

## NEWSLINK INTERNATIONAL

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# EcoDesign award for OutDry



Matteo Morlacchi, designer of OutDry

Nextec's OutDry membrane system for "water-proofing" footwear was the winner for EcoDesign Outdoor Equipment at this year's Volvo SportsDesign Awards. The Italian company's OutDry technology is a one-step direct lamination of a waterproofing and breathable membrane onto the upper inner side which is said to be "a completely new waterproofing method for footwear that results in a perfect seal of the shoe upper".

According to a Nextec spokesperson, the jury statement read: "This new method for the environmentally safe

production of waterproof and breathable footwear through a combination of the innovative OutDry membrane system together with 3D-lamination technology will revolutionize the footwear industry. By entirely replacing solvent-based glues and other chemicals used in conventional methods of producing waterproof shoes, the OutDry technology has proven a clear winner."

The 4th annual Volvo SportsDesign Awards took place in Munich at the end of January with more than 300 international companies submitting entries for what the organizers claim is



Andrej Kupetz, head of the German Design Council

"the most acclaimed international awards in sports design".

Andrej Kupetz, head of the German Design Council, commented: "From an ecological perspective, the sports industry has made great progress. People are getting the message behind the EcoDesign theme. The blend of sustainability and design will continue to range high on the future agenda of designers and the entire industry."

For more details and to watch a video of OutDry designer Matteo Morlacchi, visit the awards site at [www.ispo-sportsdesign.com](http://www.ispo-sportsdesign.com)