

Design of the adaptive sneakers

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This study is the result of the internship by the “**Shoe research and development**” division at the FILA s.p.a.

My aim was the design of a casual shoe, whose main characteristic should be a great adaptability to every kind of foot morphology within the dimension range considered (ex.: one shoes model for the 36-37-38 size).

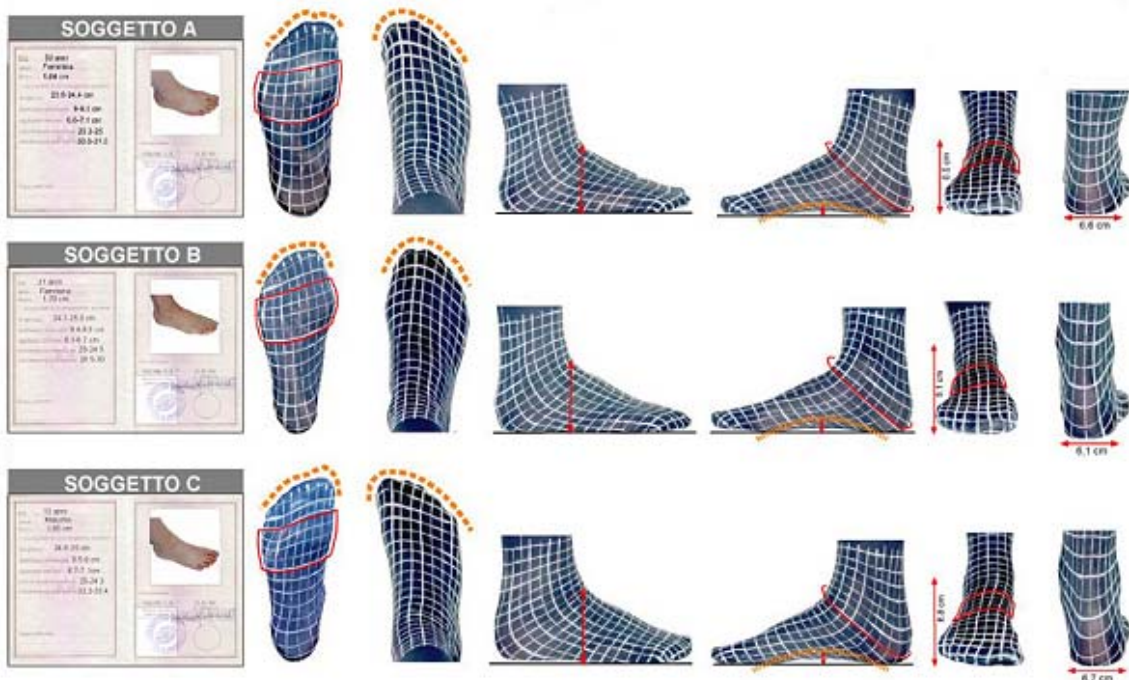
The internship developed in 3 strictly connected phases:

1. Acquisition of the company Know-how:

- I analysed all the useful ergonomic parameters for an effective design which takes into account every possible position of the foot, localizing the corresponding application point (elasticity, damping, stability, protection, wearing)
- I could learn which are the technologies and materials used by the company to create the shoes.
- I devoted a particular care in the use of anthropometrical statistic data coming from different European research centres concerning differences in weight, age and sex.
- I researched the already existing shoe models, whose design focus was the adaptability concept, applied to the shape, material and lacing.

2. New experimental approach to the design:

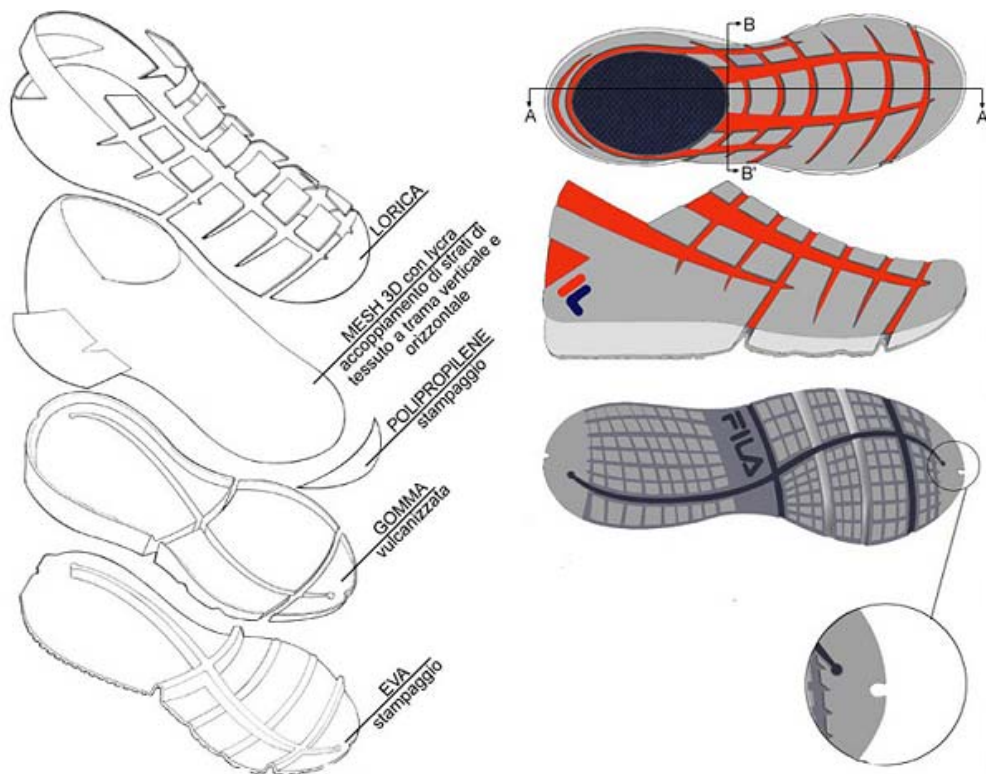
- I began by the analysis of a various subject, whose foot length was the same but the width was different. They were asked to wear a special Lycra wire sock
- Subjects were photographed to all six part and thanks to the grid was possible to know immediately the part of more variation.
- The result have been graphically displayed in order to develop the final shape of the shoe



3. Convergence of the information

The experimental data and the great company Know-how gave me a possibility to define a project, whose prototype was then realized.

- The project consists of a Nylon Mesh sock, which is covered in some part with synthetic leather, likewise the mid-sole in EVA is realized in five distinct parts, which were united to the rubber outsole. Thanks to some ruck the outsole can lengthen and widen.
- The aim was to obtain an extension without to compromise the shoe's stability, adding one support in PP subsequently and one previously.
- The prototype has demonstrated that the same shoe could be worn by subjects of size 38 and subject of size 40, without a sensation of discomfort.



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