**Synopsis**

**Leather: An Introduction**

**This introduction describes the versatility of this unique material, its natural origins, how it is made, and why its properties are so comprehensive.**

**Created for people who have little knowledge of this product, the details provided are supported by industrial images and clear descriptive diagrams. It is suited for those involved in the manufacture of leather items, for students new to the sector, and for general interest.**

**It enables comparisons with plastics, laminates and conglomerates of binders/natural materials - as long as their origins, composition, properties and environmental profiles are similarly detailed.**

**This document was subjected to peer review at the International Conference of the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists, Northampton, UK, 2019.**