

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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**Brooks® Sports races ahead with Merquinsa's
Renewable-sourced Pearlthane® ECO**

Barcelona, Spain – June 16 2009

Brooks® Sports, Inc. has chosen to collaborate with Merquinsa and its Pearlthane® ECO thermoplastic polyurethanes (TPU) for its latest advancement in more sustainable performance running footwear. Pearlthane® ECO is Merquinsa's pioneering bio-based TPU, made from renewable sources.

Brooks® Sports' running shoes are a step ahead in the *green* race to provide a more sustainable running experience. With Pearlthane® ECO molded parts, Brooks' footwear is reducing its impact on the environment while setting the pace on performance and aesthetic design.

Merquinsa's Bio TPUs are renewable-sourced (bio-content from 20% up to 90% according to ASTM D6866) and recyclable materials with properties very similar to petrochemical-based TPU, contributing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"At Brooks, we are working to incorporate Merquinsa's Pearlthane® ECO TPU into future footwear designs," said Future Concepts Manager Derek Campbell "Brooks is committed to fostering an environment where life can thrive for the long run, and we can help do our part through the responsible use of materials such as Pearlthane® ECO."

About Merquinsa:

Merquinsa is a leading thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU) specialty producer, providing innovative products for injection molding, extrusion, calendaring, melt coating, compounding and adhesive applications.

Merquinsa was recently granted the Frost & Sullivan 2008 Global Thermoplastic Urethane (TPU) Product Innovation Green Excellence of the Year Award. This award recognizes Merquinsa's innovation in biopolymers, with its groundbreaking Bio TPU made from renewable Carbon resources and successfully marketed globally under Pearlthane® and Pearlbond® ECO brands.

Merquinsa's headquarters are in Barcelona, Spain with regional centers in Asia and North America.

For more information about Merquinsa, and **PEARLTHANE®**, **PEARLCOAT®**, **PEARLBOND®**, **PEARLSTICK®** and **DISPERBOND®** specialty TPU resins, please visit our Web site at www.merquinsa.com or call 603 474 0971.

About Brooks:

Brooks Sports, Inc. is a leading running company that designs and markets a line of performance footwear, apparel, and accessories in more than 40 countries worldwide. A subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway Inc., Brooks was founded in 1914 and is headquartered in Bothell, Wash., near Seattle. The company's mission is to inspire everyone to run and be active by creating innovative gear that keeps them running longer, farther, and faster. Visit www.brooksrunning.com for more information.



Courtesy of Brooks Sports, Inc.

Brooks and Merquinsa joining efforts for a more sustainable running experience.

For Editorial Information:

Merquinsa
Lidia Valcarcel
lvalcarcel@merquinsa.com
Tel.: +34 93 572 11 00

Brooks
Tamara Hills
tamara.hills@brooksrunning.com