



Machines in the Tannery: Innovators & Research

6Alber - the founder of the company, Rudolf Alber, commenced manufacture of band saws in 1912, precisely 100 years ago. The first high efficiency band knives were developed and produced a few years later. Florian Alber, fourth generation of the family, is the present managing director of the business.

The range of Alber band knives has since grown with the focus on specific customer needs. In the leather and shoe industry the company makes knives suitable for the splitting of a variety of different types of leather and fur. Research and development is directed upon improving working life and enhancing knife precision. The steels used come from selected European mills and, depending upon cutting properties required, cold rolled carbon

steels with appropriate alloy contents are employed. Each coil of steel is tested for compliance with specification which has helped to arrive at the highest level of performance. The adoption of RA-High Grade SY for the splitting of automotive upholstery leathers and similar products is the best example of Alber technology developments. The knives produced are optimised for each application, whether lime, wet blue or dry splitting.

The leading position in the field of splitting knives in the German, as well as the worldwide, market place of this company is the result of close cooperation with business partners in Germany and around the world. Alber reports that both leather producers as well as important splitting machine manufacturers specify its knives. ©



Finished band knives ready for delivery.



Steel coils being inspected.



Specialised machine to weld and grind steel bands.

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Torpen 16 a • D-22119 Hamburg • GERMANY Telefon: +49 43 396 46 30
E-Mail: Krausepr@krc.com Fax: +49 43 396 46 320



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