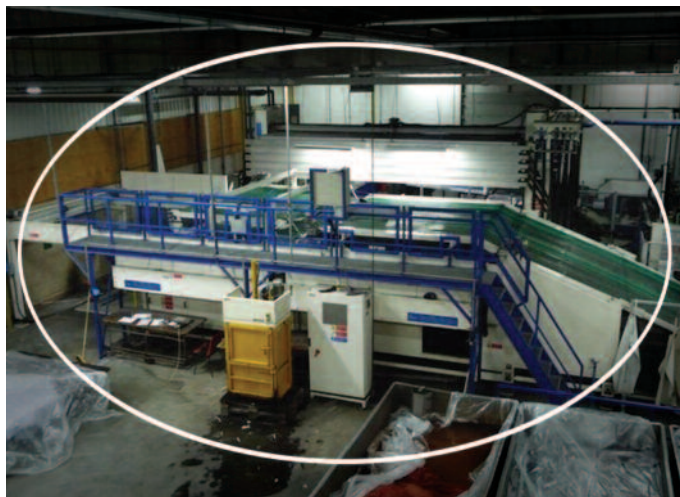




The Versatility of the Classic Cartigliano “Just-In-Time Line”



1. The through-feed samm/setting machine. Beginning of the just-in-time line.



2. The Vacuum Dyrer loaded by automatic loader: the Feeder.

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Cartigliano-developed continuous processing from samm/setting through to final staking has been in operation in numerous tanneries throughout the world demonstrating its validity. The more recent introduction of a technique known as “wet stretching” as a component of the line has widened its scope as has the facility to change the composition and layout within the line, resulting in the possibility of producing a variety of characteristics as specified by the user of the leather. The wet stretching is an innovative technology made by Cartigliano, which gives to the leather a further opening in all its points, equalizing also its thickness. Processing speed and consistent quality of the product continue to be the major elements of the concept.

Possible versions of the line have been adopted by some important leather producers:

The just-in-time line first developed consists of the manually fed through-feed samm/setting machine (1) transferring the leather via a conveyor to an automatic device loading a Cartigliano vacuum dryer (2). Drying time and temperature are pre-set, always coordinated with the rate of

transfer and the vacuum dried leather, again using a conveyor, entering the Cartigliano “TAIC” conditioning machine followed by dry staking. The staker then advances the hides to the stacking machine where the line terminates.

More recently the adoption of “wet stretching” has led to a new version of the line, still beginning with samm/setting but followed by wet stretching (3, 4) before continuing with vacuum drying, second wet stretching, drying/conditioning, final staking and stacking.

A third variation of just-in-time is samm/setting also followed by wet stretching, leading directly to conditioning (TAIC), then passing to the second wet stretching, second conditioning (TAIC) (5) and then dry staking and stacking.

This “double TAIC” line is particularly indicated to dry whole hides, without using any toggling system. The result is achieved in terms of leather’s yield, fullness and roundness (6).

There are tangible benefits arising from just-in-time processing compared with carrying out the operations linked in the system individually. Not necessarily in order of importance they may be listed,

- Labour savings. With conventional handling obviously every component machine requires one or two operators against many fewer with the line system; a substantial saving in labour.
- Uniformity of product is achieved at a high quality level as there are no unpredictable interruptions and waiting times which may cause unwanted leather characteristics.
- Processing times are not only shorter but are also determined precisely and will not vary.
- Work in progress is significantly reduced, i.e. there are no piles of goods waiting for a next operation. For that reason, as well as the shorter processing cycle, the investment in material sitting idle on the factory floor is appreciably less.
- Rigorous consistency of the product.

Each of machines making up the just-in-time line has specific performance properties along with advanced technical construction elements. Details of these will be examined in a series of reports in subsequent issues of World Leather. ☺



3. The "wet" stretching machine before TAIC.



4. The "wet" stretching machine in line between samm/setting and vacuum dryer feeder



5. The TAIC conditioning machine (exit).



6. A special "U" configuration system.

LAYOUT OF A LINE

