

# ANIMAL DERIVED MATERIALS POLICY

## **Purpose:**

It is the intention of Dr. Martens to conduct its business and operations to the highest possible standards and behaviour. This policy sets out the principles that the relevant departments of Dr. Martens and its suppliers must respect when sourcing and using materials derived from animals.

## Scope:

At Dr Martens, we have a long tradition of making durable footwear. To this day, leather (predominantly cow) remains our most commonly used animal derived raw material and consequentially, is one of our main focus areas. We put a lot of emphasis on ensuring our leather is sourced responsibly and nominate the tanneries we use. We are members of the multi-stakeholder Leather Working Group (LWG) which delivers the most recognised environmental stewardship protocol within the leather industry.

## **Animal Derived Materials Requirements:**

- 1. The following must not be used:
  - Animal derived materials must not be used from endangered wild species as defined by:
    - The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
      (IUCN) red list categories critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or
      near threatened. This does not include species categorised as 'least concern'.
      www.redlist.org
    - ii. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) www.cites.org (Where applicable skins to be accompanied by relevant CITES or export documentation to demonstrate compliance).
  - iii. The U.S. Endangered Species Act
  - iv. Species banned by the US State of California Penal Code section 653o(a)
  - b) Animal products derived from animals slaughtered exclusively for their skins or feathers must not be used.

#### 2. Leather:

- a) Leather must only be sourced as a by-product of the food industry<sup>1</sup>. This includes but is not limited to cow, buffalo, pig, sheep and goat.
- b) Leather must only be sourced from tanneries audited by the Leather Working Group, preferably with Gold, Silver or Bronze certification, which means they have achieved a certain level of environmental performance.
- c) Leather or skin products from reptiles must not be used including but not limited to alligator, crocodile, lizard and snake.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> European Council (EC). Council Regulation 1069/2009/EC, October 21, 2009 on laying down health rules as regards animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 (Animal by-products Regulation). 2009



## d) Leather Traceability:

Dr. Martens is committed to only source leather from suppliers who operate in a responsible and ethical manner. Traceability and supply chain transparency facilitates engagement further up the supply chain to indirect suppliers, to manage risks and drive meaningful improvements.

In 2020 we joined the Traceability sub-group of the LWG to collaborate with other industry members to improve traceability along the value chain. We give preference to tanneries which have scored highly on the traceability section of the LWG audit, to support our ambition to achieve a fully traceable leather supply chain.

## e) Leather Sourced from Brazil:

Cattle ranching is one of the leading drivers of forest loss within the Brazilian Amazon biome, therefore tanneries that supply material originating from Brazil must be able to provide assurance to us that they are not contributing to deforestation.

Suppliers sourcing Brazilian material must be able to provide the following information:

- The names, locations, and Leather Working Group (LWG) medal rating of the wet blue agents or tanneries.
- Wet blue suppliers must also provide the slaughterhouse names, locations, and federal identification numbers (SIF).
- Slaughterhouses must also outline their due diligence processes to ensure they are not sourcing cattle from deforested areas.

Suppliers will be asked to provide this information on a seasonal basis.

### 3. Hair on leather, shearling and wool:

- a) Animal 'hair on' leather or shearling must also only be sourced as a by-product of the food industry, from cow and sheep. The hair must be intact on the original leather.
- b) Wool must only be sourced from producers which do not practice mulesing.
- c) Mohair, angora and other rabbit hair must not be used.

### 4. Fur

a) Fur<sup>2</sup> must not be used - we do not use fur from any animals, except for 'hair on' cow or sheep leather (see Section 3a for more information).

#### **Animal Testing:**

Our shoe care products and packaging must not be tested on animals.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Please refer to the Fur Free Retailer definition of "fur".



## **About Animal Welfare:**

We recognise 'The Five Freedoms' as the guiding standard for good animal husbandry and believe our leather supply chain partners must also adhere to them. They are as follows: 1) freedom from hunger and thirst, 2) freedom from discomfort, 3) freedom from pain, injury and disease, 4) freedom to express normal behaviour and 5) freedom from fear and distress. We recognise the challenges regarding animal welfare in the leather industry and are committed to working with industry partners and experts to influence improved animal welfare raw material sourcing.

## Manufacturer's Responsibility:

In the case of animal derived materials sourced directly by the manufacturers', it is their responsibility to comply with this policy for all product types. We reserve the right to require manufacturers to provide details of any animal derived materials sourced at any time.

# Compliance with Law and Regulations:

All relevant laws and regulations must be met where applicable, including export or import restriction / certifications and labelling requirements.