



Test methods and their importance for specifications

The main point of a specification is to provide an assurance that the material supplied is likely to be satisfactory in both manufacture and eventual use. One (*unnamed*) purchaser of leather insisted on specifying the leather by a battery of tests and multiple sampling so that the cost of testing the leather exceeded the value of the leather! The cost effectiveness of specifications should be considered.

There is a cost if the leather provided is unsatisfactory, and either rejected or made the subject of a claim; and there is a cost of testing to avoid such a possibility. To minimise the risk some testing is essential, but excessive testing is also wasteful.

To achieve a satisfactory and profitable outcome it is important for the tanner to know the intended use. Alternatively, the customer should be fully acquainted with

the relationship of the test method and results in order to provide a meaningful specification.

A cautionary tale can be told regarding water resistant glove leather. After many trials the customer found an ideal leather. He then proceeded to analyse and test the leather in order to provide a specification and attract competitive suppliers to avoid a single source for the particular leather.

The leather was characterised by an extremely high chrome content. A competing tanner was able to match all the physical properties but failed to reach the high chrome content of the specification. Later investigations showed that the high chrome content was due to a chrome containing waterproofing agent whereas the competitor had achieved the required water resistance with a non-chrome containing product. The specified chrome

content was not really relevant to the end use.

To get the most information and the most useful results:

- The test has to be relevant for the end use and the values set for performance are a feature of that test.
- The test has to discriminate performance. Values have a variability and there is no point in demanding a precision of which the test is not capable.
- Different tests can rank the same leathers in a different order of merit.
- There is nothing like the experience of satisfactory and unsatisfactory performance in establishing a specification value but remember the variability of the test itself. 

AUCTION SALE AFTER BANKRUPTCY

Upon request of Maître Fabienne JENNER, Authorized Liquidator of the Company

COSTIL Tanneries de France

1 rue des Peausseries
STRASBOURG - FRANCE

THURSDAY, MARCH 16th,
at 11.00 pm in an auction room

EQUIPMENT FOR LEATHER TREATMENT

SHAVING WORKSHOP Sammying machine, splitting machine, shaving machine, reblading machine **DYEING** wooden fullers, stainless fuller, dye preparation, test fullers, stainless tanks... **DRYING** vacuum drying presses 3 and 4 trays, vacuum drying tables, sammying machines, driers with heat pump, unwrinkling machines, continuous drying/ unwrinkling lines FBP... **STAKING-RACKING** continuous staking machines, vacuum racking machines, framer, gluing line... **VEGETAL LEATHER WORKSHOP** unwrinkling machines /setting-out machines, hot air fullers, drying installation... **GRINDING** grinding lines **PRIMER LINE** with printing machine 4 cylinders, gas driers, stackers, curtain coating, gas and steam driers, swing trays circuit... **FINISH - PRINTING** lines whereof double colour, gas driers, continuous press, spraying lines, rotating type and alternative type, air jet dust extractor... **FINISH - PRESSES** for sheathing, plates for presses, continuous ironing machine, sleeking machine, honing machine, continuous glazing machine, sleeking machines... **MEASURING** planimetric machines... **LABORATORIES** traction test, machines for friction and flexometric tests, tightness test, test fullers, scales, sampling presses, drying ovens... **PELTS** + 28.000 pelts for shoes and leatherwork : calf, boxcalf, vegetal cowhide. **MISCELLANEOUS** Elevating trucks gas and diesel, stackers, floor cleaners, aspirators, racks, automatic doors, elevating tables, +500 trucks wood and metal, mechanical workshop equipment, rotating filter, compressors, steam boilers, office equipment and furniture...

Par le Ministère de Maître Jean-Louis Germain
Huissier de Justice à Strasbourg (67000) - 4 rue Saint Maurice

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Our academic and technical staff are available for advice and collaboration in research projects exploring new products and processes.

Our advanced testing equipment can also be used to examine leathers and other materials.

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