Business Week
26th November 05 - 2nd December 05

AAFA sets meeting over EU footwear dumping cases

28 November 2005

The American Apparel and Footwear Association (AAFA) plans to hold a series of meetings with footwear executives and a European Commission delegation in Washington on December 7 to discuss the potential impact of the current European dumping investigations against imported footwear on US firms.

The current European Commission investigations alleging that China, Vietnam and India have dumped footwear on the European market are likely to come to a head this December and as a result, US firms could face dumping duties as high as 40-120% on the footwear they are selling into Europe as early as the beginning of the New Year.

EU plans to impose quotas on Chinese footwear

28 November 2005

According to a report in the Financial Times, the European Union is planning to impose quotas on Chinese leather footwear following the recent anti-dumping investigation.

The EU Trade Commissioner is set to announce the measures that will be taken on November 30, when the outcome of the European enquiry will be revealed.

According to a senior EU official, who is quoted in the report, inspectors found compelling evidence of dumping whilst inspecting facilities in Asia.

BASF starts up new isopropanolamine plant

21 November 2005

German specialty chemicals company BASF AG has started up its new production facility for isopropanolamines (IPOA) at its Ludwigshafen site in Germany. With an annual capacity of 15,000 metric tons, this is the only facility of this type in Europe. It replaces the existing multi-product facility to produce isopropanolamines. By expanding its capacity BASF stated that it is responding to the growing demand for these particular intermediates.

The new plant uses an improved process with a product mixture comprising mono-, di- and triisopropanolamine (MIPOA, DIPOA, TIPOA) is produced from propylene oxide and ammonia.

Isopropanolamines are high-grade intermediates that are suitable for many different applications including the production of colorants and pigments.

Adidas launches an even more intelligent running shoe

28 November 2005

Adidas has launched a new upgraded version of its intelligent shoe adidas_1.

The new shoe, adidas_1 intelligence level 1.1 offers the same technology of the adidas_1 which adapts itself in real time to find the right cushioning level, whatever the runner's weight, surface or pace, but is now stronger and faster.

It has an increased range of cushioning, meaning that the shoe can become even softer or firmer. It is also stronger because there is a new motor with 153% more torque, and it is faster because the shoe has been reprogrammed based on extensive research, to find the right level of cushioning even more quickly.

Backpacks made from recycled plastic bottles

28 November 2005

US company Earthpak has launched a line of backpacks that are made of 98% recycled materials, which are said to offer the same style and performance as other leading backpacks on the market.

The products are said to be made in an environmentally conscious manufacturing process which turns discarded plastic soda bottles into a valuable commodity with the average Earthpak bag using over 12 two-litre bottles which would otherwise end up in landfill sites.

The bottles are shredded into small pellets, then processed into a fine fibre, which is then spun into a yarn and woven into a durable fabric. The fabric is then dyed and sewn.

The proprietary fabric is custom-designed and woven exclusively for Earthpak and are specially designed not only to give the bags a distinctive look, but to add tensile strength to the product. The bag's surface is also treated with Teflon to enhance durability and abrasion-resistance.

Garment R&D Centre to be built in Beijing

28 November 2005

According to a report featured in Asia Pulse, Hong Kong International Development Company (HKID), a subsidiary of the Hong Kong International Group, is set to build the largest fashion R&D centre in Asia. The new centre will be established in Beijing and will cover between 53.3 and 66.7 hectares. Estimated costs for the project are 3.3 billion yuan ($408.4 million) and construction will begin in the first half of 2006. It is hoped that the centre will be completed in 2007.

Asahi Kasei Chemicals licenses cyclohexanol synthesis technology

28 November 2005

Japan-based Asahi Kasei Chemicals has announced that it has concluded a licensing agreement with the Chinese company Shijiazhuang Coking & Chemical Group (SCCG) regarding its synthesising cyclohexanol technology.

Cyclohexanol is a feedstock for the production of adipic acid and caprolactam, intermediates for synthetic fibres nylon 66, polyurethane and nylon 6. Under the agreement terms, Asahi Kasei Chemicals will license the technology to SCCG.

The technology uses benzene to synthesise cyclohexanol while reducing the amount of hydrogen required for the process as well as wastes generated through the process.

In line with this move, SCCG will construct a plant for manufacturing cyclohexanol with an annual capacity of 100,000 tons in a chemical industrial park in Shijiazhuang City, Hebei Province. The construction of plant is set to be completed by autumn 2007.

US Congress boosts funding for textile research

29 November 2005

The US Congress has appropriated $13 million to support the National Textile Centre (NTC). The funding is for research designed to make the US textile industry more competitive globally and is included in the Fiscal Year 2006 Science, State, Justice, Commerce Appropriations Act. This is the highest level of funding the NTC has ever received, and represents a 30% increase over Fiscal Year 2005.

Senator Richard Shelby, chairman of the Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Subcommittee, noted that Congress considers increased funding for textile research a priority. "The National Textile Centre trains textile industry engineers and scientists, and conducts state-of-the-art research projects. These activities are essential for the US textile industry to maintain its global competitiveness."

Funds are provided to the NTC through a US Department of Commerce grant. In the past four years, the grant had remained at $10 million per year. With its additional allocation of $3 million for FY2006, the NTC will be able to fund approximately 15 to 20 new fibre/textile research projects as well as continuing 46 current projects.

The NTC is a research consortium of eight US universities: Auburn, Clemson, Cornell, Georgia Tech, Philadelphia, North Carolina State, University of California Davis and University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Research programmes support the entire fibre-textile sector, from fibres through retailing.

Since it was founded in 1990, the NTC has produced more than $300 million in new economic development, six start-up companies, 11 industry-funded technology transfer programmes, and over 70 patents and applications, copyrights and notices of invention. It has completed over 150 research projects, educated more than 1,600 students, and generated in excess of 2,000 publications and presentations.

Lenzing and Zimmer sign lyocell licensing agreement

29 November 2005

Lenzing and Zimmer AG, part of the GEA Group, have concluded a licensing agreement on the extended application of lyocell fibre technology. Zimmer AG may use some Lenzing Group key patents for the construction of lyocell plants. The signing of this agreement has brought an end to previous differences concerning patent issues.

"The licensing agreement emphasises the engineering and design competence of Zimmer and strengthens Zimmer's market position in textile fibre plant engineering," said Winfried J. Krämer, chief executive of Zimmer AG. The development of the Lyocell technology provides the opportunity to both partners to react flexibly and innovatively on future market requirements."

SATRA auditor meets IRCA requirements in social management

29 November 2005

SATRA's Darren Roberts has become the organisation's first person to meet the International Register of Certificate Auditors (IRCA) requirements for auditors of social management systems, which include issues such as worker exploitation.

These systems include SA 8000 and SATRA's own Ethical Trading Award.

Mr Roberts was already a certified lead assessor for

quality management systems and was assessed for the IRCA certificate after attending a course run by training company SGS.

Ethical trading policies have been developed as consumers and organisations have become unwilling to buy from companies that exploit workers or allow their suppliers to do so and by implementing a social management system or by requiring suppliers to do so companies can demonstrate a commitment to responsible and ethical trading.

Nike approves Alpargatas factories

29 November 2005

Argentine footwear producer Alpargatas has announced that Nike has approved its Tucumán and Catamarca factories to start production of Nike shoes.

"Quantities and styles have not been defined yet but in any case it will definitely mean a considerable increase in the use of the production capacity at the two units," Alpargatas stated in a release addressed to the local Stock Exchange.

Jeantex to acquire Sanatex

29 November 2005

Jeanswear designer and manufacturer Jeantex Group, Inc has signed a Letter of Intent to acquire all the issued and outstanding stock of Sanatex Incorporated.

Based in California, Sanatex manufactures clothing and packaging materials, and is involved in dyeing, and finishing for the apparel and fashion industries. With manufacturing facilities located in the Private Free Zone in Kalubeia, Egypt, Sanatex also enjoys exemption from tariffs on finished goods shipped to the United States.

According to the Letter of Intent, Jeantex will purchase all of the issued and outstanding stock of Sanatex in exchange for newly-issued shares of Class A common stock of Jeantex. The number of shares will be equal to 51% of all the issued and outstanding shares of common stock of Jeantex immediately following the closing of the transaction and Sanatex will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of Jeantex Group.

As a combined entity, the company will be led by Hassanein M. Hassanein, CEO of Sanatex.

Penn launches two new lines of street footwear

30 November 2005

Said to be made with the finest leathers and construction techniques by footwear specialists JBI Ltd., Penn, a UK footwear brand which was established in 1922, has launched two new lines of street footwear, Penn Original and Limited Edition ranges. The lines are aimed at individuals looking for quality fashion footwear with a sporting heritage.

Penn Originals are inspired by classic 1970s designs offering the latest retro tennis fashion, whilst the Penn Limited Edition line is said to meet the demands for ever-changing styles in footwear.

Group marketing executive David Buchanan said, "It's about building on the sporting heritage of 'Penn' to create an individual brand for a wide range of fashion and design savvy consumers wanting quality leisure and sports footwear with a touch of individuality."

Everlast CEO passes away

30 November 2005

Everlast Worldwide's chairman and CEO, George Horowitz has died, aged 55, due to kidney cancer, having just last month celebrated his fifth year of ownership of the company.

His son, Seth Horowitz, will assume the role as chairman and CEO, as well as retain the title of president of the company.

Mr Horowitz became CEO and chairman of Everlast in October of 2000 after merging his company, Active Apparel Group, Inc., into Everlast Holdings Corporation. He spent over 30 years in the apparel and sporting goods businesses.

Embargoed Chinese products to be released in USA

30 November 2005

The US Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has announced that in compliance with the new Textile Agreement with China certain Chinese manufactured apparel is to be released between November 28 and December 2. The release only applies to products embargoed prior to November 8. The products eligible for release include cotton knit blouses and shirts (338/339), cotton trousers (347/348), cotton and man-made fibre underwear (352/652), man-made fibre trousers (647/648) and knitted man-made fibre shirts and blouses (638/639).

North Legion named overall winner of ispo Brand New Awards

30 November 2005

The jury of the 13th ispo BrandNew Awards has chosen the winners for winter 2006.

18 judges, all of which are international sports experts, made their final decision after reviewing products from

171 participating companies from 25 countries. North Legion from Norway was named as overall winner for its SMX, which combines elements from BMX, FMX and freeriding.

The Hardware Winter award went to Icelantic Boards from the USA; Tyra Clothing from Hungary won the Style Award; the Sportswear Award was given to Stridelite from the USA; Sportswear Accessories went to CziP from the USA; the Accessories Award was won by Tubeline from Germany; Hardware Summer was awarded to Banshee Riverboards from the USA; and Hardware Accessories: went to Mantis from Germany.

Editor of WSA magazine and one of the judges on the BrandNew Awards jury, Mike Redwood, commented, ”This competition continues to improve every year and this makes the judging in all the categories more difficult. The overall winner has the potential for creating a whole new sport and we were all enormously impressed at how well thought out it had been during its development.”

SATRA helps Timberland suppliers reach quality standard

30 November 2005

SATRA and US-based Timberland Corporation are working together to train and accredit throughout the company’s footwear supply chain.

Companies that supply leather to Timberland’s manufacturing contractors have set up laboratories to conduct tests to confirm that the quality of the material meets that specified by Timberland’s designers and technologists.

The first two suppliers, Teh Chang in Taiwan and Joinland in China have recently been accredited by SATRA. This means that their laboratory equipment, technicians, testing methods and quality management systems have been evaluated by the technology centre’s auditors and proved to have reached the required standards.

The key tests involve the tear strength and colour fastness of the leather, together with an evaluation of its chemical content.

SATRA is working with a number of other companies to finalise accreditation in their laboratories.

Talon Zipper to collaborate with Eclair Prym

30 November 2005

Trim supplier Tag-It Pacific, Inc. has established a co-licensing agreement and strategic alliance between its Talon zipper division and Eclair Prym zipper brand of Europe.

Effective immediately, Tag-It's Talon zipper division will sell zippers as a nominated supplier to Eclair Prym's European customer base, and Eclair Prym will be able sell its zippers as a nominated supplier to Talon's customers in Europe.

The companies expect this alliance to strengthen both brands globally, and allow each company to source from each others' manufacturing base for better regional proximity, pricing and customer service.

Tag-It specialises in the distribution of a full range of trim items to manufacturers of fashion apparel, specialty retailers and mass merchandiser. In addition, Tag-It distributes zippers under its Talon brand name to manufacturers for apparel brands and retailers such as Levi Strauss & Co., Wal-Mart and JCPenney.

German-based Prym, is a family-owned company specialising in the manufacturing of metal press buttons, electrical contact parts and sewing and quilting notions. Its brands include Prym, Schaeffer, Fiocchi, and Éclair. The company provides secure fastening systems for the clothing, leather goods and textile industries.

Quiksilver appoints new board members

30 November 2005

Outdoor sports apparel and equipment company Quiksilver, Inc. has appointed four new board members. Laurent Boix-Vives, Timothy Harmon and Charles Exon have been appointed to the board effective December 1. Douglas Ammerman had been previously appointed to the board on June 3.

Laurent Boix-Vives served as chairman and CEO of Skis Rossignol S.A. until Rossignol's combination with Quiksilver earlier this year; Timothy Harmon served as Pacific Sunwear, Inc.'s president and chief merchandising officer from October 1997 until July 2005; Charles Exon joined Quiksilver in August of 2000 and has served as secretary, general counsel and executive vice president, Business and Legal Affairs - International since that time; Douglas Ammerman is a certified public accountant and has served as the chairman of the company's audit committee and as a member of the nominating and governance committee since his appointment to the board in June.

BASF investment in Nanjing shows best practices for Chinese chemical industry

01 December 2005

According to an independent report, BASF’s new $2.9 billion petrochemical site in Nanjing, China, exceeds international standards in the area of health and safety, and creates and secures local jobs. The study measures the economic, environmental and social impact of the investment on the city of Nanjing and the surrounding region.

The German Society for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) conducted the BASF-commissioned study between January and September of this year, holding interviews with government officials, neighbours of the site and employees in Nanjing.

In the field of safety standards, the report said that the company plays an exemplary role in China. At the height of the plant's construction technical experts from 22 countries and 15,000 workers were on site, working together to build the plants and infrastructure. During the construction phase, more than 100,000 workers received thorough safety training from BASF-YPC Co. Ltd.

Recommendations from the study include continuing community talks and promoting BASF safety and environmental standards to other Chinese companies by holding seminars and organising site visits. BASF has already initiated a strategic alliance with the Chinese State Administration for Work Safety (SAWS) in the area of distribution safety.

It was important for us to analyse not only the economic impact of our investment in Nanjing, but also the social and environmental effects," said Dr. Bernd Blumenberg, president of BASF-YPC Co. Ltd. We want to use this study to identify areas where we can improve and to initiate a discussion with our local stakeholders. Sustainable development is an issue we take very seriously."

BASF-YPC Co. Ltd. is a 50-50 joint venture between BASF and Sinopec that produces 1.7 million metric tons of chemicals and polymers per year for the Chinese market.

Ciba announces global price increases for water treatment chemicals

01 December 2005

Swiss Ciba Specialty Chemicals has announced that its water and paper treatment segment is increasing prices for its entire range of water and paper treatment chemicals on a global basis. Increases will be between 5% and 30%, depending on region and product range. All price increases are effective immediately, with customers to be contacted individually regarding the specifics as they apply to their situation.

According to Mark Garrett, head of the company's Water and Paper Treatment business, The segment is faced with an ongoing escalation in raw material prices as well as freight expenses and energy costs. To maintain security of supply and the level of service that our customers have come to expect from Ciba Specialty Chemicals, we must continue to have a sustainable operating environment."

Printa Systems launches new dye sublimation and heat transfer technology

01 December 2005

Printa Systems, Inc. has launched its new 550 Series Dye Sublimation/Heat Transfer. It offers an edge-optimised heating element that provides more even heat and faster recovery times by covering 80% of the total heat platen surface compared with the industry standard of 15%. Its swing-away spindle-bearing operation provides a lifetime of service with zero wear or maintenance. The patent-pending lever action provides even pressure for superior production results and a shorter pull length.

The 550 Series Swing-Away Press also features a patent-pending interchangeable pressboard, which is said to eliminate bleed-through and reduces product scrap while increasing overall production of digital and screen-printed transfers onto garment fronts, backs, sleeves and pockets; bags and other items.

Printa Systems offers complete systems for screen printing, pad printing, cylindrical printing and dye sublimation/heat transfer.

Speedo introduces Fastskin FSII Ice Speed Suit for 2006 Winter Olympics

01 December 2005

Swimwear brand Speed has unveiled the Fastskin FSII Ice speed suit that will be worn by US sledding hopefuls at the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy, February 10-26. Members from the US team led by Olympic Gold Medallist bobsledder Vonetta Flowers, world-ranked skeleton competitors Chris Soule and Noelle Pikus-Pace, and bobsledders Todd Hays and Jean Prahm have assisted in the development and design of the suit.

Building on five years of extensive research and development of the world's fastest swimsuit, the new suit is specially designed to meet the needs of athletes in skeleton, bobsled and luge events. It brings together the aerodynamic features of the Fastskin FSII with the biomechanical engineering needed to provide the tight "second skin" fit and complete freedom of motion required for these winter sports.

Speedo's Fastskin fabric, first created to reduce friction drag for swimmers and scientifically based on sharkskin, has been modified on the Fastskin FSII Ice so as to reduce drag based on the airflow direction unique to the three sledding sports. The fit eliminates nearly all of the fabric vibration, gapping, and sagging often found in other speed suits.

Special Flexskin fabric used in key locations on also provides the greatest range of motion for maximum push performance during the start phase of a race. Meanwhile, the Fastskin fabric creates a compression effect minimising muscle vibration to help muscles return

to their original shape more quickly after contraction.

North Face athlete aims to circumnavigate Sri Lanka

01 December 2005

Two UK explorers are set to leave the UK on December 1, aiming to paddle around the island of Sri Lanka in glass fibre sea kayaks. If successful, Fiona Whitehead will become the world's first woman to achieve this record.

Fiona, 35, one of The North Face's team of extreme athletes, recently became the first woman (and only the second person) to circumnavigate Great Britain and Ireland. She will be accompanied and filmed throughout by Matt Milloy.

The pair expect to face many dangers while attempting to paddle the 850 mile circumnavigation including crashing surf, snake infested jungle and land-mined beaches.

They have been granted six-week visas and anticipate having to paddle 10 hours a day for 30 days, leaving them two spare weeks in case of inclement weather.

INDA's international trade advisory board releases two new position statements

01 December 2005

INDA, Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry, has announced that its International Trade Advisory Board (ITAB) has adopted two new position statements on global trade issues that have the potential of impacting the nonwoven fabrics industry.

The first statement, ITAB Support for All U.S. Free Trade Agreements, was developed in response to the recent proliferation of bilateral and regional United States free trade pacts. The position statement outlines three key elements that the ITAB will look for when determining whether it will lend its support to any proposed free trade agreement that involves the United States. The necessary elements, as outlined in the position statement, include: 1) ambitious market access obligations; 2) industry appropriate rules of origin; and 3) stringent intellectual property standards.

In commenting on this position statement, Peter Mayberry, INDA's Director of Government Affairs noted that, Even though we have articulated these three requirements to US trade officials for some time now, INDA's ITAB wanted a statement that clearly spells out our negotiating objectives for ongoing and future free trade talks. That is exactly what this document is intended to do."

The second position statement, Implications of Any New Country's Entry into the WTO, outlines the ITAB's response to growing membership in the World Trade Organization. Indeed, the WTO is reportedly on the verge of admitting its 149th member country, Saudi Arabia, and 30 other countries are actively trying to join.

The ITAB wholeheartedly supports efforts to expand the multilateral trading system," said ITAB Chairman Gonzalo Castro with CardinalHealth. Our only concern is that prospective members are held to the same level of commitment with regards to things like market access, rule of law and intellectual property rights that is expected of the United States and other existing members." The document explains the ITAB's plan to serve as a conduit between the nonwoven fabrics industry and US officials to communicate any potential concerns about the conduct of prospective WTO members.

EU states takes stand against Brussels 'Anti-dumping' policy

02 December 2005

The Financial Times has reported that three EU member states will be joining forces to stop the European Commission from introducing anti-dumping tariffs on Asian footwear, mainly from China. Thomas Östros, Sweden's trade minister, said Netherlands, Sweden and Denmark are preparing a joint initiative which they hope will entice other members of the 25-nation organisation to join.

The joint initiative comes as the EU's anti-dumping committee reviewed the shoe dossier to decide whether to narrow the possible anti-dumping action and exclude most sports shoes. That discussion proved inconclusive, according to officials.

The report states that EU trade commissioner Peter Mandelson could open a new front in efforts to contain China's booming exports by introducing tariffs on the country's exports of leather and reinforced shoes early next year.

Students win fashion trip with high street clothing guru

02 December 2005

Five De Montfort University (DMU) fashion buying students have won a prestigious trip to Turkey with George Davies - the visionary behind high street clothing brands Next, George at ASDA, and Per Una at Marks and Spencer.

The students all entered the fashion design category and got called to the final at this year's annual Society of Dyers and Colourists conference alongside three other international students. They had to produce a complete Per Una outfit for the 2005 autumn season.

Mr Davies judged the designs on both quality of design

and colour prediction, and arranged a catwalk show to demonstrate the finalists' designs. It was decided in the end that all eight students will make the three-day trip (4-6 December) to Turkey to meet Per Una designers and suppliers.

The five students studying the new BA (Hons) Fashion Retail Buying degree at DMU were Alice Overend, 21; Jenna McGaulley, 20; Hayley Willis, 21; Claire Moore, 24; Christine Thomas, 20.

Lycra reinvents swimwear

02 December 2005

Invista is to launch a new swimwear fabric - Xtra Life Lycra. Consumer research has shown that fit and shape retention are two of the most important attributes for swimwear. Xtra Life Lycra fibre helps suits avoid bagging and sagging due to standard chlorine degradation, offering approximately 300% higher resistance to chlorine than other recently introduced chlorine-resistant elastanes.

In chlorinated water conventional elastane fibres have a tendency to degrade losing their ability to return to their original shape. Once this degradation has taken place then swimwear begins to bag, sag and lose shape, but the Xtra Life Lycra fabric is said to offer very good performance for up to 180 hours in chlorinated water.

Praybourne adds Norwegian shirt to range

02 December 2005

Praybourne has added a brand new item to its range of Xcelcius trade clothing. The Norwegian Shirt, part of the Xcelcius trade Active range, is often worn as a standard piece of kit by military and police forces across the UK. Thick and warm, Praybourne’s new Norwegian Shirt is made of 100% cotton, towelling lined and long sleeved with buttoned cuffs, a zipped roll polo neck and a long length body.

Petra Griesel appointed new outdoor_ispo community manager

02 December 2005

Petra Griesel will assume her position as manager of the outdoor_ and ski_ispo communities on January 2, 2006, succeeding Tobias Gröber. Mr. Gröber will then take over management of the ispo Group from Peter Knoll.

Following an extensive stay in Australia, Ms. Griesel joined the PR agency Kern Gottbrath Kommunikation, which specialises in sports, outdoors and textiles and has its office in Munich, where she was responsible for the portfolios of outdoor companies such as Arc`teryx, Black Diamond and Primus for four years. Within the ispo Group, she will be responsible for the complete and targeted handling of the international outdoor and ski industries as well as for networking the interests of industry, commerce, associations, partners and the media.

DyStar reveals Remazol Ultra RGB ternary combination

01 December 2005

DyStar has lunched its latest ternary combination. Its new reactive dyes Remazol UltraYellow RGB and Remazol UltraRed RGB combined with Remazol Navy RGB are said to have set new standards of cost efficiency for medium to heavy shades. The build-up and high colour strength of these products is said to reduce dye and salt requirements in exhaust dyeing by up to 40%.

As well as significantly lower recipe costs, the new combination generates additional cost benefits in exhaust and pad dyeing through Controlled Colouration. The dyes are carefully balanced, ensuring good laboratory to bulk transferability. They also have outstanding reproducibility, which is vital for right-first-time dyeings and are said to have excellent wash-off properties and can be combined with all other Remazol RGB dyes.

Zumiez reports November 2005 sales results

01 December 2005

Zumiez Inc., a specialty retailer of action sports related apparel, footwear, equipment and accessories, has announced that total net sales for the four-week period ended November 26, 2005 increased 38.6% to $18 million, compared to $13 million for the four-week period ended November 27, 2004.

The company's comparable store sales increased 18.8% for the past month, versus a comparable store sales increase of 1.8% in the year ago period.

Sympatex to unveil new image

01 December 2005

Following the announcement of a partnership between Sympatex and Nike in the golf market, Sympatex will be unveiling further developments at ispo Winter- where the company will announce all of its latest technical developments:

Sympatex will unveil a new brand image, which has been updated to reflect the company's new technical direction.

On-going developments that were first launched at Go Outdoors have been finalised including investment in new machinery, which provides lighter, quieter and better

performing glove inserts.

The company will also highlight further developments in its Reflexion technology including gloves, Windmaster products, and direct laminate/three layer option for technical products.Details of a new partnership with Outlast will also be announced.