

Leather Working Group

1st Workshop on Eco-Tanning processes in Kenya and the East African Region Audit & Certification

Audit & Certification

Information valid on 18th August 2023, subject to change.



Stuart Cranfield

Director of Standards & Assurance

Leather Working Group

Stuart Cranfield joined the LWG team in March 2022 to head up the Standards & Assurance functions of the group.

Stuart previously spent 36 years at Clarks, working across multiple different locations and functions.

In his previous role, Stuart was central in establishing and managing the social audit program at Clarks and has taken active roles in several multi-stakeholder initiatives including SLCP, CGF SSCI and BSI PAS24000.

Leather Working Group

Leather Working Group (LWG)

- Who we are and what we do
- Membership
- Certified Suppliers

Certification

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Leather Working Group

Who are we and what do we do

- Leather Working Group (LWG) is a global non-profit, multi-stakeholder initiative committed to building a world where leather is sourced, produced, and used sustainably, protecting people and the planet.
- LWG supports and encourages the use of responsibly made leather as a sustainable material by inspiring, educating, and challenging those that produce and use leather. Through collaboration, convening, and standard setting, we are collectively creating a transparent leather value chain that achieves positive impacts aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals.
- First formed in 2005, Leather Working Group was created as a collaborative initiative between footwear, apparel, and upholstery brands and leather manufacturers, including founders: adidas, Clarks, Ikea, Nike, Marks & Spencer, New Balance, Timberland, and Prime Asia Leather Company.
- Since then, our organization has evolved to become the world's largest leather industry-specific stakeholder organization, representing over 2,000 stakeholders in over 60 countries. Our stakeholders include those involved in the production and supply of leather, brands, retailers, and chemical & machinery suppliers to the leather industry.

Leather Working Group

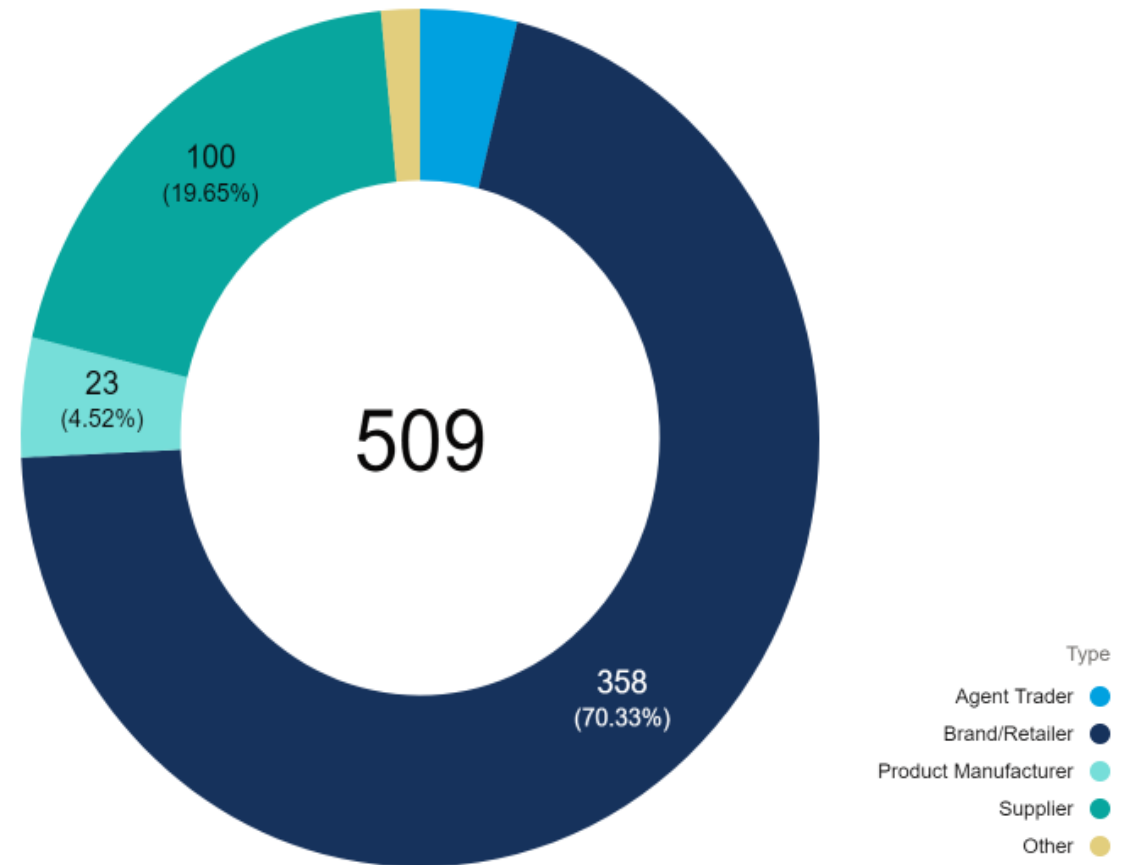
Membership

Brands & Retailers:

- Footwear
- Apparel
- Leather Goods
- Automotive

Suppliers:

- Chemical Suppliers
- Machinery Suppliers



Certification

The role of certification

The role of sustainability standards and the expectations now placed upon them has changed immensely in the time that Leather Working Group has been in existence.

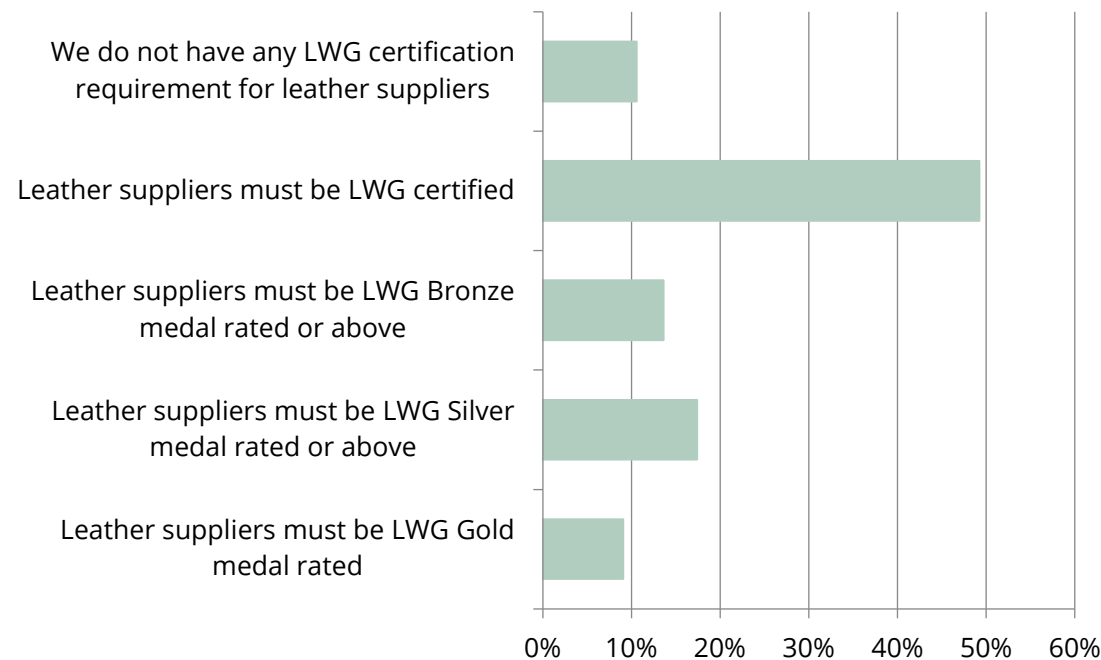
Credible sustainability systems are an integral part of how global markets are delivering on sustainability across sectors and geographies. That has not always been the case. In the twenty years that ISEAL has been leading the conversation around credible practices for sustainability standards and certification, we have witnessed and supported the transformation of these tools and the roles they play.

Where voluntary sustainability standards operated in a few niche sectors and were fighting for recognition as legitimate policy instruments, they now form the backbone of responsible sourcing practices for companies across the supply chain in most sectors — and are being integrated into legislation as effective instruments to fulfil policy objectives.

Certification

Certification Expectations – Brands & Retailers

Do you set an LWG certification requirement for your leather suppliers and if so at what level?



LWG 2023 Member Survey:

- 90% of Brands & Retailers that responded to the survey are asking their leather suppliers for a level of LWG certification.
- Over 25% are requiring leather manufacturers to have a silver or gold medal rating
- Over 95% of leather manufacturers are planning to renew their certification

Certification

LWG Audit Standards

The LWG Audit Standards recognise the complexity within the leather supply chain and cover those who manufacture or trade leather; covering the production from raw skins or hides to finished leather.



Certification

Tannery of the Future

The LWG Tannery of the Future is an easy-to-read self-assessment tool designed to support leather manufacturers in their journey towards environmental excellence and LWG certification, allowing them to:

- Evaluate their current environmental and social performance
- Identify areas where there is room for improvement
- Understand how ready they are to undergo an LWG audit

The LWG Tannery of the Future self-assessment is designed as an introductory step, and it is not a substitute for an LWG audit. Completing the self-assessment does not confer approval or certification.

On completion of all parts of the Tannery of the Future assessment, a facility is provided with 2 years complimentary Affiliate membership to Leather Working Group which provides them with access to the LWG audit standard documentation and other resources to help in preparing for an audit.

Certification

Leather Manufacturers – Audit Scope

- General Facility Details
- **Subcontracted Operations**
- Social Audit
- **Operating Permits**
- **Production Data**
- Incoming Material Traceability
- Outgoing Material Traceability
- **Environment Management Systems (EMS)**
- **Restricted Substances**
- **Energy Consumption**
- **Water Usage**
- **Air & Noise Emissions**
- **Waste Management**
- **Effluent Treatment**
- **Health, Safety, & Emergency Preparedness**
- **Chemical Management**
- **Operations Management**

Certification

Leather Manufacturers – Audit Result

Critical Sections

Most sections in the leather manufacturer audit are critical and directly affect the overall result. A *Fail* in any one of these sections will result in the overall audit being failed. The lowest scoring critical section determines the overall audit result.

Threshold Requirements

There are threshold requirements that must be met in most sections, either as a minimum requirement or for specific medal ratings.

Scoring

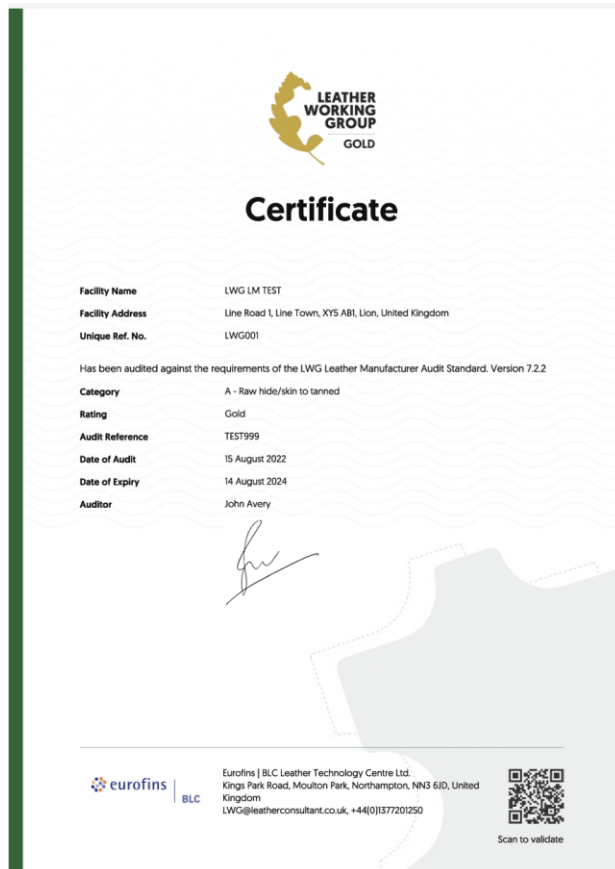
All sections are scored which affects the rating for that section and the overall audit result.

Medal Ratings



Certification

Certificate & Scorecard



All certified suppliers are listed on the LWG website.

Not all leather manufacturers will achieve the requirements for a gold medal rating, multiple factors will affect their performance:

- the category of leather manufacturer
- animal type
- organization of the industry
- the types of articles produced
- audit & certification experience of the leather manufacturer

LWG encourages Brands to look in more detail at the performance of a leather manufacturer and not solely at the overall medal rating.



LWG LM TEST

LWG Leather Manufacturer Audit

PERFORMANCE

Protocol Version: 7.2.2
Auditor: John Avery
Audit Date: 15 August 2022
Audit Validity: 14 August 2024
Social Audit: Pass



FACILITY DETAILS

Facility Type: Leather Manufacturer
Leather Type: Full grain
Tannage Type: Chrome
Animal Type: Cow, Ostrich
Industry: Footwear
URN: LWG001
First audited: 15 August 2018



RECENT CERTIFICATION HISTORY



CONTACT DETAILS

Address: Line Road 1, Line Town, XY5 AB1, Lion, United Kingdom
Email: info@leatherworkinggroup.com
Website: www.website.com

TRACEABILITY RATING



- **Documented** - 20% of material traceable to an individual slaughterhouse through documentation
- **Physical** - 60% of material traceable to an individual slaughterhouse through physical marking
- **Group** - 10% of material traceable to a group of slaughterhouses
- **Regional** - 5% of material traceable to a geo-referenced location. Applicable to non-industrialized supply chains.
- **Not Traceable** - 5% Not traceable.

Certification

Audits & Auditors

Audits against the LWG audit standards are undertaken by independent auditors approved by LWG.

They are not employed directly by LWG and arrangements for an audit are currently made directly between the facility as the client and the auditor.

Find an Auditor

To begin your journey to certification, get in touch with one of our approved auditors. Listed here are the independent auditors able to carry out official audits using the LWG Audit Standards and issue LWG certificates. Our auditing team are all experts in leather manufacturing who have been subject to our rigorous screening and onboarding processes.

Get in touch with your chosen auditor via the contact details below.

[Find an Auditor - Leather Working Group](#)

Thank you