

Automated grading – removing the subjectivity

DVLeather SRL was formed after Detect Vision, a Canadian company specialising in computer vision, and Feltre, an Italian provider of automation and transportation systems for the tanning industry, decided to combine their expertise. Combining traditional methods and advanced technology, DVLeather SRL claims to have created “a real technological breakthrough” in grading hides.



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The value of hides varies considerably and an objective evaluation of their value is something that should be of value to tanners. If carried out incorrectly, value deviation could be one of the largest economic risks for leather manufacturers.

Manual inspections are subjective and there is no universally accepted grading system for assessing surface defects. If imperfections pass unnoticed, it could lead to waste downstream in the manufacturing process. On the other hand, any hides wrongly downgraded will potentially drive the buyer's complaint rate down but generate a potential loss of profit for the tanner.

With the combination of a high-performance algorithm and a digital vision system, the DVLeather digital vision inspection system can address these challenges, the technology providers claim.

The algorithms are designed to meet the individual needs of the customers and the technology is easy to integrate into existing production environments, they argue, both in terms of personnel and the machinery in place already, with compatibility with all leather production types.

Positioned after the sampling operation, the DVLeather system will detect, classify and report the quality of each hide. It can assess five or six hides per minute (depending on size), detect 13 different types of defect, including veins, branding marks, open grains and warts, eliminate human error, improve consistency and automatically produce reports. 🌐

