation
Amorim is one of the main promoters of the FSC certification in Portugal, having certified **30 of its units** in accordance with the standard.
Amorim’s actual portfolio contemplates products and solutions for some of the most demanding and high-tech industries, such as aerospace, aeronautics, the wine and the construction industries.
Eco-Innovation in a sustainable value chain

Cork sustainable solutions for construction

Cork is nature’s own high tech achievement
Cork sustainable solutions for construction

In civil engineering, it’s thermal, acoustic and vibration insulation capacity is exploited in building wall and floors.

From floor to roof, in walls and windows, cork provides comfort, is non-allergic and durable.

Its benefits extend to improved energy efficiency.

Owing to its unlimited potential, cork is an increasingly widespread and innovative trend for eco-design.
Eco-Innovation in a sustainable value chain

Expanded insulation cork board
The most sustainable insulation solution in the world

Shanghai Portuguese Pavilion
Expanded insulation cork board
The most sustainable insulation solution in the world

- 100% natural and recyclable
- Excellent technical performance: thermal, acoustic and vibration
- Long lasting solutions
- Good mechanical properties
Eco-Innovation in a sustainable value chain

Cork floor & wall coverings
Designed by nature, with the comfort of cork

Gaudi’s Sagrada Família, Barcelona
Cork floor & wall coverings
Designed by nature, with the comfort of cork

- easy and fast installation
- environmentally friendly: natural products + energy saving
- a healthy choice
- an excellent sound absorber
Cork floor & wall coverings
Designed by nature, with the comfort of cork

- natural thermal insulation
- Improved walking comfort
- durable and easy to maintain
- contemporary and modern designs
AcoustiCORK underlays
The only Natural and Green underlay for the reduction of noise

- easy to use
- environmentally friendly: natural products + energy saving
- cost-effective
- long lasting solutions
- high performance alternative to synthetic products
Eco-Innovation in a sustainable value chain

Certifications

- ICEA
- BGN
- EPD
- FSC
- GREENGUARD
- ACERMI
- CE
- Das Kork-Logo
“Cork does not rot, it is aseptic, it is comfortable to walk on, it offers far greater thermal comfort than marble, making it unnecessary to install artificial heating. As acoustics are of extreme importance in a project of this scale, I did not hesitate to use cork.”
Jordi Bonet i Armengol, architect in charge of the Sagrada Família’s construction

“A great, clean and natural material. It’s not just a material to design interesting objects, which it is, but it is also a model for different ways of thinking how we use natural materials. Cork has a huge potential for design, for furnishings, for objects, for interiors, for architecture, it’s got huge potential for everywhere”.
Daniel Michalik, Product Designer

“When I was designing the Portugal Pavilion at the Hannover Expo 2000, together with architect Souto Moura, studies were made on the use of cork for exterior coverings coating and in mixed cork and cement flooring. We considered them both to be innovative and excellent uses, also in terms of colour and texture. Cork as an exterior covering was first used outdoors here and, since then, both we and other architects have used it. It is a natural material of unique properties”.
Siza Vieira, portuguese architect (Pritzker awarded)

“Cork flooring really is the perfect choice for a Client that is looking for beauty, comfort, durability and sustainability. It is one of the few floorings that you can say is 100% sustainable.”
Candice Olson, Designer
Cork’s main barriers
Cork’s main barriers

1. Polluting materials do not pay the negative impacts caused on the planet.

2. Cork price actually supports the viability of all the cork oak forest exploitation, as well as the services provided by the ecosystem.

3. Cork products competes with alternative products from countries less strict on environmental and social issues.
humanity has never been more aware of the environmental problems that can result from consumer choices

everyone who knows the uniqueness of the cork industry, becomes a cork supporter

CORTICEIRA AMORIM’s SALES and EBITDA

€

8,7%

Cork exports growth in 2011
Cork solutions for sustainable construction

www.bcork.amorim.com

Thank you!