



Italian machinery builder Aletti leads in design and performance

Aletti Giovanni e Figli was established in the early years after the end of the second World War as were several other Italian tannery machine manufacturers chiefly within existing tannery clusters such as those around Solofra and Arzignano. Aletti with its business and factory at Varese in the northern part of Lombardy Province did not enjoy this advantage as hardly any tanning was based in their immediate area, even though a number of important tanneries were and still are in neighbouring Piedmont. Nevertheless the Aletti family lost little time developing a range of buffing, fleshing, shaving, setting out, staking, de-dusting, polishing and ironing machines. Particularly, the company points to the early development and introduction of modern buffing machinery. Marco Aletti disclosed that the company set about regularly investing a significant percentage of revenue not only in creating the range but also in continuing research to steadily enhance quality and performance of the product. Major targets always were and are the export markets; much Aletti machinery can be seen in use in North Africa, the Middle and Far East.

Important technical development based upon the general success of wet buffing encouraged Aletti to now manufacture its well-known belt buffer (Velox) capable of both dry and wet buffing. This new model is provided with the motor-driven buffing cylinder with a stretching function and electrical control of the holding blade position as well as a video facility monitoring the travel of the leathers across the machine. The new machines are equipped with ERP* software enabling them to harmonise with modern management systems used by tanneries. Further development of belt type buffing machines involves setting the buffing action according to the type of leather, a technology to engrave designs on the leather by means of selective abrasion.

A recent development is the polishing machine equipped with the working roller manufactured in stone. Identified as the Efflora Uno it has been designed to handle double-face leathers and is also suitable for the polishing of suede and nappa flesh side. The stone polishing roller is grooved helicoidally and used with abrasive powder achieves thorough cleaning and polishing of the leather surface, a feature of the process along with smoothing any uneven areas. Opening the fibre structure, thus improving penetration of chemicals together with a setting out function, eliminates wrinkles and veins resulting in leather area



Stone polishing machine type Efflora Uno.

gain. The machine is constructed to enable it to handle the heaviest skins but the configuration of the working rollers also enables it to polish small skins too. Overall construction aims for precision and long service life with a minimum need for service. The polishing roller is designed for constant performance irrespective of wear. A special control system of the hydraulic system ensures an even working speed and pressure independent of skin substance. ©

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Wet and dry belt buffing machine type Velox.