

World records tumble in Beijing

The number of records broken at the Beijing Olympics is equalled only by the 39 set in Munich. U.S. swimmer Michael Phelps matched Mark Spitz' remarkable performance in 1972 by setting seven new records

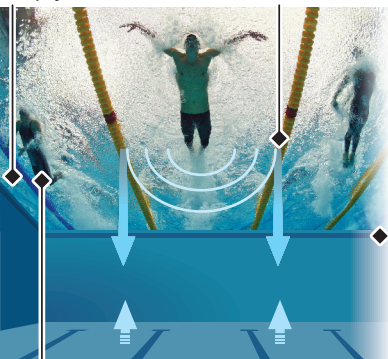
IN THE SWIMMING POOL

Greater pool width for wave dispersal in empty outer lanes

New lane markers direct turbulence downwards

WORLD RECORDS AT OLYMPICS

There are now 302 Olympic events – up from 43 in 1896



New high-tech swim suits

3m depth reduces effect of turbulence off bottom

Munich 1972
39 records

Beijing 2008
39 records

Mexico City 18

Wave-damping gutters

Tokyo 22

Montreal 31
Sydney 30

Moscow 21

Athens 25

Seoul 17

Los Angeles 13

Rome 15
Berlin 12

Los Angeles 11

Amsterdam 12
Antwerp 10

London 9

St. Louis 2

Paris 7

Stockholm 7

Athens 0

Paris 1

Melbourne 12

Helsinki 11

London 5

Atlanta 8

Barcelona 6

ATHLETICS TRACK

16,000m² of MondoTrack – cost \$1 million

Asphalt

Energy return: Track absorbs and then releases energy as foot lifts

Even deformation helps muscles to perform using "motor-memory"

Shock-absorbing closed-cell natural isoprene rubber

