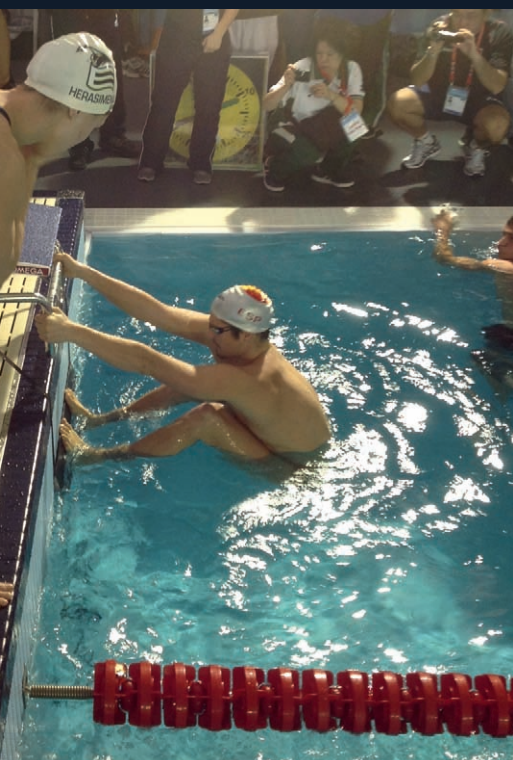


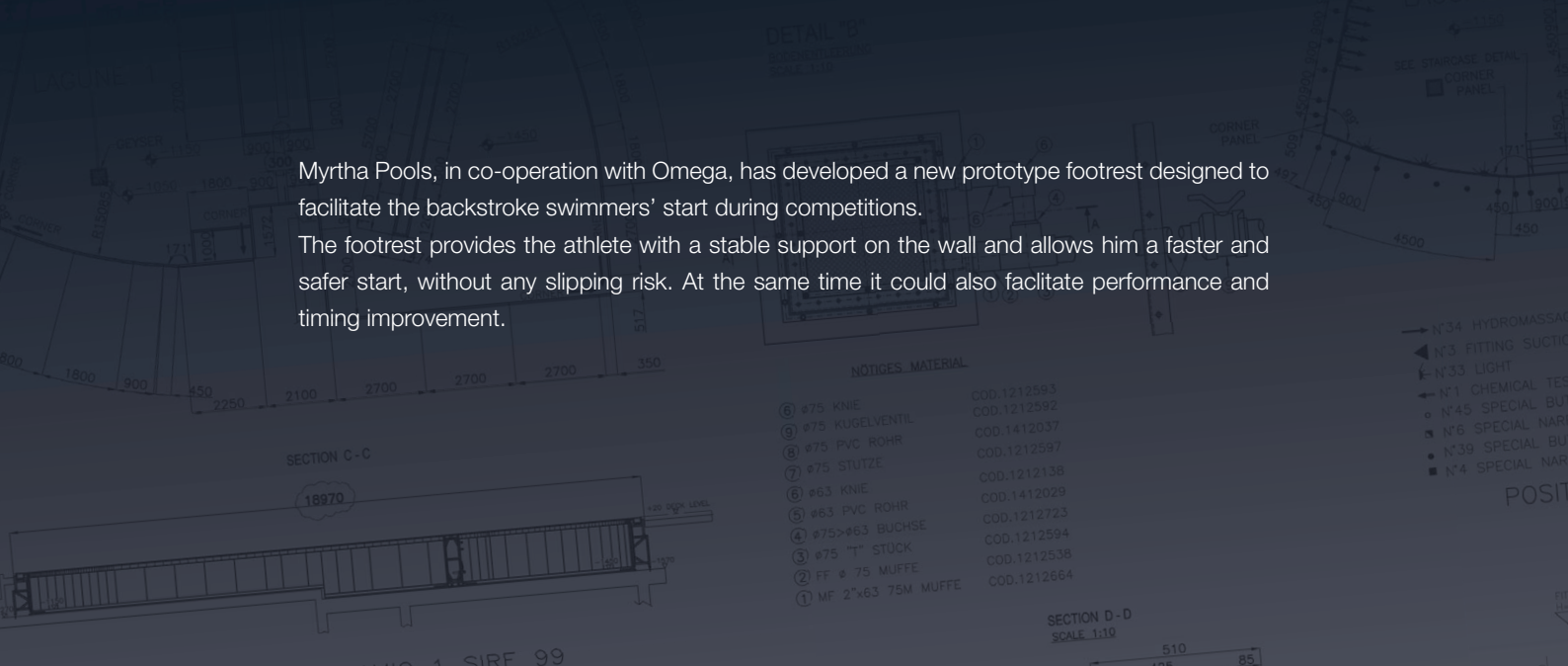


New footrest system for backstroke



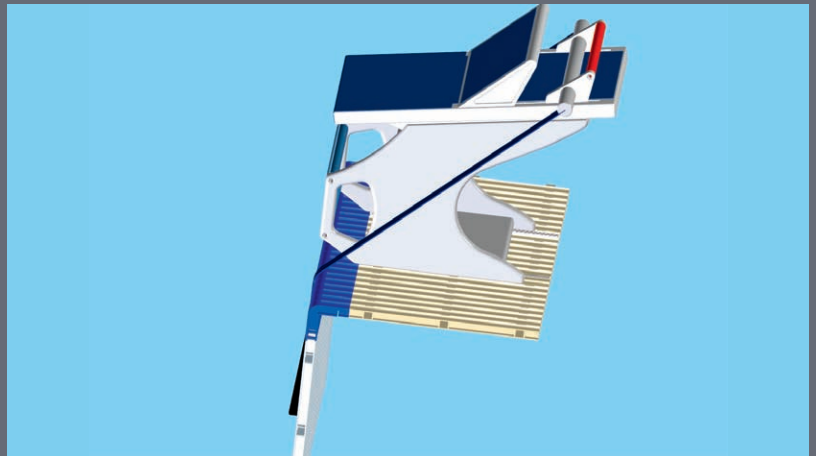
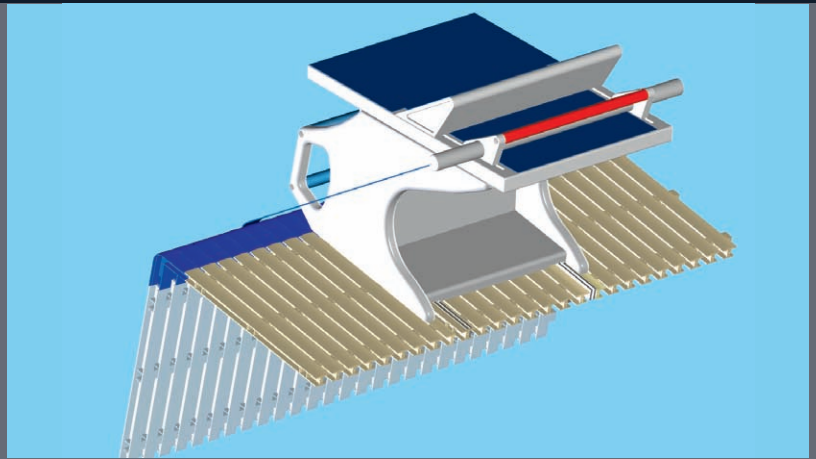
Myrtha Pools, in co-operation with Omega, has developed a new prototype footrest designed to facilitate the backstroke swimmers' start during competitions.

The footrest provides the athlete with a stable support on the wall and allows him a faster and safer start, without any slipping risk. At the same time it could also facilitate performance and timing improvement.



The new system consists of a stainless steel basement, covered with an anti-slip material, on which the athlete places his feet in preparation for the start. The basement rests on the pool wall, at water level, and is connected with a cable system to a support structure adjustable and removable, made of polyester material and placed on top of the starting block.

The new system is adjustable, depending on the needs of the swimmer, and it is easily removable from the block: immediately after each start, in fact, the judges will remove it, so that it avoids obstructing the dynamics of turn during the race.



The project is now in the final phase of analysis and it has been tested in Istanbul, following the green light received by the Technical Committee of FINA. During FINA World Championships in Barcelona in 2013, backstroke athletes can take advantage of the new support studied by Myrtha Pools and Omega.



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