

RECP Best Practices Catalogue

Fulling salted hides before quenching

Developed within the framework of MED TEST II



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



switchmed



The SwitchMed Programme is
funded by the European Union

Best Practice - Fulling salted hides before quenching

SECTOR:	Leather
Branch:	Tanning and dressing of leather
CATEGORY	Technology upgrade/Eco-innovation
APPLICABILITY	Processes

COMPANY SIZE 60 Full-time Employees



The SwitchMed Programme is funded by the European Union

Best Practice - Fulling salted hides before quenching

Description of the Problem (Base Scenario):

Reducing the salts present on the leathers or salted hides at the beginning of the tanning step is necessary if the salinity of the waste water generated during the quenching step is to be reduced.

Description of the Solution



The process involves pounding the skins to reduce the amount of salt needed for salting. Experience has shown that using this option for pollution prevention can reduce the amount of about 6 to 8% of the salt content, amounting for 5% of the salts released by the tannery.

Best Practice - Fulling salted hides before quenching

Economic Gains

The anticipated annual savings following this action can reach € 14,000 or 8%.

The introduction of this technology enables improvement of productivity as it replaces the work of 3 workers who previously shook the hides manually.

The average wage per worker is 3,850 €/year.

$$3,850 \text{ €} \times 3 = 11,550 \text{ €}$$

Environmental Gains

This operation also enables to reduce by 5% the total amount of salt used by the tannery; 5% of solid salt corresponds to 3.75 tons/year of waste ending up in landfill instead of being released in waste water.

Health and Safety Impact

None



The SwitchMed Programme is funded by the European Union

Best Practice - Fulling salted hides before quenching

Capital Investments & Financial Indicators

The cost of an industrial desalination Fuller is € 45,000.

Time for Return on Investment: 3 years

Supplier Information

Imported

Other Aspects

none

Implementation

The company has already installed a Cage Fuller



The SwitchMed Programme is funded by the European Union