

Trends & *Future* CHALLENGES

**2° WORLD LEATHER CONGRESS
FONDAZIONE EDISON**

MILAN, 8 SEPTEMBER 2015

The world tanning industry is to meet up in Milan, city of fashion, design and Lineapelle, next Tuesday 8th September, getting together for the **2nd World Leather Congress**, organized by UNIC, the Italian Tanners' Association, and ICT, the International Council of Tanners.

After four years of constant growth, the leather market shows a slowdown trend in the fashion demand, a readjustment of international consumption, an increase in orders from the automobile world.

Moreover, the industry strategies continue to focus on quality increase, timely responses to customer requests, commitment to environmental and social sustainability, transparency of the process, traceability.

One of the hot issues that will be discussed relates to the use of chromium(III), an element present in nature and food, which deeply differs from chromium(VI) and whose essential utility, stated by the European Union, is put in doubt by an unjustified misinformation. It will be highlighted that 85% of the leather currently produced is tanned with such substance, that its content does not entail any significant health risk and that the alternatives can be disadvantageous.

Speakers will report on the big issues of raw materials, meat consumption and leather goods demand, on innovation and sectorial communication.

Lineapelle and **Expo** represent further irresistible events for delegates, observers, media and representatives of Italian government and EU institutions.

Milan, 14 July 2015

Registration on www.worldleathercongress2015.com

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PROGRAM

- h. 9-9.30 Registration
- h. 9.30-10 Welcome introduction: Rino Mastrotto (President ICT), Public Authorities, sponsors
- h. 10-13 The main tanning industries in the world
 Report made by the national tanning associations members of ICT: *Italy, China, Brazil, United States, Spain, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Portugal, Turkey, Taiwan, Japan, South Africa, Comesa African Countries*
- h. 13-14.30 Buffet Lunch
- h. 14.30-18 Presentations:
- Global availability of raw hides/skins and red meat consumption
Richard Brown, GIRA
 - International trade and policies in the hides, skins and leather chain
Kaison Chang, FAO
 - Process innovation and technology for the environment
Mario Serrini, Italprogetti Gianni Maitan, Gemata
 - Recent development in chemicals for the tanning industry
Campbell Page, TFL
 - Chromium in leather: is it a real health problem?
Angelo Moretto, Università degli Studi di Milano
 - Recent trends in the international demand for leather
Marco Fortis, Fondazione Edison - Università Cattolica di Milano
 - New media and digital communication in the tanning sector
Amalia Fuschini, IBM
- h. 18.30-18 Lounge bar

Co-organizers



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