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About Corticeira Amorim SGPS, S.A.:
While tracing its roots to the XIX Century, Corticeira Amorim SGPS has become the world's largest cork and cork-derived company in the world, generating more than Euro half billion in sales throughout 103 countries. Corticeira Amorim SGPS and its subsidiaries are an integral part of a conservationist effort to guarantee the survival of hundreds of thousands of cork trees throughout the Mediterranean Basin. We are proud of our contribution to the correct utilisation of these important forests that are home to several endangered species throughout the region. We encourage you to learn more by visiting informative websites such as www.amorim.com and www.amorimcork.com

Istanbul Design Biennial highlights Portuguese cork

An event made possible due to a partnership with Corticeira Amorim and a design project by the distinguished international architecture firm, Superpool

Cork is once again the centrepiece of a major international design and architecture event - the 2nd Istanbul Design Biennial. Organised by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (IKSV) the Biennial opened on November 1, 2014. Over its 6-week duration, it will be a privileged platform for rethinking the role of design in contemporary society and its potential as an active agent for change.

"The Future is not what it used to be" is the motto of the Design Biennale curated by British writer, Zoë Ryan. The main exhibition space - the Greek Primary School – will display 53 creative works from over 20 countries and all continents, arranged across the building's five floors, covering an area of approximately 2,300 m².

All the design projects share a very pragmatic perspective of contemporary realities and current challenges. The overall exhibition space is greatly enhanced by the presence of cork, a raw material used in numerous items in the Biennial's different spaces, in particular lamps and furniture.

Deniz Ova, the Biennale's director, highlights the importance of having chosen cork: "For the first time in Turkey cork is used in exhibition design and we are enormously happy about the results. The generous contribution from the Portuguese Cork Producer

Amorim made the exhibition a unique experience for new innovative design solution. The warm, welcoming atmosphere of the new material surpasses all visitors and made them feel comfortable immediately."

This statement is corroborated by Gregers Tang Thomsen, founder and lead architect of the architecture firm, Superpool, who praises cork's sensorial properties: "As a material that immediately gives a sensation of warmth and personality though highly engineered, cork complements perfectly the theme of the exhibition - The future is not what it used to be." He adds: "Given the chance for the Istanbul Design Biennial to work with Amorim has given us a unique opportunity to create a series of design solutions with cork that would otherwise not be possible."

Corticeira Amorim readily accepted the invitation to support the Istanbul Design Biennial and is the exclusive sponsor of all cork used in the event. This includes supplying different types of cork, in particular expanded insulation cork board (traditionally associated to official Portuguese Pavilions) and agglomerated cork, similar to that used to great success at the Serpentine Gallery Pavilion in London.

Carlos de Jesus, Amorim's Marketing and Communication manager states: "The Istanbul Design Biennial, organized by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (IKSV), is Turkey's most important design and architecture event, demonstrated by the fact that it's co-sponsored by reputable organizations such as Vitra and Vestel. It's a privilege to see that cork has a major presence in an event that not only attracts widespread international attention, but is also supported by leading players in the Turkish economy - an important emerging market for Portuguese exports."

About the Istanbul Design Biennial:

The 2nd Istanbul Design Biennial *The Future Is Not What It Used To Be* organised by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (IKSV) and curated by Zoë Ryan opens to the public on 1 November. Throughout the city and in the biennial hub, Galata Greek Primary School, the biennial

features 53 projects from designers all over the world that ask: “What is the future now?” as well as panels, conversations, workshops, film screenings and many other events until 14 December 2014. By rethinking the manifesto as a platform to frame pertinent questions, the projects question the role of design, its relationship to society, and its ability to be an active agent for change.

The exhibition at the 2nd Istanbul Design Biennial hub, Galata Greek Primary School continues over all five floors of the school, an area of approximately 2,300 square metres. The projects imagine new possibilities that can transform the present and invite new potential futures. The biennial features 53 projects by more than 200 designers from more than

20 countries including Australia, China, France, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Turkey and the United States, that propose alternative manifestos in the form of objects, fashion accessories, food, menus, maps, buildings, visual languages, systems, and services.

Arranged in five departments by curator Zoë Ryan and associate curator Meredith Carruthers — Personal, Norms and Standards, Resource, Civic Relations, and Broadcast — the projects in the exhibition question the manifesto as a platform for situating ideas and pointing to new directions.

An additional project, “The Exhibition as Manifesto,” is a survey of the history of design exhibitions through the lens of thirteen historic shows. Compiled by the curators in collaboration with researcher Maggie Taft, these seminal group and thematic exhibitions dating from 1956 to 2007 were selected for their continued relevance and resonance in the design field.

In addition to the exhibition, the biennial hub at the Galata Greek Primary School hosts different events for design enthusiasts daily for six weeks: the Kontraakt team's broadcast programming, which includes a weekly radio show, is held on Tuesdays and throughout the week, Q&A's and panels on Wednesdays, film screenings on Thursdays, and Children and Youth Programmes every day.

About Superpool:

Superpool is an international architecture practice based in Istanbul, Turkey. Founded in 2006 by its two partners Selva Gürdoğan and Gregers Tang Thomsen who met at Rem Koolhaas' studio Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) in 2003, where they worked until establishing Superpool.

The work of Superpool has been exhibited at the Guggenheim Museum in New York, Danish Architecture Center in Copenhagen, Museum for Angewandte Kunst Köln (MAKK) and Deutsches Architekturmuseum (DAM) in Frankfurt, as well at various biennales such as the 2009 Rotterdam Architecture Biennale, the 2012 Istanbul Design Biennale and the 2013 3rd Lisbon Architecture Triennale. Projects and texts of Superpool have been published in various magazines such as Domus, A+U, Mark Magazine, A10, Wallpaper and Wired.

During 2012 Superpool was invited to participate in the Audi Urban Future Award (2012), to research mobility in Istanbul in 2030. The result was exhibited at the Spinning Factory, Istanbul, in October 2012. Most recently the office has been invited to contribute to MoMA's "Uneven Growth, Tactical Urbanisms for Expanding Megacities" exhibition curated by Pedro Gadanho. The exhibition is opening November 22nd 2014.

Superpool was commissioned to design several exhibitions: the UAE National Pavilion for the Venice Biennale (2011) and Becoming Istanbul (2011 SALT, Istanbul); Open City: Istanbul (2009 DePO, Istanbul); and Open Library (2007 Platform Garanti, Istanbul). Most recent Superpool has completed the TailorCrete project, a European Commission FP7 funded research project for incorporating robotics into concrete construction technology and as of November 2013 the duo is directing Studio-X Istanbul, one of six urban laboratories established by Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP).

Superpool has published the book Mapping Istanbul, a snapshot of Istanbul in 2009 positioning the city within the global context of worldwide global cities, as well as its relation with the region, the country and Istanbul within itself. Superpool has given numerous lectures and talks, among these at Bauhaus-Universität Weimar - Germany, IUAV Università di Venezia - Italy, Columbia University - New York and most recent at the TEDx Reset in Istanbul.