

THE SECOND LIFE OF A SHOE



In some cases, a shoe can be given a second life by replacing the sole or the tread with a new one. This allows to restore the chosen shoe's performance in terms of grip and comfort, thus extending its life.

HOW CAN THIS BE DONE?

Workers specialised in resoling choose the most suitable procedure, taking into account the materials used to manufacture the shoe, the sole to be removed and the new one.



Generally,

- the old sole is removed by heating it until the old glue loses its hold.
- The upper is thoroughly cleaned to remove any residual glue or other material left by the old sole.
- Mono or bi-component polychloroprene adhesives for cold application are used on classical leather or fabric shoes that have either leather or rubber soles.
- Technical footwear made of composite materials to produce the upper and intersole in PU, with soles generally made of rubber or TR, are treated with halogenating products. An initial layer of adhesive is applied on the upper, and then the gluing process takes place by using polyurethane adhesives on the sole and upper, and by activating them with heat (50°-70°C), depending on the type of adhesive chosen.

BENEFITS

ECONOMICAL: the life of a shoe can be extended at a cost that is lower than the purchase of a new shoe, if the only worn part is the sole.

ENVIRONMENT: the "used" shoe is waste that cannot be recycled.

COMFORT: certain types of footwear, especially sports/trekking/mountain shoes, improve comfort and fit the more they are used. When the sole of these shoes reaches the end of its life, the shoes themselves have become exceptionally comfortable, and this feature can be further exploited by resorting to skilled resoling.

FORESTALI: a complete range of products for the sector, and a GREEN alternative.

Industrie Chimiche Forestali have launched a complete range of products in 1 kg cans to allow specialists in the sector to always have the right product for the shoe to be repaired, with excellent management of adhesives in terms of shelf-life and easy handling.

The polychloroprene products we generally propose are AX 1542/65 and AX 1820/6, mono and bi-component alternatives for leather, thunit and natural and synthetic rubber.

Our thermal-activated polyurethane adhesives are POLIGRIP 999 and PLIGRIP M 327. They differ in activation temperature, which facilitates processing on certain footwear.

To prepare the base and ensure compatibility between the various materials, Industrie Chimiche Forestali offers a complete range of PRIMERS and halogenating agents to achieve excellent performance on every base.

Specialists can achieve the utmost satisfaction and remarkable results in terms of hold and workability by using our water-based monocomponent PU adhesives ECHO PU 290 FAST. The particular formulation ensures noticeably rapid crystallisation and self-reticulation by merely heating to temperatures in the range of 70°C (minimum temperature of the completely dried adhesive film). This temperature triggers rapid reticulation reactions that considerably enhance adhesive performance already 5-10 minutes after gluing. Tests indicate that in most cases this increase far exceeds 50% of the hold that can be obtained from a normal water-based polyurethane formulation.