

New technology requires hard work



The Cartigliano manufacturing facility in northern Italy is a hub for research and development work involving not only the tanning machinery manufacturer, but also various commercial partners (in environmental services and food as well as tanners), universities and industry associations. All parties contribute to the new ideas that emerge from the company.

Before going into detail about a number of these latest developments in forthcoming issues of *World Leather*, Cartigliano wanted to set out in this introductory article some of the hard work and complexity that go into bringing a new machine or a new technique to market. Any piece of new technology must be able to function in a production environment 24 hours a day, offering consistency, yield and quality for years to come.

It uses new ideas from its research and development department, from the facility it set up in Mexico more than 25 years ago and from customers to upgrade its technology. Company president, Dr Toni Polato, has said that having the operation in Mexico provides Cartigliano with an important opportunity to try out new ideas. It works there with many of the same leather manufacturing groups as its team in Italy does. "Testing our equipment in Mexico before bringing it to market gives us an important chance to demonstrate our capacity and know-how in drying leather," he says. "Our aim is to be a partner to our clients, not just a simple machinery supplier. For us this is fundamental. Together we can always find better solutions and customise them for our clients, responding to their different requirements."

The company is best known as an expert in drying

solutions, and not just for leather; Cartigliano drying technology is also in use for Formula One tyres and even for the nuts that go into Nutella chocolate spread. Nevertheless, here, too, developments are constant. One upcoming article will feature a new dryer called EFT, which the company says will have applications in an area of leather production (and of everyday life) that is becoming more and more important: sludge drying, which can reduce drastically the volume of sludge, from industrial or civic waste.

"Sludge disposal cost is increasing and tanners need to find solutions to solve this environmental and economic problem," the technology provider has said. "Cartigliano technology promises to turn this waste into a source of revenue; sludge can be used as a source of energy."

Also among the technology ideas to feature in future articles is the CNS vacuum dryer, which Cartigliano has introduced over the last five years. CNS stands for Complete New Story, proving that the company feels it still has a lot to say about drying technology; it has already produced more than 320 units of this technology.

Radio frequency-drying will also feature. The latest example of the company's developments in drying, radio frequency-drying, featured at the 2018 edition of Tanning Tech in Milan and caught the attention of many people in the tanning industry.

The concept is to revolutionise drying using a machine that is able to dry only the water content inside the hide, increasing yield.

Cartigliano says its objective is to keep helping tanners add value. ☺