

Beat: Business

## **SUSTAINABLE LEATHER FORUM #4 - Showcases BEST PRACTICES In The LEATHER SECTOR**

### **AREAS OF CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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**USPA NEWS** - Consumers of leather products, and of fashion more generally, are increasingly paying attention to the values championed by labels. Preserving expertise, local and regional production, protection of natural resources, animal well-being, short supply chains, respect for the value chain: companies in the leather sector, whether major groups, SMEs or middle-market companies, are already implementing actions in these areas.

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The Sustainable Leather Forum was held at Palais Brongniart in Paris, on September 12, 2022.

The Sustainable Leather Forum was showcasing best practices in the leather sector in the areas of Corporate Social Responsibility, from a social, environmental and economic perspective. The Sustainable Leather Forum was therefore the occasion to present to professionals and stakeholders in the sector the changes seen in consumer behaviour as well as the tools and solutions to put into practice. Testimonies and round tables led by companies and organisations that have already worked on this subject alternating with convivial break times.

Yves Morin, President of the Organizing Committee of the Sustainable Leather Forum

"With this fourth edition, the Sustainable Leather Forum confirms its position as a major platform for information and discussion around best practices in Corporate Social Responsibility within the various economic sectors of the leather industry."

"While interest in sustainable development is no longer a subject of discussion, there are still some contradictory approaches, from the most extreme advocates wishing to see societal change to an opposing trend for "green washing". We have chosen to take a realistic, middle-ground approach with ambitious commitments that are still compatible with business development. Consequently, our choice of speakers is crucial if we are to present exemplary achievements in the field of CSR."

Some of the Topics discussed:

- \* Another look at growth
- \* How can the leather chemistry industry contribute to innovation and the development of CSR in the sector?
- \* Driving transformational change in the global leather industry
- \* Using leather in the automobile market: What are the issues?
- \* ERAM Group: The Change for Good project
- \* How can raw materials other than leather be considered a sustainable development issue?
- \* VEJA's leather: the project that comes from the Brazilian Pampas
- \* Traceability: solutions for developing CSR along the value chain

Conseil National du Cuir

Founded in 1948, the CONSEIL NATIONAL DU CUIR is the interprofessional organization of leather producers and users and, by

extension, of all those who contribute to the production, use or distribution of leather.

Constituted as a Confederation, it brings together 21 professional federations or unions from the breeding to the distribution of finished products and animates the entire French Leather Sector.

Each of the federations represents a particular activity of the sector: the professional organizations of the production (livestock, trade of hides and raw skins), the processing of raw materials (tannery and tawery, chemicals), the manufacture (leather goods, footwear, gloves and other fabrications such as foot-orthotics, components or shoemaking), and distribution (import, wholesale and retail distribution).

The member federations represent a wide range of companies - large companies, SMEs and craftsmen - with exceptional know-how and a strong quality approach.

These companies are, for the most part, present in specific territories that match the history of French leather. Today, there are 12,800 of them, employing more than 133,000 people throughout France.

The Conseil National du Cuir is behind the creation of ADC – Au-Delà du Cuir, business incubator in the leather industry, and through its subsidiary SIC SA of Cuir Invest, an investment fund set up to provide long-term support to the most promising young innovative companies in the industry and of Leather Fashion Design (LFD), the magazine for leather professionals.

The sector also has its own Economic Observatory which collects, processes and disseminates the industrial statistics of the French Leather Sector.

Source: Sustainable Leather Forum held @ Palais Brongniart (Paris) on September 12, 2022.  
Organized by Conseil National du Cuir.

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