

SUSTAINABILITY

The environmental impact of leather is largely determined by the manufacturing process. That's why Tiger Leather is proud to partner with tanneries that utilize some of the most environmentally conscious manufacturing processes in the leather industry. The following areas of leather manufacturing have the most significant potential impact on the environment:

- **Management of Restricted Substances** – Tiger Leather's tannery has a chemical-physical purification plant that performs a pre-treatment of the waste waters before re-introducing them into the management system. Both the plant's and tannery's on-site purification systems are periodically subject to preventive maintenance in order to ensure proper functioning.
- **Air Emissions** – Tiger Leather only uses water-based and water-soluble finishes. Tiger products are Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) certifiable-ready and can help toward earning the Low-Emitting Materials/Systems Furniture and Seating LEED credit (1 point).
- **Waste Management (Hazardous and Non-Hazardous)** – Tiger Leather's proprietary tannery uses a water purifying and recycling facility that was built on tannery grounds. The laboratory controls waste water to ensure current compliance standards are met, and the lab systems are routinely analyzed in effort to limit any potential impact on the environment.
- **Environmental Management Systems** – Tiger Leather inspects its hides for chemical compliance, as well as the quality levels set forth in the Quality Control (QC) regulations. Outgoing goods are tested according to the strict protocols of Quality Control. Leather "Made in Italy" serves as a warranty for consumers that they are purchasing a top grade product free of harmful chemicals, but even more importantly, a product compatible with social and environmental equity.
- **Control of Manufacturing Processes** – Tiger Leather is devoted to reducing the presence of chemicals in the manufacturing process. No solvent-based products are used in the finishing process so that only a natural product is produced. The tannery is ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified – these are some of the highest certifications that a tannery can receive for responsible manufacturing.
- **Chrome Management** – Tiger Leather recycles the Chromium (III) salts used in the tanning process.
- **Traceability of Material** – For quality assurance, Tiger Leather's tannery inspects all materials it purchases. In addition, several phases of its own industrial process are monitored from the managerial and technical points of view. Lastly, all manufactured hides are carefully examined. In order to perform suitable QC, Tiger's tannery incorporated an internal chemical / physical laboratory that is ICEC/TS 406 certified.

Other practices implemented by Tiger Leather that give leather an enhanced environmental profile include:

- **Biodegradable wetting agents for soaking**
- **Reduced sulfide processing**
- **Non-synthetic or polymeric retannage systems**
- **Optimized dyestuffs**
- **Vegetable oil based fatliquors**
- **Improved finishing systems to reduce waste**

Lastly, Tiger Leather's raw material is a byproduct of the beef industry. No cow is ever harvested for the hide alone!