



Technical Specifications

for the use of the trademark

Pelle Conciata al Vegetale in Toscana

First Edition - September 2nd., 2010

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

enclosed to the REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF THE TRADEMARK “PELLE CONCIATA AL VEGETALE IN TOSCANA – Made in Italy”

First edition of September 2, 2010

REQUIREMENT #1 – Material: Hides/Leather

1.1) The material must be “leather” as defined in the European Union’s Directive 94/11/EC transposed into an Italian law with the D.M. (Ministerial Decree) of April 11, 1996: *“A general term for hide or skin with its original fibrous structure more or less intact, tanned to be imputrescible. The hair or wool may or may not have been removed. Leather is also made from hide or skin which has been split into layers or segments before or after tanning, but if the tanned hide or skin is disintegrated mechanically and/or chemically into fibrous particles, small pieces or powders and then, with or without the combination of a binding agent, is made into sheets or other forms, they are not ‘leather’. If the leather has a finishing layer, regardless of how it has been applied, or a layer paired with glue, these layers should not be thicker than 0.15 mm.*

Note: the thickness of leather and the thickness of the finishing layer (of any layer applied as defined above) must be determined respectively in accordance with UNI EN ISO 2589 and UNI EN ISO 17186 standards”.

In the rest of this document, the term “leather” or “hides” (“pelle”, as in the trademark) shall be generically intended as either hide or leather.

1.2) Hides may derive from any type of raw material (animal, geographical origin of the raw material) and be intended, when finished, for any use (e.g. leather items, footwear, furniture, saddleries, clothing), provided that all the requirements established in these technical specifications are fulfilled.

1.3) The Consortium Member and licensor of the Trademark shall always have an **updated list available with the name and/or commercial code of the leather produced in full compliance with the requirements of these specifications, which can therefore be marked with the logo “PELLE CONCIATA AL VEGETALE IN TOSCANA – Made in Italy” (hereinafter the “Trademark”)**. Said updated list must be periodically made available to the Consortium, whenever the Consortium may so require, and to the Control Body entrusted by the Consortium during inspections.

REQUIREMENT #2 – Vegetable tanning

2.1) The tanning process must be vegetable-based and can be made with different recipes, provided that all the requirements established in these technical specifications are fulfilled for the hides.

The qualitative definition of VEGETABLE TANNING, according to the International Glossary of Leather Terms is: *“Hides, exclusively tanned with vegetable tanning materials or with said materials and the addition of small amounts of other ingredients used only to facilitate the tanning process or to improve or change the tanned material, but not in such amounts as to considerably alter the essential features of the vegetable tanning of the product”.*

REQUIREMENT #3 – Origin from the Tuscan territory and origin of the tanning process in Tuscany

3.1) The Consortium Member, who acts as Licensor of the Trademark, must necessarily have registered offices and operating premises in Tuscany.

3.2) Finished hides are identified as originating from the geographical area of Tuscany if, starting from pre-tanned hides, they have been fully processed In Tuscany for the qualifying steps of their processing.

3.3) If (some or all of) the qualifying processing steps have been outsourced to third parties by the Consortium Member and licensor of the Trademark:

- a) The outsourcers must have registered offices and operating premises in Tuscany, although they must not necessarily be members of the Consortium;
- b) The Consortium Member and licensor of the Trademark who outsourced said qualifying processing steps to third parties must prove that, in any case, their production facility is equipped to independently implement the qualifying processing steps that they have outsourced to third parties (having the necessary equipment and facilities for the implementation of those processing steps).

3.4) The purchase by the Consortium Member and licensor of the Trademark of hides at later processing stages, i.e. after pre-tanning, is admissible, provided that the suppliers that have completed the qualifying processing steps are members of the Consortium and that the hides purchased comply with the requirements of these Technical Specifications.

3.5) The Consortium Member and licensor of the Trademark shall always have an **updated list available of the hides, as described in section 1.3 above, categorised into geographically homogeneous families of qualifying processing steps**. Said list must be provided, upon request, to the bodies designated by the Consortium for the control of this requirement #3.

3.6) The Consortium Member and licensor of the Trademark must have an **updated list of the outsourcers and suppliers involved in the leather production process described at point 1.3 regarding the content of points 3.3a and 3.4, with indication of the registered offices and operating premises for each of them and of the type of qualifying processing steps performed**. This list must be provided, upon request, to the bodies designated by the Consortium for the control of this requirement #3.

Definitions and supplementary notes for this requirement #3:

- “Pre-tanned material” means the pickled hide, before being tanned.
- “Consortium Member” means an entity belonging to the Consorzio Vera Pelle Italiana Conciata al Vegetale.
- “Licensee” means the Consortium Member that holds a right to use the Trademark and a right to sublicense the Trademark to its customers.
- “Qualifying processing step” means **tanning, re-tanning, dyeing, fattening** (inspections do not include intermediate or subsequent mechanical steps, e.g. pressing, shaving, drying).
- “Dry semi-finished hide” (e.g. a crust) imported ‘as is’ in Tuscany means a hide that has received all the qualifying processing steps outside the Tuscan territory, and for which, as a consequence, these Technical Specifications and Trademark restrictions do not apply.
- The inspections to be conducted are general inspections of the premises of the Consortium Member and Licensor of the Trademark, which also include the review of documents and records regarding outsourcers and suppliers. Only in the event that the objective and documentary evidence is not sufficient to demonstrate compliance with these Specifications, the Control Bodies designated by the Consortium for these inspections may reserve the right to request that further inspections be conducted at the outsourcers’ or suppliers’ premises.

REQUIREMENT #4 – Essential finished hide quality requirements

4.1) Based on cogent requirements and Consumer Health & Safety requirements, UNI 10885 requirements, supplementary quality requirements, the finished hides of the Consortium Member and Licensor of the Trademark shall be tested in qualified laboratories as follows:

<i>CHARACTERISTIC</i>	<i>METHOD</i>	<i>LIMIT</i>
Chromium VI	UNI EN ISO 17075	Absent (method detection limit ≤ 3 ppm)
Free Formaldehyde	UNI EN ISO 17226-1 (HPLC)	≤ 75 ppm
Pentachlorophenol and tetrachlorophenol	UNI EN ISO 17070	≤ 1 ppm
Azo colouring agents	UNI EN ISO 17234-1	Absent (the requirement regarding the content of each individual ammine indicated in the 2002/61/EC Directive is conventionally expressed as “Absent” when content is ≤ 30 mg/kg)
pH and Delta pH	UNI EN ISO 4045	pH ≥ 3.2 and Delta pH ≤ 0.7
Total Chromium, Aluminium, Titanium, Zirconium content	UNI 10887	$\leq 0.15\%$ (1500 ppm), of which Chromium $\leq 0.005\%$ (50 ppm)
Water-soluble organic and inorganic substances	UNI EN ISO 4098	$\leq 18\%$ water-soluble organic substances and $\leq 1.5\%$ water-soluble sulphated ash
Metal content by extraction with artificial sweat	UNI 10889	Antimony ≤ 2 ppm, Arsenic ≤ 0.2 ppm, Cadmium ≤ 0.1 ppm, Cobalt ≤ 4 ppm, Copper ≤ 60 ppm, Lead ≤ 0.8 ppm, Mercury ≤ 0.02 ppm, Nickel ≤ 4 ppm, Tin ≤ 1 ppm

As regards any obsolete regulatory reference, subsequent amendments or revisions made later to said publications, they shall apply exclusively if they have been added to this table as updates or revisions. For non-obsolete references, the last edition of the reference publication (including updates) shall apply.

4.2) For the purpose of a significant sampling of the hides for requirement #4, the Company shall have **an updated list available of the hides, as described in section 1.3, categorised into homogeneous families of qualifying processing step performed for their production.** This list must be provided, upon request, to the bodies designated by the Consortium for inspections.

REQUIREMENT #5 – Use of the trademark “PELLE CONCIATA AL VEGETALE IN TOSCANA”

5.1) The Trademark refers to the product, specifically to the hides and other items made with hides, as described in list 1.3.

5.2) The correct use of the Trademark regarding the hides listed under point 1.3 according to the regulations defined in the contractual documents signed with Consorzio Vera Pelle Italiana Conciata al Vegetale shall be inspected by both the Consortium and the Control Bodies designated by the Consortium. The Consortium Member and Licensor of the Trademark must therefore use it in such a way as not to mislead or misinform consumers.

5.3) When the Trademark is allowed to be used on documents and general corporate supports (e.g. business cards, headed paper/letterheads, brochures, trade fair stands, transport vehicles, and the like) etc.), the Trademark shall always be accompanied by the wording “*Aderente al consorzio*” (Member of the Consortium).

The Consortium Member and Licensor of the Trademark shall also be in the condition to explain the meaning of the Trademark to its customers by specifying that it refers to the product.