

# Sustainable Leather Foundation



## Meeting Programme

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022

1.00 pm to 5.00 pm

Networking Reception: 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm



## Venue:

The iCon Innovation Centre  
Eastern Way  
Daventry  
Northamptonshire  
NN11 0QB

*Remote Connection by Zoom*



## Today's Agenda

13.00	<b>Welcome</b> <b>Hans van Haarst</b> , CEO, Royal Smit & Zoon Chairman of the SLF Advisory Board
13.10	<b>Benchmarking and SLF Annual Report 2022</b> <b>Deborah Taylor</b> , Managing Director, SLF
13.40	<b>Case Study 1 – Connected Value Chain</b> <b>Rosie Wollacott Phillips</b> , Head of Sustainability, Mulberry <b>Oliver Mauckner</b> , CFO, Richard Hoffmans Lederfabrik
14.00	<b>Biodegradability of Leather</b> <b>Karl Flowers</b> , Technical Director, Authenticae
14.45	BREAK / NETWORKING
15.00	<b>Case Study 2 – Supported Approach</b> <b>Lindelwe Sibanda</b> , Compliance Officer, Zambezi Tanners <b>Arnold Britten</b> , General Manager, Zambezi Tanners
15.20	<b>Technical Update: Audit Standard, Benchmarking, Guidance &amp; Templates</b> <b>Katie Kutskill</b> , Technical Director, SLF
15.40	<b>Case Study 3 – Results in Action: Conceria Trust</b> <b>Deborah Taylor</b> , Managing Director, SLF
15.55	<b>The Value of Research, Education and Collaboration: Following the merging of the Leather and Fashion Schools at Northampton University</b> <b>Prof Will Wise</b> , Professor of Leather Science & Research Lead – Institute for Creative Leather Technologies, University of Northampton
16.25	<b>Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive – What This Means?</b> <b>Claudia Di Bernardino</b> , Lawyer, TMSHell Law Firm
16.45	<b>Open Q &amp; A Session</b> All Participants
16.55	<b>Closing Remarks</b> <b>Hans van Haarst</b> , CEO Royal Smit & Zoon, Chairman of the SLF Advisory Board

# Our Guest Speakers

## **Rosie Wollacott Phillips, Head of Sustainability, Mulberry:**



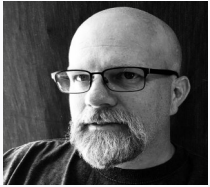
With over 10 years of in-brand experience at luxury leather goods brand Mulberry, Rosie is a pioneer for change and improvement across the company's entire sustainable spectrum. Her role as Head of Sustainability includes Board level reporting, strategy development, sourcing management and communications scrutiny. Rosie has been integral in setting and managing sourcing thresholds and targets to improve environmental leather metrics, seeing a >30% improvement across the last 4 seasons, with a target to source 100% of leather from environmentally accredited tanneries by 2023. This work is pushing Mulberry into a pioneering space as a sustainable luxury leather brand. In January, Rosie was named as one of the 50 Most Influential People in British Luxury by Walpole.

## **Oliver Mauckner, Authorised Signatory, Richard Hoffmans GmbH:**

For more than 10 years, Oliver has been responsible for transparency, traceability and the environment and its certification. The first hurdle was the LWG Gold certification, which he has now achieved for the 5th time in a row. Oliver's focus was on a strong reduction in energy consumption and the associated CO<sup>2</sup> emissions. He advocated a calculation of the CO<sup>2</sup> footprint and is also responsible for Richard Hoffman's Eco2L certification. Most recently, Oliver has conceived and built the CHP Plant (combined heat and power) and the Photovoltaic Park and ensured their optimal integration into the tannery process. Enthusiastic about the idea of the Sustainable Leather Foundation, he campaigned for Richard Hoffmans tannery to join.



## **Karl Flowers, Technical Director, Authenticae:**



Karl has over 25 years experience as an educator of leather technology, having previously taught leather technology to MSc level. He is currently the Technical Director of Authenticae a specialist consultancy company that supports testing and innovation within leather processing, with a focus on biodegradability and chemistry. Karl is also currently consulting Technical Editor for International Leather Maker as well as the external examiner for the International School of Tanning Technology. Karl is a practitioner member of the Chartered Quality Institute and is an accredited Environmental 14001 Lead Auditor. He is also a Fellow of the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists.

## **Arnold Britten, General Manager, Zambezi Tanners:**

Arnold started out as an IT Technician 22 years ago, working for then PT Royal Ostrindo Zimbabwe specialist ostrich tannery. Over the years Arnold has held different positions in the tannery, from production administrator, production planning, assistant tannery manager, tannery manager and currently as General Manager. Arnold studied at the International School of tanning technology (ISTT) in Grahamstown South Africa, under Dr Clive Jackson-Moss completing his ACLT and is currently an Associate member of the Society of Leather technologists and Chemists ASLTC. He currently holds the following posts in the Zimbabwe leather industry; executive committee member of the Zimbabwe Leather Development Council ZLDC, current chair of the Tanners Node and member of the Zimbabwe Leather Lab.



## **Lindelwe Sibanda, Compliance Officer, Zambezi Tanners:**



Lindelwe Sibanda is certified with the Standards association of Zimbabwe on the Implementation and Development of ISO 9001: 2015. This was after having had acquired a BSc. honors degree in Environmental Science and Health at the University of Science and Technology. While at the university she conducted her internship with Zambezi Tanners and completed her final year thesis on Adaptation of green technologies in manufacturing companies using Zambezi Tanners as a case study. She then joined the company upon completion of the degree. She was also part of the university Enactus team. This is where she participated in competing projects for people, planet and profit that strived to develop the livelihoods of communities around them through entrepreneurial action while preserving the planet.

## **Prof Will Wise, Professor of Leather Science & Research Lead, Institute for Creative Leather Technologies:**

Professor Will Wise is a Professor in Leather Science and the Research Leader for the Institute for Creative Leather Technologies (ICLT). He is a chemist by training but subsequently diversified and started at ICLT in 2014 as a senior lecturer. He uses his chemical background to apply pure science principles to the development of new leather technology; moving industry forward by pushing the boundaries of what is currently possible. He co-authored the second edition of "Tanning Chemistry: The Science of Leather" published by the Royal Society of Chemistry. His achievements were recognised by the University of Northampton when he was promoted to Professor in August 2022.



## **Claudia Di Bernardino, IP and Sustainability Lawyer, TMSHell Law Firm:**



Claudia Di Bernardino is a partner at TMSHell Law Firm and is a UNECE consultant for projects on traceability, transparency, sustainability and circularity. She focuses on value chain transformation, narrative shift and policy developments to create a textile and leather sector less harmful to people and the environment. Claudia supports companies in the development of environmental and human rights policies, traceability programs and reliable sustainability claims. She is the legal Advisor of the Monitor for Circular Fashion, a multi-stakeholder project involving leading companies in the textile industry. She also participates in blockchain projects for traceability and transparency of value chains managing issues related to data privacy and security, and is an expert of the EU Blockchain Observatory Forum. Drawing on over 15 years experience in the law field she has been appointed member of the Fashion Law Committee, the Privacy Committee and the Women Diversity Committee at the Bar Association of Rome.



## Today's Hosts



Hans van Haarst  
CEO, Royal Smit & Zoon  
SLF Advisory Board Chair



Deborah Taylor  
Managing Director  
SLF



Katie Kutskill  
Technical Director  
SLF



Sam Taylor  
General Operations Manager  
SLF

## Today's Resources

### SLF's Pathway to Biodegradability and the Circular Economy



[Download PDF](#)

### SLF 2022 Annual Report



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**"Let's be the change that secures the future"**

Thank you for attending!

For more information about Sustainable Leather Foundation, please visit [www.sustainableleatherfoundation.com](http://www.sustainableleatherfoundation.com) or email [info@sustainableleatherfoundation.com](mailto:info@sustainableleatherfoundation.com)

End of Year Partner Meeting  
15th December 2022