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## TESTEX becomes a member of LEATHER NATURALLY

TESTEX is the first textile and leather testing institute to join LEATHER NATURALLY in promoting the use of globally manufactured sustainable leather



LEATHER NATURALLY is an industry members association that focuses on education and the promotion of leather and aims to inspire and inform designers, creators, and consumers about its beauty, quality and versatility.

“Our aim at TESTEX is to actively contribute towards sustainability initiatives and to support the leather industry with our knowledge and many years of experience in laboratory testing and quality management. Together we can achieve more and benefit from synergies. Leather is natural and versatile, and as a by-product from the meat industry we have a responsibility not only to use it to prevent it from going to waste but also to ensure that it has been tested for harmful substances. Today consumers want to know that they are buying safe and sustainable leather.” says Mirjam Bänninger, Group Product Manager for the LEATHER STANDARD by OEKO-TEX®, about the motives for joining LEATHER NATURALLY.

The LEATHER STANDARD by OEKO-TEX® is an independent certification system for leather articles at all stages of production, including semi-finished leather products, leather fibre materials, ready-made articles and finished leather. On the basis of a scientifically based catalogue of criteria and neutral laboratory tests, companies in the supply chain are given targeted support in implementing the human-ecological product safety they are striving for. It is the only certification of its kind on the market that tests such a wide range of chemicals for harmful substances. It can also be combined with the STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX® for garments or accessories which contain both leather and textile components. Furthermore, the ECO-PASSPORT by OEKO-TEX® certification, which verifies chemicals, colourants and auxiliaries, now also covers chemicals for leather and is recognised by the ZDHC.

TESTEX is a globally operating, independent Swiss testing and certification organisation with focus on textile and leather testing. Founded in 1846 and originally known as the “Seidentrocknungsanstalt Zurich” (Silk Conditioning Institute), the TESTEX Group now operates more than 25 branches with more than 250 employees worldwide (including TESTEX and OETI) from its head office in Zurich. TESTEX is a member institute of the OEKO-TEX® Association and the official representative in Australia, Canada, the P.R. China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Switzerland, South Korea and Taiwan. Learn more on [testex.com](http://testex.com) and [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Testex) or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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