

December 17, 2019

PR63-S05

## **Molten reveals Official Match Ball for the 2019/20 UEFA Europa League Knockout Stage**



F5U5003-K0

Molten Corporation (Headquarters: Hiroshima, Japan; President and CEO: Kiyo Tamiaki), a manufacturer of competition quality sports balls and equipment, will continue to supply the official match ball designed exclusively for the 2019/20 UEFA Europa League Knockout stage to be held in Europe from February 20 to May 27, 2020. This is per the agreement between Molten and the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), and the ball will be used in all matches from the round of 32 up to the final (Gdansk, Poland). The official match ball and a replica models will be available for purchase in select markets from December 17, 2019.

Molten's unique thermal bonding technology enhances shape retention and minimizes water absorption, resulting in an exceptional performance regardless of conditions. The textured surface reduces turbulence around the ball while it is in flight, optimizing ball control. The "energy wave", which features the UEFA Europa League brand identity, has been integrated into the design. The energy wave represents the collective desire of the players, staff and fans to take on new challenges within the league and dynamically advance towards victory. It also embodies illustrations of the trophy and Gdansk Stadium of the final match as the base pattern.

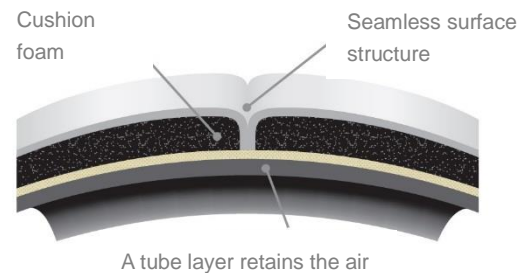
Molten will continue to develop and supply football products of outstanding function and design to every level of player, and work to fulfill the brand promise, "For the real game."

## ■ Product Features

### 1. Superior Performance

#### 1-1. ACENTEC structure

Molten's unique thermal bonding technology produces a smooth, seamless cover that cannot be accomplished by hand sewing. The result is a uniform surface and reduced water absorption, ensuring exceptional performance that is not affected by weather conditions. (F5U5003-K0)



#### 1-2. Surface that enhances the flight stability

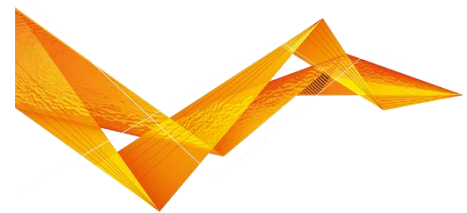
The dimples on the surface of the ball reduce turbulence and stabilize it while in flight. This enhances ball control, resulting in more accurate passes and shots. (F5U5003-K0)



Dimples on the ball surface

### 2. Exclusive design for the knockout stage

The UEFA Europa League "energy wave" brand identity represents the journey of the clubs throughout Europe, expressing the highs and lows of the thrilling adventure. The energy wave has been designed to go towards the stadium of the final match drawn in the base pattern. It has also been integrated into Molten's signature style and laid out to increase visual recognition.



## ■ Product Overview

### Football

		Official Match Ball	UEFA Europa League 2019/20 Knock Out Stage Replica		
Size	5	F5U5003-K0	F5U4800-K0	F5U3600-K0	F5U3400-K0/K0S
	4	-	-	-	-
	3	-	-	-	-
Construction	Acentec	Hand Stitched	Machine Stitched + Bonded	Machine Stitched + Bonded	
Cover Material	PU Leather	PU Leather			
Official Approval	FIFA Quality PRO	FIFA Quality PRO	-		
Country of Origin	Thailand	China	Pakistan		

UEFA Europa League 2019/20 Knock Out Stage Replica				
Size	5	F5U2810-K0/K0S	F5U1710-K0/K0Y/K0S	F5U1500-K0/K0Y
	4	F4U2810-K0	F4U1710-K0	F4U1500-K0/K0Y
	3	-	-	-
Construction	Hand Stitched			Laminated
Cover Material	PU Leather		PU/PVC	PVC
Official Approval	-			
Country of Origin	Pakistan		Pakistan	Thailand

UEFA Europa League 2019/20 Knock Out Stage Replica		
Size	5	F5U1000-K0/K0O/K0S
	4	F4U1000-K0/K0O/K0S
	3	F3U1000-K0
	1	F1U1000-K0
Construction	Machine Stitched	
Cover Material	TPU	
Official Approval	-	
Country of Origin	Thailand	

### Futsal

UEFA Europa League 2019/20 Knock Out Stage Replica Futsal			
Size	4	F9U4800-K0	F9U2000-K0
Construction	Hand Stitched		Machine Stitched
Cover Material	PU Leather		TPU
Official Approval	FIFA Quality PRO		-
Country of Origin	China		China

UEFA Europa League 2019/20 Knock Out Stage Replica Futsal		
Size	4	F9U1500-K0/K0Y/K0O
Construction	Laminated	
Cover Material	PVC	
Official Approval	-	
Country of Origin	Thailand	

## ■ About the UEFA Europa League

UEFA Europa League is the largest league of professional football clubs in the world. Every season, over 180 professional football teams from 55 countries across Europe take part in the league games, including the preliminary round.

**2019/20 UEFA Europa League** Venue of the Final: Gdansk Stadium (Poland)

### Knock Out Stage Schedule

Round 32	: First leg 20 February, 2020 / Second leg 27 February, 2020
Round 16	: First leg 12 March, 2020 / Second leg 19 March, 2020
Quarter-finals	: First leg 9 April, 2020 / Second leg 16 April, 2020
Semi-finals	: First leg 30 April, 2020 / Second leg 7 May, 2020
Final	: 27 May, 2020

## ■ 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.