Beat: Business

THE SEA IS THE KEY TO HISTORY AND THE SHORE OF OUR FUTURE

7TH EDITION, SUSTAINABLE LEATHER FORUM

PARIS, 16.09.2025, 12:34 Time

USPA NEWS - The Sustainable Leather Forum is the First International Event dedicated to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the Leather Industries.

Organised in the Heart of Paris, it brings together more than 400 International Participants – Sector Companies, Leading Fashion and Design Groups, Microenterprises/SMEs, Mid-Sized Companies, Institutions, Opinion Leaders, and Consulting Firms – to address Social, Environmental, and Economic Challenges.

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For its Seventh Edition, The Sustainable Leather Forum (SLF) will give Prominent Focus to the Issue of Water in the Leather Sector.
This Event is organised by Alliance France Cuir with the support of CTC, the Professional Committee for Economic Development in Leather, Footwear, Leather Goods and Glove-making.

-The Participants:

* Key Players in the Leather Industry - From Leather Producers to Tanners, from Shoe and Leather Goods Manufacturers to Finished Product Distributors.

* Players in the Leather Industry Ecosystem - Professional Federations, Public Organizations, Business Incubators, Investment Funds, Trade Fair Organizers.

* Service Providers - Research, Consulting, Circular Economy, Recycling Firms, etc.

* Institutions and Opinion Leaders - Parliamentarians, Philosopher, Economist, Author…

- Top 4 Positions Held:

* General Management - President, General Manager, COO, CEO, Production Manager, Financial Director, Sales Director,...

Photo Left
Introduction by:
Marc BRUNEL, General Manager at ALLIANCE FRANCE CUIR
Christophe DEHARD, Chairman at ALLIANCE FRANCE CUIR
Photo Right:
Christian BUCHET, Director of the Center for Marine Studies at Institut Catholique de Paris

* CSR Department - Sustainable Development Director, CSR Manager, Change Management Manager, Responsible Purchasing Officer, etc.

* R&D Materials - R&D Engineer, Innovation Center Manager, Chemical Technician, Natural Materials Development Project Manager, etc.

* Marketing & Communication - Marketing Director, Product Manager, Communication Manager, etc.

- Program Of The Day
Monday, September 8, 2025

* The Ocean: a Key to our Future?
The Sea is the Key to History and the Shore of our Future; it holds nearly all the Solutions for a Future that is not only Sustainable, but Desirable. Moreover, it is a Winning Asset for both France and the European Union.

* Fashion and Water Conservation
Water is Present throughout the Textile Production Chain; it is used for irrigating Raw Material Crops, during Fiber Manufacturing, during Dyeing, and also during the Maintenance of the Items.
What is the Current Situation at the International Level?

* Breeding Data Creation and Methodology ACV Leather: Steps towards more Accurate Impact Measurement for Leather Goods.
The Essential Environmental Impact of a Leather Product comes from its Raw Material. How to measure precisely in order to act and communicate Effectively?

* Join The Positive Change With S.A.F.E., a Patented Solution for Sustainable Leather achieving Immediate Positive Ecological Results through Streamlined Application.
Substantial reductions in environmental impact : Water Saving & Recycling, Clean, Odourless, Safe.

Photo(s)
Speaker:
Payal LUTHRA, Global Head of Apparel and Textiles Lead at WWF US
(She leads and coordinate WWF's global sustainability efforts in the apparel and textile sector)

* The Future of Circularity in Luxury Fashion
Zerow (Company) is redefining Circularity in Luxury Fashion by turning Deadstock and Production Waste into Value. To explore Regulation, Impact, and Digital Tools enabling the Transition from Linear to Circular Supply Chain.

* Water, at the Heart of the Leather Industry Concerns.
Water is an Important Production Factor in Leather Manufacturing, both during the Breeding Process and in the Tanning Process. Even as we experience a Period of Increasing Scarcity of this Resource, how is the Quality and Quantity of Water being managed by the Industry?
What Constraints are imposed, what Progress has the Profession made?

* Crocodile Farming, a Model of Sustainability?
Crocodile Leather represents a very small Percentage of the Leather Industry, less than 1% of Global Production. Its Farming implements an Economic Model linked to the Conservation of Wild Animals and the Preservation of their Habitat, Wetlands Conducive to Carbon Sequestration and Biodiversity. In fact, the Species has long been protected by Highly Structured International Regulations. In this Context, Experts present how this Sector has built Robust Standards to ensure the Highest Sustainability of its Practices.

* How the Sustainable Design of Shoes and Leather Goods allows to build a Solid Decarbonization Trajectory at the Company's Scale?
Did you know that + 75% of the Carbon Footprint of a Shoe or Leather Goods Brand comes from its Products?

* Responsible consumption: make leather your ally!
Showing Transparency does it serve your Relationships with your Consumers?
Is Second-Hand an Opportunity for Retail?
Maintainng and Repairing are they the Key of a Successful Customer Experience?

Photo Left
Panel:

Kerry SENIOR, Director at International Council of Tanners
Kerry BROZYNA, CEO at Qualus
Jean-Christophe MULLER, General Manager at Tanneries Haas
Photo Right
Panel:
Grégoire BIASINI, Communication Officer at International Crocodilian Farmers Association (ICFA)
Nathan WALL, CHAIRMAN at International Crocodilian Farmers Association (ICFA)
Karl FLOWERS, Technical Manager at Authenticae

* Greenwashing Avoidance: The Communication of Sustainability Characteristics of Leather following European Standards.
EN 16848 Standard allows to communicate Sustainability Characteristics of Bio-Based Materials. Leather in an Ecodesign Context may use it to disclose its Multiple End-Of-Life Features.

* Measure. Report. Decarbonize. Using Life Cycle Assessment to reduce the Carbon Footprint of Leather.
Carbonfact empowers Footwear and Apparel Brands of all Shapes and Sizes to harness their Data for Deeper Insights, enabling Precise Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs), Carbon Accounting, and Emissions Reduction Planning.

* Data-driven Sustainability: LCA, Traceability and Decarbonisation driving Value in Leather Supply Chains.
The Environmental Footprint of Leather is shaped across its Supply Chain. Through Hundreds of LCA Studies, Global Benchmarks, and Traceability Tools, SPIN360 demonstrates how Data-Driven Strategies enable Measurable Decarbonisation, Risk Reduction, and New Business Opportunities. Starting from UNIDO Guidelines and International Projects on Leather, Chemicals, and Livestock, Presentation of a Practical Toadmap: Robust Methodological Baselines, Hotspot Identification based on Primary Data, and Actionable Best Practices across the Value Chain. The Result: Resilient and Competitive Supply Chains, Transparent Reporting, and Credible Decarbonisation Plans that turn Sustainability into a Driver of Economic Value.

* Certifications in the Leather Sector: how to measure the Environmental Impacts.
Collection, Measurement and Verification of Environmental Data and Indicators in Environmental Audits: ISO 14001/EMAS, UNI 11427, LCA, ZDHC.

* Textile Genesis
Luxury Fashion Brands face Growing Regulatory and Reputational Pressure to trace Leather from Farm to Finished Product.

* Leather Traceability in Action — Real Data, Real Impact, DPP-Ready.
Insights (Trustrace Company) from a Real-Life Traceability Initiative in the Footwear and Leather Sector, connecting Material Origin and Environmental Impacts — including Water — with Preparation for the Digital Product Passport.

* Will Changes in the Agricultural World have an Impact on the Leather of Tomorrow?
Will the Leather of Tomorrow be impacted by the many Transformations in the Agricultural World: Decline in the Number of Breeders, Free Trade Agreements, Decapitalization, Meat Consumption, Changes in Animal Feed, Genetic Modifications, Changes in Livestock, Regenerative Agriculture, Drought, etc.?

* Planet-Score and Environmental Display, where are France and Europe on these Impact and Traceability Labels?

* Refashion, the Tools to change our World Sustainably.
How Refashion supports all Players in the Footwear industry?
Discover Solutions for Eco-Design, Repair and Recycling.

* ESG E2E Integrated Solution. The One-Stop Solution for Traceability and Sustainability. Sustainable Product Journey for the Leather Industry.
With the TESISQUARE Platform, Companies can manage their Sustainability and Product Traceability Compliances through an Approach of collecting Supply Chain Sustanability and Traceability Data. By leveraging the Collaborative Capabilites of the Platform, creating Product Genealogy at the Batch Number Level linking all the Information Previously Collected from Supply Chain to Physical Traceability Information which come from Internal Production. In Addition it is Possible to continuously monitor KPIs for the Achievement of Goals in Envionment, Social and Governance and finally to communicate in a Transparent and Auditable Way to Consumers and Authorities as well as Sustanaibility Goals to Stakeholders.

* Trace-Ability: Beyond Leather Measurement.
Nowadays the Traceability Topic is becoming more and more Recurrent in Leather Business. In this Pitch we will present Real Case Applications of Traceability along the Tannery Process, moving the Perspective from an Externally imposed Requirement to an Internal Asset that contributes to generate Value. Combining the Data from Traceability, form Measurment and from Production Setup leads to Process Optimization, Waste Reduction and Ultimately to a more Sustainable Cycle.

* Sneakers and Trainers - How are Brands meeting the CSR Challenge?
Sneakers and Trainers represent a Specific Market for Sports and Outdoor Brands; they are often at the Heart of Collections, if not the Very Essence of the Brand.
At the Same Time, Sneakers and Trainers have become Essential Accessories in a Person's Wardrobe and are now found in the Offerings of Fashion and Luxury Brands under the Name "Athleisure".
The Design, Manufacturing, Sourcing, and End-Of-Life of these Products raise Specific Questions within the Footwear Market. How do Brands and Companies integrate a Corporate Social Responsibility Approach into Innovation, Design, and Performance? How do they stay ahead of the CSR Race?

Source: Seventh Edition, The Sustainable Leather Forum (SLF)
Monday, September 8, 2025
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Article online:
https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-26037/the-sea-is-the-key-to-history-and-the-shore-of-our-future.html

Editorial office and responsibility:
V.i.S.d.P. & Sect. 6 MDStV (German Interstate Media Services Agreement): Ruby BIRD & Yasmina BEDDOU (Journalists/Directors)

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Editorial program service of General News Agency:
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Official Federal Reg. No. 7442619