Environmentally Efficient Post Tanning Process for Leather Making

S Saravanabhavan* and O K Kaul

Research and Development TATA International Ltd., INDIA. *Corresponding author, Email: SSaravanabhavan@tatainternational.com

Abstract: Leather industry around the globe is currently undergoing radical change due to environmental pollution and discharge legislations. Therefore, the leather industry is stressed to look for environmentally efficient option for leather processing. A conventional post tanning process involves nearly 6-8 steps of post tanning process and employs as well as discharges various inorganic and organic materials. Furthermore, it demands huge resources like water, time and power. An attempt has been made in the study to overcome these problems by exploring an environmentally efficient post tanning process. The environmentally efficient process provides leathers having comparable physical and bulk properties to that of conventionally processed leather. Efficient process enhances the uptake of chromium and post tanning chemicals. The process results in significant reductions in pollution loads such as chemical oxygen demand (COD) and total solids (TS), water, time and power. More specifically, water usage is reduced by 70% compared to conventional requirement.