

PRODUCT AND PROCESS

Green label presented for eco-friendly leather

A number of shoe companies are selling footwear made of LITE leather, according to manufacturer ISA Tan Tec. The joint German and Chinese company has created a new designator for what it claims is environmentally-friendly leather. The LITE label (Low Impact to Environment) can be attached to any product that is manufactured with 'especially low' energy and water consumption.

The certification is based on a product's CO₂ footprint, which involves documenting the carbon dioxide emissions per unit produced, and the initiative is supported with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development.



The LITE standards were recently presented as a CO₂ guide, intended to steer buyers towards choosing what are claimed to be more environmentally-friendly products. The benchmark for this CO₂ guide was designed using the parameters from the LWG (Leather Working Group). LWG develops and maintains a protocol to

assess the compliance and environmental performance of tanners and promote sustainable and appropriate environmental business practices within the footwear leather industry.

With its LITE label, ISA Tan Tec's stated intention is to help make the conservation of resources in leather production a standard practice. A company spokesperson reports that interest in environmentally-friendly

New fashion sole material launched

The latest material developed by PT. Langgengkarya Makmurlestari is called Rinoform. According to the Indonesian company, this resin rubber product is designed to retain its shape after being heated and bent, and is said to be suitable for fashion soles. Rinoform's compound can be printed in colour, given metallic finishes and even used with specially-formulated ink to give the texture of nubuck on the surface.

