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Minimization Policy

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This document will be reviewed on a yearly basis.

As part of our environmental sustainability objectives, we work on continuous input and output minimization. For Avanti, responsible use of resources and minimal impact through outputs is crucial to achieving our set sustainability standards. With this approach, we are aiming to reverse the trend of environmental damage and take leather into the next century by bringing together one of the oldest industries in the world with state-of-the-art processes and technologies. Constant improvement is crucial for Avanti Leathers, therefore we follow a strict minimization policy in the following categories.

Water Minimization:

Water is a very valuable resource that should never be wasted or overused. Worldwide we are facing water shortages and droughts that lead to severe crises. For that reason, we started our water minimization campaign by tackling a lower water consumption in the drums and building a wastewater treatment plant that enables us to reuse it either within the production or for irrigation of the Avanti plantation. We strive for continuous minimization of water in all processing steps. To understand the water use better, we have done a water mass balance, quantifying water and effluent volumes for our activities. Once the most water-intensive steps are identified, a focus can be set on potential improvements.

Energy Minimization:

We have an extremely efficient and regulated use of energy. Through regular internal audits and documentation, we can compare our energy use habits and take actions toward energy minimization strategies. Investing time to understand how energy is used on-site and doing a mass balance helps to develop an R&O analysis and create a strategy toward energy efficiency and minimization.

Additionally, we have installed solar panels on the company buildings which provides us 1 MW solar power and for most of the processes we are using green energy. Besides using gree energy, we also feed into the local grid. We also have solar power for our water heating requirements.

Chemical Minimization:

Another important topic to cover is the overuse of chemicals. Especially in the leather industry, this is criticised a lot by news and consumers. Those chemicals are in a way necessary to upcycle hides into something as beautiful as leather, but a lot of chemicals have been spilt in the past due to their packaging. We have introduced bigger containers to fit in the bags of chemicals and dyes, so that in case of spillage during extraction, the powder is collected within the containers and can be used.

Within our R&D Department, we constantly adjust the usage of chemicals to achieve our chemical minimization plans, whilst keeping the quality standards constantly high.

Waste Minimization:

The first step toward waste reduction is good housekeeping and recycling.

On-site, we have mostly banned plastic other than for packaging purposes and the little we have we reuse as often as possible before disposing of it.

Another important factor regarding waste is the chemical sludge resulting from production.

Before, we recovered the sludge and sent it to a governmentally approved landfill. Now we have developed and integrated an in-house, patented process to convert the primary sludge into bio manure. This is unique in the world, approved and tested by official laboratories and officially patented. With our innovation, we are producing healthy, organic fertilizer rich in nitrogen and phosphates, whilst eliminating chrome VI and other heavy metals entirely.

Also, the waste from Shaving is not just put into landfills, through certain treatments, we extract the natural protein out of the dust and convert it into a filler, which is then used in production. In this way, we follow our zero waste policy and turn waste into a valuable asset of our company.

All our projects are described in the latest Sustainability Report issued in August 2022.

Signature / Stamp