

February 23, 2021

PR64-B04

## Molten to Supply Official Match Ball for the AFC Champions League 2021

Molten Corporation (Headquarters: Nishi-ku, Hiroshima City, Japan; President and CEO: Kiyo Tamiaki), a manufacturer of competition quality sports balls and equipment, will provide the official match ball for the AFC Champions League 2021 (hereinafter ACL 2021) hosted by the Asian Football Confederation (hereinafter AFC; headquarters: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; President: Shaikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa).

Molten's flagship football model, the Vantaggio 5000 AFC model, will be supplied to ACL 2021 and used from the group stage to the final matches of the competition.

Molten will continue to develop and supply football products of outstanding function and design to every level of player, and work to fulfill the brand promise, "For the real game."

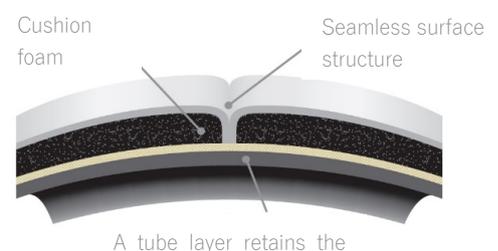
### 1 .Design

The official ball was developed based on the Molten's flagship football model, the Vantaggio 5000, and designed using the AFC's logo colors of blue and yellow.



### 2. ACENTEC structure

Molten's unique thermal bonding technology produces a smooth, seamless cover that cannot be accomplished by hand sewing. The result is uniform surface and reduced water absorption, ensuring exceptional performance that is not affected by weather conditions.



### 3. Improved flight stability

The new surface finish and texture have improved the flight of the ball, allowing players to elevate their game with more accurate passing and shooting.



#### **4. Adopting new valve**

Adopting a new valve reduces friction (40% compared to the current Vantaggio model) when inflating the ball, making it more resistant to damage.

Note : Apply a lubricant such as glycerin (or soapy water) to the pump needle when inflating the ball.

#### **■ Scheduled events**

-AFC Champions League 2021

April 7, 2021 (Wed.) to November 27, 2021 (Sat.)

#### **■ About the AFC**

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) is the governing body of Asian football and one of the six Confederations making up FIFA. Formed in 1954 in Manila the AFC was sanctioned by FIFA in Berne, Switzerland on June 21 of that year. The AFC has headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and consists of 47 Member Associations.

#### **■ About Molten**

Molten, a manufacturer of balls and sports equipment, has been making and marketing basketballs, handballs, soccer balls, and volleyballs, of uncompromising quality since 1958. Molten continues to raise global standards, supplying the official game balls and sports equipment for major leagues, teams and international tournaments around the world.

For further information, please visit [www.molten.co.jp/sports/en/](http://www.molten.co.jp/sports/en/)

#### **■ For the real game**

Molten's brand statement, "For the real game", encapsulates what we hope to accomplish through our products and activities. It is our conviction that the real game happens only when impeccable balls and sports equipment enable athletes to realize their full potential and maximize performance.

#### **■ Product image data (JPEG) is also available**

Contact: Ryo Kurahashi

International Market Sales & Marketing Department Sports Division Molten Corporation

Tel: (+81-3)3625-7648 Fax: (+81-3)3625-7738