Backpack Trends '05-'06

Fashion isn't just for clothing – backpacks and wearable luggage are becoming as stylish, technical and interesting as apparel; to develop competitive, distinctive products it is insufficient to just have the latest technical 'back system' – aesthetics as well as technical function have to be in harmony.

Key Colours: Threes key stories are happening;

- Classic outdoor primary / Crazy Bright and Vivid clashes / Muted rich tonals based.

Bags looks and shapes:

- Moulded and reinforced forms; see Berghaus Morph, Vango and Lowe Alpine.
- Asymmetry is coming through in bags just as much as in apparel (see Deuter, Vaude).
- Shapes: Inverted tear drops, angular forms. Padded and reinforced equipment, expandables.
- Die cut shapes: Driven by the use of laser techniques.
- Military utility: A snowboard/skateboard driven look.
- Waterproof and 'obvious' technical fabrics.
- Wearable bags – driven by clubbing, urban utility and the needs of gadget enthusiasts.



Decoration: As with apparel decoration is back with a vengeance.

- Line art/humorous prints/big logos/artistic hand drawn prints/distressed looks.

✔ DB ✔ DD



Functional Details: New textile manufacturing technologies – e.g. laser welding, seamless technologies, stretch fabrics, discrete functional structures, internal skeletons, etc., are creating both value added function and visual 'eye candy'.



Trends in the Backpack and Luggage feature developed in association with Design IQ (www.design-iq-ltd.com), a leading specialist sports fashion, outdoor design and product development consultancy.