"Social Responsibility can be a source of opportunity as well as a new way of management..." p. 2
The leather, footwear and leather goods industries have a long history and a bright future.

Worldwide production of footwear is developing rapidly, with over 21 billion pairs of shoes in 2012, mainly due to population growth and improvements in living standards. Once considered accessories, footwear and handbags are now viewed as “key elements” to fashion, with ever increasing popularity from fashion magazines, TV shows and movie stars. Our products, brands and companies are under the spotlight and we need to take note.

At the same time, our industries are facing new challenges: the cost of labour, the cost of materials, the availability of leather, the price of finished products increasing continuously, as well as new expectations from consumers and NGO’s. There is greater demand for transparency to understand where products are manufactured, the substances used, health & safety issues, water pollution and employee working conditions.

Did you know that within the 34 country members of the O.E.C.D, 50% of the population says to be affected by social responsibility? It is the right time to ask questions about our social, environmental and economic impact on the global economy and open our minds to a better understanding in order to act properly.

Social Responsibility can be a source of opportunity as well as a new way of management for the leather, footwear and leather goods industries, by improving the manufacturing process and at the same time meeting market expectations.

Most other industries have yet to realize the world is changing. Our industries could build an innovative model with a new manufacturing process, establishing a fruitful dialogue with the different stakeholders.

The path to change will come with ups and downs and investment will be needed in order to change our way of working: such as Eco-design when creating a new collection rather than rushing to production, investing in health and safety to protect workers, improving employee benefit plans to retain staff and paying overtime to employees rather than asking them for money if they are late for their job.

Paying attention to intellectual property and fighting against counterfeiting to respect brands, products and the work of our competitors will require more attention. But the at the end of the day, the ROI will be felt by companies through the elimination of hidden costs, savings in labor costs with well trained and loyal workers, savings in manufacturing, using recycled materials and the most efficient equipment in terms of energy, savings by avoiding the return of defective products, savings in marketing actions with customers by building longterm relationships with brands, savings on a daily basis and the probability of a lighter environmental footprint. Last but not least, our employees will gain satisfaction by working for a company open to educating its staff, taking care of the environment, respecting the neighborhood, taking its consumers into consideration, as well as satisfying its citizens.

Let’s embrace this challenge from now onwards by opening the doors to a more equitable and sustainable development for the leather, footwear and leather goods industries.
CTC and Inescop: A New Step in the Cooperation

CTC and Inescop, the Spanish footwear technology institute, have signed a partnership agreement to mutualize their actions internationally. The agreement will allow footwear companies in Spain to benefit from CTC’s network of quality experts, inspectors and laboratories located in China, India, Vietnam and Indonesia. In parallel, Inescop will bring its own network of partners based in Latin America.

Inescop and the Federation of Spanish Footwear Industries (FICE) is organizing “co_shoes”, a workshop for “outsourcing” in the footwear sector, in Alicante (Spain) from 22 to 23 October 2014. “co_shoes” is an international workshop focused on the exchange of information and the set up of new businesses between manufacturers/subcontractors and international brands, major retailers, chain stores and designers.

www.co-shoes.es

A LWG Auditor at CTC

The Leather Working Group Executive Committee has appointed René LIAUZON, CTC’s Head of Raw Hide, Leather and Tannery Department, as an authorised LWG auditor. Former President of the Fédération Française de la Tannerie et Mégisserie and CEO of BCS Tannery, this accreditation comes as a recognition for his professionalism and international career.

It comes at a time when demand for the delivery of environmental stewardship audits using the latest LWG approved audit protocol for tanneries around the world is growing.

René Liauzon - Head of department Raw Hide, Leather and Tannery
rliauzon@ctcgroupe.com

CTC European Campus: extension work is nearly over!

The new CTC Groupe Headquarter facilities in France is scheduled to be finalised in the coming months. The French headquarters based in Lyon, France, will extend its surface area with an extra 3,000 m² to a total of 8,000 m². The oldest and most advanced innovation and research centre dedicated to leather, leather goods, footwear and glove industries, with 45 permanent consultants and researchers, will benefit from new physical testing and chemical analysis laboratories. The training platform will increase in size as well as the technology platforms, hosting new beamhouse operations and an experimental tannery.

ctclyon@ctcgroupe.com

Network

Development

New CTC Laboratory in Cambodia!

After the opening of a second office in India (Chennai) and the opening of CTC Indonesia, CTC continues the expansion of its international network with Cambodia.

Based on the longstanding experience of CTC’s Vietnam staff, this new location extends our South-East Asian hub with a global support in Indonesia, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand for audits, inspections, physical testing and chemical analysis.

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CTC India in the spotlight!

After the opening of a second office at Apeejay-Chennai, during the IILF fair, CTC India organized a grand opening reception to inaugurate the New Delhi laboratory.

The ceremony took place at the ITC Maurya Hotel, with over 70 attendees. CTC’s clients, partners, media and honoured guests such as Ramesh Kumar, Executive Director of the Council for Leather Exports (CLE) and Puran Dawar, Member of Administration Committee of the CLE and President of AFMEC (Agra Footwear Manufacturers and Exporters Chamber).

CTC’s was present at the IILF fair for the first time this year and awarded the prize of “The best quality company” during the fair.

Jean-Luc Chaverot, Development and International Director of CTC received the prize from the fair organizers.

ctcindia@ctcgroupe.com

Accreditation

Shoes from heel to toe

A simple accessory or an essential element to our well-being? With this new book, you will gain a comprehensive introduction into the world of shoes from an historical, design and manufacturing point of view, exploring all aspects of comfort, quality, fitting, care and technical vocabulary. «Shoes from heel to toe» is a book everyone will enjoy reading!

Only 24,90€ VAT included.

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New book

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Is your tanner reliable? Does his entire production process comply with your specifications or the international requirements and market standards? As a precious and difficult material to source, does the level of quality meet your market needs? To know the answer, take a look at our leather assessment program...

CTC provides various solutions when verifying the quality and reliability of your tanner: social audits, technical audits (factory processes and systems factory), laboratory audits, environmental audits and safety audits.

**CTC Leather Assessment Program**

Raw materials and more specifically leather, is becoming more and more expensive and represents an increase in the percentage of the final cost of your leather products. To help clients control the cost of finished leather in its final products, CTC has developed the **CTC Leather Assessment Program**.

The CTC Leather Assessment Program is a tool aimed at assessing finished leather by Grade (A1, A2, B1, B2...). Assessments take place within 72 hours in Europe & Asia. Once each skin is graded, the tool then calculates the surface and percentage of the cutable area of each graded leather. This evaluation is made for each individual skin or by batch. The CTC Leather Assessment Program determines:

- Conformity of your leather with your own conformity sample
- Specific consultancy services, storage conditions and tracability of your skins.

For each batch, CTC will require information relating to the finished product; the product type (size, construction...), type of leather finishing and the target market: luxury, mass market, etc.

**THE CTC LEATHER ASSESSMENT PROGRAM IN SHORT**

The CTC Leather Assessment Program is based on 4 main criteria:

- Surface Assessment of finished leather (quantity)
- Grading Assessment of finished leather (quality)
- Conformity Assessment of finished leather (conformity)
- Service Assessment of batch (packing, packaging, conditioning).

**Surface and grading assessment**

CTC Leather Assessment Program is a protocol aimed at determining the percentage of the cutable area of your finished leather. Each skin assessed will be described per “%” of its cutable surface with prior agreement between CTC and its clients on the leather “Gradation Scale”: A1 grade corresponds to 95%-100% cutable area, A2 grade to 90%-95% cutable area, etc. Additional assessment rules are defined with clients depending on the size and position of the defects in the different parts of the skin: for example, if there are no defect zones on the Butt (the part of the hide or skin covering the rump or hind part of the animal), the grade is increased by 1.

During the procedure, the method of sampling is determined according to the number of skins to be assessed per batch.

At the end, a total available area and a percentage of skin of each grade is given.

**Leather conformity**

To check conformity of leather, a minimum sample of leather is necessary. Appearance, thickness, moisture and softness are checked on 20% of the graded skin.

**Service assessment**

Client orders may come with different specifications depending on the relationship and mutual agreement with the tanner: skin size, skin storage & conditioning, specific marking and specific sorting after grading.

The CTC Leather Assessment Program will provide a complete understanding of:

- percentage & surface of each grade of your finished leather in your batch,
- the conformity level of your batch,
- any additional information about the leather shipment (storage, conditioning...).

At the end of the audit, within 24 hours after the auditor evaluation, the client receives a final assessment combined with:

- CTC Leather assessment report,
- CTC leather assessment picture file.

**TANNERY AUDITS**

Based on over 100 years experience in leather tanning and leather goods manufacturing, the CTC solution for tannery auditing is unique and global. The different key points covered are:

- **Processes & Systems**: the compliance of good practices
- **Quality and processes**: does the tannery comply with manufacturing and customer specifications?
- **Innocuousness and Health**: does the process incorporate consideration of regulations for materials and finished products?
- **Environment**: is the waste water rejected by the tannery sufficiently clean enough?
- **Safety**: are the working conditions respectful to operator safety?
- **Traceability**: are good practices being applied in terms of traceability and the origin of leather?

The audit lasts between 1 to 2 days, depending on the size of the company. The audit report with CTC recommendations is sent within 5 days.

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**For more information on our auditing solutions:** contactclient@ctcgroupe.com
Fastness to artificial light: the colour behind the sunshine

Is it possible to reproduce the bright effect sunshine has on our textiles and garments? Over time, natural light affects the colour of leather goods and textile garments. CTC experts explain how to prevent damage on finish products by carrying out a certain number of tests.

The energy contained in light can cause damage to certain dyes or fibre colors creating discolouration or yellowing of the dyed textiles. To anticipate any colour deterioration that might occur due to light exposure, the Xenotest is the solution.

**OBJECTIVE**
This test determines the resistance of dyeing under natural daylight on any type of textile or leather. The equipment used to perform the test is called a “Xenotest”, reproducing natural daylight (illuminating D65).

**TEST METHOD**
- EN ISO 105 B02
  “Textiles -- Tests for colour fastness -- Part B02: Colour fastness to artificial light: Xenon arc fading lamp test”
- Available in ALL CTC Laboratories.

**PRINCIPLE**
The test consists of placing a sample to the light of a xenon arc lamp (intense reproduction of daylight) next to 8 references of dyed blue wool, then used as blue standards to visually assess the colour deterioration of the sample. The colour fastness of the product tested will then be evaluated in comparison to the deterioration of the 8 wool references.

**RESULTS**
The dyed wool references are identified by a digital designation from 1 to 8. Dyes used in tinting wool have different levels of resistance when it comes to light: a colour noted 1, refers to a very low resistance to light, colours noted 8, have a very high resistance to light. During the exposure of the textile and wool references tested in the source of light, part of the samples are masked and non-exposed to the light. In this way, only a portion of the two test-tubes (sample and reference) deteriorates. It is necessary to continue the light exposure of the sample and wool references until contrast between the exposed part and the non-exposed part of the sample tested is equal to a certain deterioration on the grayscale.

This deterioration is called “Grade”. The exposure time to light will depend on the selected grade. The exposure time is determined by the grade chosen at the time of carrying out the test, ranks 3 and 4 being the most frequent grades.
Moda Shanghai and Pollutec fairs, CTC is pleased to invite you to the following seminars. Our experts will present the latest updates with regard to innocuousness regulations, CTC services and expertise, CTC solutions such as the CTC Waste Water Index; the new all-in-one business solution to monitor the impact of factories on local environments. Free entrance.

**MODA SHANGHAI**

www.aclechina.com

**The Application of REACh to The Footwear & Leather Goods Industries**

ECHA has published its latest list of 155 SVHC candidates. This seminar will focus on the application of REACh regulation to footwear and leather goods industries, as well as our interpretation and implementation of this new law.

Date: Wednesday, 3 September 2014  
Time: 13:30 - 14:30  
Venue: Room E2 – M20  
Speaker: Arnaud DYDUCK, Executive Director  
CTC Greater China  
Language: English + Putonghua translation

**Environmental Analysis & Waste Water Index (WWi)**

Environmental Analysis is an important and developing element to evaluate tannery, footwear and leather goods factories. As a worldwide expert, CTC has developed The Waste Water Index (WWI) to measure waste water quality and the impact on the environment. This seminar will introduce the global situation of environmental analysis as well as presenting the CTC solution to measure waste water quality.

Date: Thursday, 4 September 2014  
Time: 15:15 - 16:15  
Venue: Room E2 – M20  
Speaker: Jean-Claude CANNOT, Standardization & Technical Director of CTC  
Language: English + Putonghua translation

**POLLUTEC**

www.pollutec.com

**Inside air: What type of air sampling and analysis is required in assessing the quality of our inside air and what is the relevant health advice and proposed treatments?**

Date: Wednesday, 3 December 2014  
Time: 15:45 - 16:30  
Venue: Risks & Environmental Management Forum  
Speaker: Delphine SCHMITT & Karine LIQ, CTC Environnement  
Language: French
SECURE YOUR SOURCING!
SECURE YOUR PRODUCTION!
GIVE CONFIDENCE TO YOUR CLIENTS!

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The world's premier network of quality assurance experts and CSR consultants for the leather, leather goods, footwear and fashion industries

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QUALITY ASSURANCE
SUSTAINABILITY

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R&D Consultancy & Training
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