



CONSORZIO VERA PELLE ITALIANA CONCIATA AL VEGETALE  
SOSTENIBILI DA SEMPRE

## SUSTAINABILITY MANIFESTO

Ten points of the Consortium Sustainability Manifesto

### 1. Made in Tuscany

The Genuine Vegetable Tanned Leather Consortium is based in Tuscany, along the banks of Arno river, between Florence and Pisa. The associated tanneries operate in symbiosis with the environment thanks to a cutting-edge production district both in terms of technological and organizational level.

### 2. Certified quality

By joining the Consortium, tanneries agree to undergo periodic verification on compliance with the Production Regulations. The checks are entrusted to an independent certification body: I.CE.C – Institute of Quality Certification for the Leather Sector.

### 3. Metal-free

The production progress of our associated tanneries is metal-free as it has been all along, thanks to raw materials whose use is linked to the centuries-old history of vegetable tanning. Traditional and natural products for a production process which respects the precepts of sustainability and circularity.

### 4. No animal is killed for its skin

The raw hides used by our associated tanneries derive from the slaughter of cattle destined, from the outset, to food sector and they come from European farms which comply with EU legislation on animal welfare. The associated tanneries ennoble a by-product of the food industry, avoiding any disposal.

### 5. Natural raw materials

Leather is tanning using natural plant-based tannins. As opposed to synthetic products, tannins come from renewable sources and are valued for their antioxidant, antibiotic and antibacterial features.

### 6. Environmental certification

Tuscan Tanning District is the only in Italy certified by EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme), a tool promoted by EU to encourage the implementation of responsible environmental strategies.

### 7. Social responsibility

The Consortium applies the guidelines of a standards ISO 26000 and puts at the center of the requirements of its trademark Pelle Conciata al Vegetale in Toscana the respect for the environment and human rights, as well as promoting transparency and legality.

### 8. Compliance with the standards

Consortium fulfills all the European and Italian norms. It constantly strives to ensure the protection of human health, the conservazione of animal and plant species, the protection of the landscape and also of the architectural, artistic and cultural heritage of its territory.

### 9. Work ethic

The Consortium and all the associated tanneries ensure compliance with current regulations in the field of health, safety at workplace, contracts and wage without discrimination of gender, ethnicity or religious belief.

### 10. Circular economy

The associated tanneries use centralized consortium treatment plants, controlled by competent bodies that ensure the correct treatment and purification of tanning wastewater. According to the principles of circular economy of recovery-recycling-reuse, the waste from the various processing steps is turned into useful raw materials for other supply chains.