## LEATHER FOR EARTH

Information Summary



of the Earth's circumference in Km.

That's where we started to create this natural leather with features never seen before.

Leather 40075 represents the unstoppable pursuit of excellence, our passion for preserving the essence of leather and, the commitment to protect our planet by continuing to do what we like best.

Leather with superior characteristics, with a natural tanning process, completely certified in all its phases: from the supply of raw materials to the finished product.

Leather 40075 is the evolution of vegetable tanning both in environmental terms and in terms of versatility and performances.

The leather is by definition a sustainable product.

A production started by mankind: a tanning process from vegetal extracts

A unique working process combining tradition, innovation and sustainability

With the warranty of an Accredited Registered Body





The **Leather 40075** process is the result of a unique working reality which, technologically up-to-date, relies its development on the respect for man and the environment.

#### **INCAS**

The first tanning company in Europe having received the EMAS Registration. The first tannery in Italy having obtained ICEC Certification of Companies' Sustainability in 2014. In accordance with the UNIC Code of Conduct and Social Accountability since 2012.

**Leather 40075** is the result of several studies carried out by Incas, whose outcome was achieved through a process called Hi Co. This process certifies to produce metal-free natural skins, conforming to the strictest global legislations for the protection of the environment. First working process certified by ICEC in Italy since 2007!





### **Our policy**

#### PRAGMATISM, INNOVATIVE TRADITION, RECYCLING, ECO-FRIENDLY APPROACH

Although the market is becoming more and more tough, competitive and even irrational, Incas's goal is to express its own "identity", strong, clearly identifiable, a reference model outside (stakeholders) and inside (workers, etc.)

Expertise and competence along with research and innovation are the bases of this approach towards work. All those who work within and for INCAS are encouraged to share such attitude with the management and to collaborate in order to:

- Implement and keep updated an adequate risk-management as well as the opportunities affecting the conformity of the products and the processes according to the development of the business environment
- Insure an accurate management and monitoring of each step of the process, so that the final good has the highquality standards established by the Tannery, as well as the characteristics expected by the client and the relevant compelling requirements
- Insure the punctual compliance with the agreed delivery times and with the declared product performances
- Understand the final customer's needs, working with the finest adaptability in order to fulfil personalized and specific demands
- Insure transparency and clarity within the communication both with the clients and the rest of the community, including authorities, especially concerning the environmental aspects linked to the activities, the products and the services of the Tannery, through and Environmental Statement updated every year
- Comply with values such as transparency, loyalty and good faith while doing business with institutions, clients, suppliers and competitors, avoiding dishonest actions that would violate the approved Code of Conduct and Social Responsibility
- Insure the full compliance with the compelling requirements, laws and regulations, likely to be implemented in accordance with the environment, society and workers' health and safety, including the National Collective Labour Agreement of the tanning sector
- Assess the environmental and quality aspects linked to each new activity, product or process of the Tannery
- Regularly update the operating procedures of the Integrated Management System, paying much attention to emergency procedures.

# LEATHER 40075 products

**LEATHER 40075** is a full-cycle working process through an **organic metal-free tanning**\*.

The following leather goods are pro	oduced through the LEATHER40075 process:
veals	
baby calves	
buffaloes	
From the product lines <b>AQUA, TE</b>	RRA and AER
Targeting the production of:	
footwear	
leather goods	
garments	
These articles will be used to re over the world.	alize high-quality leather goods admired by the most important brands al
*EN 15987 "Leather-Terminology-Key defir	nitions for the leather trade"



# Peculiar characteristics of the process

A structured manufacturing process followed step by step

Soaking and liming operations with recycling of sulfide

Organic metal-free tannery: EN 15987 "Leather-Terminology-Key definitions for the leather trade"

#### Selection after tanning

#### **Environmental aspects of the process:**

- 53.7% of water is saved during the liming operations
- As well as 32.5% of sodium sulfide
- The leathers are manufactured in plants complying with both ISO 14001 standards and EMAS Registration
- The process abides by the calculus of the product Environmental Footprint in accordance with the Leather PEFCR rules, established by the European Commission in occasion of the Single Market for Green Products Initiative

#### A mark of origin on the final product:

he leathers are entirely produced in Italy and, therefore, marked as "Made in Italy" in accordance with UNI EN 16484 standards

#### Soaking and liming operations

Thanks to soaking is necessary the leather comes back to its natural conditions. This operation is performed following the working guidelines displayed in the soaking procedures. After the "addition" and "rotation" in the soaking, a pH control over the bath is performed to make sure that is stays within the guidelines' measures. Liming aims at dehairing the skins. This step, like the previous one, is carried out in accordance with the soaking guidelines. This specific operation does explain one of the distinctive characteristics differentiating the LEATHER40075 process and its output from any other vegetal tanning process.

#### **Tanning**

This step follows specific tanning guidelines. Its outcome is defined by a visual check done over a portion of leather. The leathers are finally let resting for at least four days in one specific warehouse.

#### Retanning, dyeing and fat liquoring

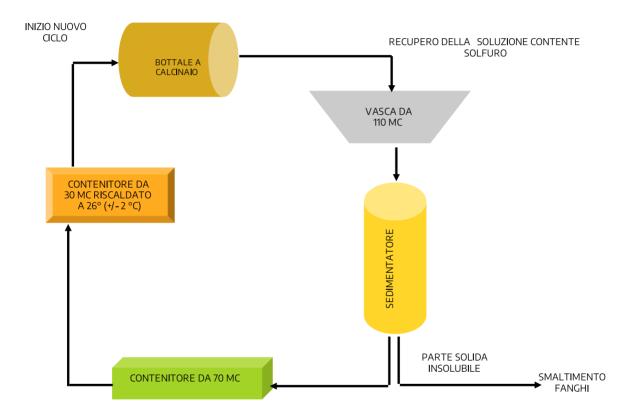
Retanning consists of lending the skin softness, fullness and tightness. Each article is characterized by its proper procedures of retanning, dyeing and fat liquoring. Depending on the client's demands, the leather is dyed in rotating drums following the procedures necessary to create the color. Fat liquoring lends the leathers the right softness, by employing oils which bind to the fibers more or less strongly. After these three steps (retanning, dyeing and fat liquoring) the department manager carries out the controls required by the internal procedures. He, then, gives the go-ahead for the next steps.

#### **Finishing**

Finishing creates particular features on the leather, following specific procedures. During this step the color is controlled through a visual inspection. It is, besides, compared with either the color standards defined in the swatch book or the client's samples. In order to do that, a specific light room is used, which allows to carry out the controls under the best conditions ever.

#### The recycling of the sulfide in drums operation

The drums process includes soaking and liming. This step is highly important in order to limit the impact of the process on the environment. Liming's goal is leather depilation. It's this exact operation that explains the peculiarity of LEATHER40075. The image below shows the operations peculiar to the process during liming.



After each drums, process the solution - containing residual sulfide – is taken from the rotating drums and introduced into a 110M3-wide pit. It, then, goes into a settling drum of 100M3 in order to remove the solid insoluble parts (undissolved lime, sand, ground remainings etc.) disposed of as mud.

#### Organic metal-free tanning

All the steps of the drums and the finishing operations are performed with such products and proceeding as to ensure the compliance with the leather definition of "metal free": tanning is carried out through natural or synthetic tanning agents, containing in total no more than 0.1% of tanning metals (Cr, Al, Ti, Zr, Fe), in accordance with the European standard EN 15987 "Leather- terminology-Key definitions for the leather trade". The working process is developed in order to ensure further safety requirements from a chemical perspective; in particular:

- fairly reduces content of formaldehyde
- content of extractable heavy metals in accordance with toys safety regulations



### Caratteristiche chimiche

Le caratteristiche dei pellami lavorati con il processo **LEATHER40075** rispettano pienamente i vari limiti di legge per le sostanze ristrette, come di seguito indicato, e spesso le performances risultano nettamente migliorative rispetto al limite stabilito dalle norme.

Caratteristica	Metodo di prova	Requisito richiesto dalla norma
Contenuto di metalli (Cr, Al, Ti, Zr, Fe)	UNI EN ISO 17072-2	≤ 0,1% come somma dei metalli concianti su peso secco della pelle (metal free)
Ammine aromatiche	UNI EN ISO 17234-1 UNI EN ISO 17234-2	≤ 30 mg/kg
Pentaclorofenolo	UNI EN ISO 17070	≤1 mg/kg
Tetraclorofenolo	UNI EN ISO 17070	≤ 1 mg/kg
Cromo esavalente	UNI EN ISO 17075	≤ 3 mg/kg
Formaldeide	UNI EN ISO 17226-1	≤ 16 mg/kg
pH Indice differenziale (ΔpH)	UNI EN ISO 4045	pH ≥ 3,2 ΔpH ≤ 0,7
Metalli pesanti estraibili (As, Cd, Cr III, Co, Pb, Hg, Sb, Ba, Se)	UNI EN 71-3 (sicurezza dei giocattoli, migrazione di alcuni elementi)	As ≤ 47 mg/kg Cd ≤ 17 mg/kg Cr III ≤ 460 mg/kg Co ≤ 130 mg/kg Pb ≤ 160 mg/kg Hg ≤ 94 mg/kg Sb ≤ 60 mg/kg Ba ≤ 18750 mg/kg Se ≤ 460 mg/kg
Metalli pesanti estraibili con sudore artificiale (Cd, Co, Ni, Pb)	UNI EN ISO 17072-1	Cd ≤ 1 mg/kg Co ≤ 4 mg/kg Ni ≤ 4 mg/kg Pb ≤ 3 mg/kg

Caratteristica	Metodo di prova	Requisito richiesto dalla norma
Tributilstagno (TBT)	UNI CEN ISO/TS 16179	< L.Q.
Dibutilstagno (DBT)	UNI CEN ISO/TS 16179	< L.Q.
Dimetilfumarato (DMF)	UNI CEN ISO/TS 16186	< L.Q.
Ftalati (DNOP, DEHP, BBP, DBP, DINP, DIDP)	UNI EN ISO 16181	< L.Q.
Biodegradabilità relativa testata su: Articolo ISEO colore nero H (concia α, riconcia Aqua, rifinizione anilina) Articolo VARANO colore 789 HT (concia Σ, riconcia Aqua, rifinizione anilina)	UNI EN ISO 20136	≥ 70 %
Solo per Terra:		
Distensione del fiore alla screpolatura	UNI EN ISO 3379	≥ 6 mm
Carico di strappo	UNI EN ISO 3377-2	> 20 N
Resistenza alla trazione e allungamento percentuale a rottura	UNI EN ISO 3376	> 15 N/mm2 > 20%
Resistenza alla piega continua	UNI EN ISO 5402	80.000 flessioni cuoio asciutto 20.000 flessioni cuoio umido >3 scala internazionale dei grigi
Permeabilità al vapore d'acqua	UNI EN ISO 14268	> 1,5 mg (cm2h)



#### **Environmental characteristics of the process**

The working procedure for drums studied for liming and recycling of sulfide allows to save both in terms of water and of "fresh" sodium sulfide. More exactly:

- 53.7% of water is saved during liming
- 32 5% of sodium sulfide is saved as well

The working process respects the environment since controls are ensured by both EMAS Registration and ISO14100 certification (cf. EMAS Certification and ISO14100 issued by ICEC).



Sistema di Gestione della Qualità UNI EN ISO 9001:2015 CERT-086-2000-OMS-ICEC



Sistema di Gestione Ambientale UNI EN ISO 14001:2015 CERT-048-2006-EMA-ICEC



Sistema di Gestione Ambientale EMAS IT-000648



Leather Working Group LWG GOLD RATED CON039



Tracciabilità della Materia Prima ICEC TS-SC410 ICEC TS-PC412



Sostenibilità ICEC SUSTAINABILITY CERT-001-2014-SUSTAINABILITY



Sistema di Gestione della Salute e Sicurezza UNI EN ISO 45001:2018 CERT-022-2021HSMS-ICEC



Codice di Condotta UNIC SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY ATTESTATO ICE N° 002



Certificazione di Prodotto
DENOMINAZIONE DI ORIGINE
(Leather from Italy, 100% Leather from Ital
CERT-018-2008-MDO-ICEC



Certificazione di Prodotto "PARMA-PARMA DOC" CERT-051-2007-PDT-ICEC



Certificazione di Processo LEATHER 40075 CERT-001-2007-PCS-ICEC



Emergenza Covid COVID 19 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CERT-001-2020-COVID-ICEC







Energia CERTIFICATO DI ECCELLENZA GREEN



Thanks to the Environmental Statement, drafted in accordance with EMAS Regulations and available to all the interested parties on the website www.iniziativeconciarieassociate.it, our company sets the goal of continuously environmentally improving itself, while periodically undergoing ICEC examinations. Incas manufacturing processes are subject to the product Environmental Footprint, in accordance with the Leather PEFCR rules, established by the European Commission in occasion of the Single Market for Green Products Initiative. Besides, our company pays particular attention to the exploitation of resources, as it is shown by the following aspects:

- When providing vegetal tannins, tannins coming from FSC-certified woods are preferred (the Forest Stewardship Council acts for a right forest management)
- 100% of the employed electricity comes from renewable sources

#### A mark of origin on the final leathers

The working processes are performed in Italy so to receive the mark of origin certification **"Made in Italy 100%",** in accordance with EN16484 standard.







+39 0571 486.411 - www.incas.it