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Vyatek Signs Deal With Wilson Racquets

Vyatek Sports, Inc., based in Scottsdale, AZ, once again made waves on the JEC show floor by attracting considerable crowds throughout the run of the show. At last year's JEC show Vyatek won an award for its IsoGrid™ fabrication process used to make light-weight, high-performance composite components for sporting good applications. Howard Lindsay, Vyatek's CEO and president, was proud to announce the signing of a licensing agreement with **Wilson Sporting Goods Co.** for the production of Wilson's next-generation of "Hammer" tennis racquets. The use of the IsoGrid technology allows Wilson to reduce the weight of its very popular line of racquets, while retaining stiffness and durability. The end result is a more user friendly racquet, capable of producing higher ball velocity and less tiring to the athlete. Commercial versions of the racquet sell for between \$150 - \$190 MSRP and weigh a scant 9.0 to 10.8 ounces.

Lindsay could not say specifically how many racquets a year would be produced by Wilson with the IsoGrid technology, but felt safe to say it would number in the hundreds of thousands of units.

Lindsay further commented that the company was having other successes in licensing its IsoGrid, ExoGrid™, and BiFusion™ composite production technologies for other applications. Vyatek expects to make official announcements with regards to licensing agreements with name brand golf clubs, arrows, and tandem bicycles. Lindsay also indicated that both MAXM Components and Titus Bicycles were working hard to keep up current order backlogs. Sales of these products, which make use of Vyatek's technologies, have been exceeding their companies sales goals.

Of the company's production technologies, IsoGrid has received the most interest from manufacturers. It employs a carbon fiber braid, which forms a grid pattern of ribs. These ribs can be used to reinforce both composite and metallic, thin-walled structures against buckling failures and improve vibration dampening characteristics. The ExoGrid and BiFusion technologies offer slightly less performance for a given weight, but offer unique and dramatic aesthetic opportunities for designers. **Newport Adhesives and Composites** (towpreg), **A&P Technology** (carbon braids), and **Latex Technologies** (molding bladders) are known to supply a considerable portion of the composite materials used with Vyatek's technologies.



Venus and Serena Williams are among many tennis pros that are playing with new racquets from Wilson Sporting Goods Co. featuring Vyatek's IsoGrid composite technology.

For more information, contact Howard Lindsay at (480) 998-2046, fax (480) 699-2042.