

# Press Release

## **CLRI changes century old tanning process – UNIDO joins hands with CLRI to establish a unique centre**

**The Central Leather Research Institute (CSIR - CLRI) has developed a common salt free tanning technology.** This technology not only eliminates the usage of salt in the tanning process but also shortens it by avoiding the steps of acidification and then again basification to make the medium neutral. While addition of the salt in the above process helps in retaining the strength and quality of leather, it leads to high amount of Total Dissolved Solids and chlorides with respect to pollution standards in the effluents during treatment at a later stage. Even after a huge financial investment to treat effluent systems, the present tanning industry has been struggling on for years to meet the proper regulatory standards of TDS in effluent systems. This technology provides an enabling solution to address the issue of TDS through a change from a century old process.

**CLRI team comprising Mr. V. John Sundar and Mr. T.Rangasamy under the leadership of Dr.C.Muralidharan and guidance of Dr.A.B.Mandal developed and implemented this technology in select tanneries of Tamilnadu, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.**

National Tanner's Apex body (All India Skin and Hide Tanners and Merchants Association), has made detailed assessment of the present technology and has presented its **First award to the team for the Technology Innovation** and successful commercial scale implementation. CSIR, Ministry of Science & Technology, India has recognised CLRI team for the breakthrough technology by honouring with **Technology award for Innovation - 2011.**

UNIDO, Vienna has now come forward to join hands with CSIR - CLRI to establish **UNIDO-CLRI centre for salt free tanning** in order to disseminate the technology across the Indian Leather Sector. Based on the outcome, a major initiative will be taken up by UNIDO and CLRI for dissemination of the technology at global level.