



## adidas – Q&A – Sandro

*What do you think of the new Predator boots?*

The new Predator Lethal Zones boots are first and foremost very comfortable, as soon as you put your foot in the boot it fits round it and you feel ready. The zones help with ball control and I feel you can pass more confidently and with more precision. A difficult skill in football is accurately judging long passes and the new boots certainly help with that. I think the zones I'll probably use the most will be Drive, Pass, and First Touch. As a holding midfielder I need to be able to control the ball quickly and keep it close to my body before utilizing a quick, short pass or searching out a long pass. The First Touch zone helps bring the ball under control instantly, football in England is very fast and the boots help me be even faster. I also like to shoot from long distance so the Drive Zone or Sweet Spot Zone will be useful for that.

*Your passing and dribbling skills are very impressive; tell us about that part of your game?*

In England when you dribble it is more for tactical reasons than back in Brazil where every player dribbles with the ball in any part of the pitch. In England you dribble when you are focused on moving forward to create a dangerous move for the team, it's an aspect of the game I certainly enjoy and am getting more used to. In terms of passing, I can't make any mistakes in my position so I have to be very precise and very confident that my pass is going to reach its destination. There are some passes that are instinctive and others that you have to consider more – the speed of football in England means you never have much time so you have to make these decisions very quickly.

*What are your thoughts ahead of Euro 2012?*

I always follow the European Championships; you always see some great teams and fantastic football so I'll be definitely tuning in!

*Who are the teams and players to look out for at Euro 2012?*

Well having played with or against lots of the England squad this season I can certainly say I feel they have all the elements they need to do well in the competition, I'll be watching them closely. I also think Spain, Germany, and Holland all have a good chance of doing well at the tournament. In terms of players, I'm a bit biased as I'll be hoping all the Spurs players do well! Scott Parker in central midfield is a great player and I'm sure he'll have a good tournament. I'll be supporting Luka Modric and Nico playing for Croatia and I also think Van der Vaart will have a good tournament. I'm hopeful all these teams will qualify for the World Cup in 2014 so we can see them in Brazil!

*How is the atmosphere in London ahead of the Olympics?*

I'm very happy to be playing in London with Tottenham and it's heightened by the fact the Olympics are coming in the Summer – it's a fantastic sporting occasion. I'm really looking forward to the Games and for my teammates and friends to be coming over to the city. Everyone is talking about it, not only in London, but all over the world and especially in Brazil! In terms of the football tournament, we are very hungry for the gold medal, we've never won it at the Olympics and it would be amazing to win it ahead of the World Cup and then Olympics in 2016. It's a dream come true to play for the national team, there is a lot of pressure, but we are ready to work hard at this tournament.