

LINEAPELLE

LINEAPELLE 108 RETURNS TO THE HEART OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN:
OVER 1,000 EXHIBITORS FROM 38 COUNTRIES ON SHOW
FROM 15 TO 17 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT FIERA MILANO RHO

LINEAPELLE returns to Fiera Milano Rho for its 108th edition, reaffirming its position as the key event for a supply chain that continues to evolve amid particularly challenging economic conditions.

LINEAPELLE 108 RETURNS TO THE HEART OF THE SUPPLY CHAIN

From 15 to 17 September, LINEAPELLE 108 will once again be the meeting point for companies, buyers, designers and industry professionals, hosting 1,029 exhibitors across an exhibition area of approximately 39,000 square metres. Of these, 54% are Italian and 46% come from 38 countries, with particularly strong representation from European companies, followed by those from China, Turkey and France. This international reach demonstrates the exhibition's ability to maintain its strategic role at a time still marked by slowing production, declining consumption and profound changes in market models. These factors are reflected in the breakdown of exhibitors by product category. Exhibitor numbers have risen significantly since last February's edition—which was heavily affected by logistical disruption caused by the Winter Olympic competitions held at Fiera Milano Rho—but have yet to recover fully, particularly in the accessories and components sector.

STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE

The economic climate continues to affect the supply chain, reducing production and trade volumes. It has left many companies facing serious difficulties, while also prompting many to pursue consolidation and new forms of collaboration.

The strong and confident response from exhibitors is therefore particularly significant, with the largest and most established companies confirming their participation. Equally noteworthy is the international profile of preregistered visitors, with professionals from the United States, France, Germany, Spain, the United Kingdom, India and China particularly well represented. Further strengthening the event's international character will be a delegation of overseas industry professionals and stakeholders, whose participation has been made possible through cooperation with the Italian Trade Agency and MAECI - the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

THREE DAYS OF SYNERGIES, CONNECTIONS AND CREATIVE EXCHANGE

LINEAPELLE 108 will take place alongside Simac Tanning Tech, the international exhibition dedicated to machinery and technology for footwear, leather goods and tanning. FILO will also return within LINEAPELLE's exhibition space.

RESEARCH, INSIGHTS, EDUCATION

A programme of talks and meetings will complement the exhibition, bringing some of the industry's most pressing issues into focus.

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From sustainability and artificial intelligence to materials research and traceability, alongside evolving markets and new creative languages, diverse perspectives will come together to explore the changes shaping the fashion industry.

Scheduled events include “The Rebellious Surface: Leather as an evocative material, bridging the fashion system, the collective imagination and urban legend”, with Antonio Mancinelli, Ida Galati and Rebecca Baglini, and “Make Way for the New Generation of Designers. But Is That Really the Case?”, a conversation led by journalist Mariella Milani with Sara Sozzani Maino (Fondazione Sozzani) and designers Leonardo Valentini (LEONARDOVALENTINI), Angelo Cruciani (Yezael), Simone Botte (Simon Cracker) and Flora Rabitti (Florania).

Particular attention will also be paid to greenwashing through “The Greenwashing Directive: Market impacts and the fight against misleading commercial practices”. Organised by ICEC, UNIC - Italian Tanneries and the Sant’Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa, the session will examine the effects of EU Directive 2024/825 and the measures introduced to combat misleading commercial communications and strengthen consumer protection. Meanwhile, “Trust Is the New Luxury”, a talk curated by InsideOut by C.L.A.S.S., will explore the value chain: the combination of expertise, responsibility, innovation and culture that underpins the genuine quality and credibility of what we wear. On the educational front, LINEAPELLE reaffirms its strategic commitment by presenting a series of collaborations with some of the world’s most prestigious fashion schools. In particular, this edition will host the awards ceremony for the first edition of the Next Gen Leather Designers Award, promoted by LINEAPELLE and Piattaforma Sistema Formativo Moda ETS.

METAL HARDWARE TELLS THE STORY OF MADE IN ITALY

Among the highlights of the accompanying programme is “Metal Hardware - From Fashion Accessories to Made in Italy Supply Chains”, an exhibition organised by LINEAPELLE in collaboration with Consorzio Physis. The exhibition places the spotlight on an essential element in the development of fashion and design products: metal hardware. It highlights Italian manufacturing quality and the decisive role accessories play in defining a design’s identity, recognisability and value.

WINTER 2027/2028 TRENDS

One of the most eagerly anticipated events will be the presentation of the Autumn/Winter 2027/2028 trends, developed by the LINEAPELLE Fashion Committee. The project “Prompt - Seductive Algorithms: The Illusion of Sweetness” interprets contemporary change through materials, focusing on research into surfaces, textures, materials and aesthetic inspiration. Drawing on observations of an increasingly complex and layered world, it translates these stimuli into a creative direction designed to guide research and design across the supply chain.

Press Office LINEAPELLE
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PROMPT: LINEAPELLE 108 PRESENTS THE WINTER 27/28 TRENDS
MATERIALS, COLOURS AND SURFACES AT THE HEART OF THE RESEARCH
DEVELOPED BY THE LINEAPELLE FASHION COMMITTEE
AND PRESENTED FROM 15 TO 17 SEPTEMBER AT FIERA MILANO RHO

PROMPT is the concept behind the Winter 27/28 trends developed by the Lineapelle Fashion Committee and presented at LINEAPELLE 108, taking place from 15 to 17 September 2026 at Fiera Milano Rho.

The research takes as its starting point an increasingly evident tendency: the need for constant, immediate stimuli that capture attention and elicit a sensory response. PROMPT brings this dynamic into the world of materials, translating it into colours, surfaces, textures and finishes that explore new forms of attraction and perception.

The results take their most tangible form in the Trend Areas, one of LINEAPELLE's key focal points. Halls 9, 15 and 22 will showcase approximately 2,000 samples selected from exhibitors' most innovative offerings: leather, accessories and components, fabrics and synthetic materials. This selection offers visitors an immediate insight into the style and design directions for the Winter 27/28 season.

The research will be explored in greater depth during the Fashion Presentations at the Fashion Theatre over the first two days of the fair:

15 September at 10:30 a.m. (in Italian with simultaneous interpretation into English)

16 September at 10:00 a.m. (in Italian with simultaneous interpretation into English)

Following LINEAPELLE, the samples on display will be transferred to the LP Fashion Studio in Milan (Via Brisa, 3), where they will be available for consultation. They will also be catalogued in an online database providing the company name, trade name, intended use and reference information for each sample.

Location:
Fashion & Science Theatre 1 - Hall 9, Aisle U

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LINEAPELLE 108 PRESENTS THE TALK “THE REBELLIOUS SURFACE: LEATHER IN FASHION, CULTURE AND THE IMAGINATION”

ON TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER, ANTONIO MANCINELLI, IDA GALATI (LE STANZE DELLA MODA) AND REBECCA BAGLINI (STYLEDBYME.IT) EXPLORE LEATHER'S ABILITY TO SHAPE IDENTITIES, FORMS OF EXPRESSION AND THE COLLECTIVE IMAGINATION

Why does leather continue to hold such evocative power in fashion and contemporary culture? How did a material become a symbol of elegance and transgression, luxury and rebellion, belonging and individuality?

These are some of the questions at the heart of “The Rebellious Surface. Leather as an evocative material, bridging the fashion system, the collective imagination and urban legend”, a talk organised by LINEAPELLE on Tuesday 15 September 2026 at 4:00 p.m. at Fiera Milano Rho.

Sharing their perspectives will be Antonio Mancinelli, fashion and culture columnist for QN, writer, lecturer and fashion critic; Ida Galati, fashion storyteller; and Rebecca Baglini, CEO of Styledbyme.

The discussion takes leather as its starting point, considering it not only as an essential material for fashion, but also as a cultural surface that transcends eras, styles and subcultures. From haute couture to rock music, from cinema to street style, leather has served as both a uniform and a provocation, a status symbol and a declaration of independence.

Through “The Rebellious Surface”, LINEAPELLE 108 explores leather's narrative, symbolic and emotional value.

THE REBELLIOUS SURFACE

Leather as an evocative material, bridging the fashion system, the collective imagination and urban legend

Tuesday 15 September 2026 - 4:00 p.m.

LINEAPELLE - Fiera Milano Rho

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 - Hall 9, Aisle U

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LINEAPELLE 108 HOSTS THE TALK
“MAKE WAY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION. BUT IS IT REALLY HAPPENING?”

ON WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER, MARIELLA MILANI AND SARA SOZZANI MAINO
JOIN LEONARDO VALENTINI, ANGELO CRUCIANI, SIMONE BOTTE AND FLORA
RABITTI IN CONVERSATION

“Make way for the next generation” is a refrain heard all too often, verging on a cliché that has gradually lost its meaning. The question therefore naturally arises: is fashion really making room for young people? And what concrete opportunities does an emerging designer have today to forge their own path within a system undergoing profound change?

LINEAPELLE 108 places these questions at the heart of the talk “Make way for the next generation. But is it really happening? What opportunities are there in an uncertain world?”, taking place on Wednesday 16 September 2026 at 16:00 at Fiera Milano Rho.

The discussion will bring together journalist and author Mariella Milani and Sara Sozzani Maino, Creative Director of Fondazione Sozzani, alongside Leonardo Valentini (LEONARDOVALENTINI), Angelo Cruciani (Yezael), Simone Botte (Simon Cracker) and Flora Rabitti (Florania).

The fashion industry has long proclaimed the need to embrace new talent and fresh perspectives. Yet those seeking to establish themselves today must navigate a complex market, new patterns of consumption and communication, and the challenge of turning talent into a project with lasting potential.

Is there truly room for a new generation in fashion? LINEAPELLE 108 addresses this question by giving a voice to those directly involved, in a discussion that concerns not only creative renewal but also the future of the supply chain, its materials and its expertise.

MAKE WAY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION. BUT IS IT REALLY HAPPENING?
What opportunities are there in an uncertain world?

Wednesday 16 September 2026 - 16:00
LINEAPELLE - Fiera Milano Rho
FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 - Hall 24, Aisle P

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press@lineapelle-fair.it

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LINEAPELLE 108: IDEAS, INSIGHTS AND DEBATE FOR THE SUPPLY CHAIN

LINEAPELLE REAFFIRMS ITS ROLE AS A PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE
ON THE ISSUES RESHAPING
THE LEATHER, MATERIALS AND FASHION SUPPLY CHAIN

On 15 and 16 September, the Fashion & Science Theatres will host a programme of talks dedicated to scientific evidence, sustainability, training, natural resources, transparency and new regulations. The programme brings together businesses, institutions, research and education to understand the present and shape the future of the sector.

Tuesday 15 September

11:30

LEATHER LEADERS

The latest scientific evidence on leather and a new collaborative approach across the entire leather value chain.

The event will be held in Italian.

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 • HALL 24, AISLE P

14.00

EXOTIC LEATHERS: THE POSITIVE STORY YOU HAVEN'T HEARD

A journey behind the scenes of the crocodile supply chain: how responsible farming, certification, animal welfare protection and conservation make truly sustainable high-end leather possible.

Introduction: Jeff Donald - ICFA Co-Chair

Moderator: Giulia Martin - Concerie Italiane

Speakers: Christen Wall - C&M Gator Farm; Stefan Van As - Founder and Managing Director, Le Croc; Mick Burns - Darwin Crocodile Farm; Riccardo Colato - Riccardo Colato S.r.l.; Dr Leisha Hewitt - Scheme Administrator for ICFA's Certification Program; Christy Gilmore - CITES Representative for the Louisiana Alligator Advisory Council; Nihal Ceylan - Camille Fournet

The event will be held in English.

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 • HALL 24, AISLE P

14.30

STRATEGIES FOR THE FUTURE OF MADE IN ITALY FASHION MANUFACTURING

Recognising the fashion sector's role as a key economic driver, the European Union is pursuing a range of initiatives to address its major challenges, including difficulties in generational renewal, the gap between training and business needs, and the sector's limited appeal to young people. Among these initiatives, the multi-year METASKILLS4TCLF project aims to strengthen dialogue between businesses, training providers and institutions to equip young people with the qualifications and skills essential to today's markets.

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A draft National Strategy has been developed as part of the project and is being presented for the first time today by the European representatives of Metaskills4TCLF, Confindustria Accessori Moda—the project's Italian institutional partner—and national representatives from manufacturing and education.

Discussion participants: The European leadership of the Metaskills4TCLF project; Confindustria Accessori Moda and Confindustria Moda, representing businesses; Randstad, representing employment and skills services; the representative of the ITS Italia training network for the fashion sector.

The event will be held in English, with simultaneous interpretation into Italian.

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 • HALL 9, AISLE U

Wednesday 16 September

12.45

WATER RESILIENCE IN LUXURY VALUE CHAINS

This session explores how the luxury fashion industry is developing a collaborative approach to water resilience in the Arno River Basin, with a particular focus on the Santa Croce sull'Arno leather manufacturing district.

Speakers: Camilla Morandi - GFA; Kering; BCN Concerie; Gaia Checcucci - Secretary General, Northern Apennines River Basin District Authority

The event will be held in Italian, with simultaneous interpretation into English.

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 • HALL 9, AISLE U

14.00

HOUSE OF NATURAL MATERIALS

An international platform created to support and promote natural fibres and materials through a collaborative approach grounded in scientific evidence.

The event will be held in English, with simultaneous interpretation into Italian.

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 • HALL 9, AISLE U

14.00

INSIDEOUT BY C.L.A.S.S. - TRUST IS THE NEW LUXURY

Making the invisible visible throughout the value chain to create a high-quality, next-generation wardrobe.

Moderator: Marta Montanari - Project Manager, Environment & Sustainability Service, UNIC - Concerie Italiane

Speakers: Giusy Bettoni - CEO and Founder of C.L.A.S.S. and InsideOut by C.L.A.S.S.; Livia Bardi - Chemistry and Environment Expert, Products and Services Competence Centre, Altroconsumo; Barbara Guarducci - Fashion Program Coordinator, Kent State University Florence, and Founder and Creative Director of mending for good; Paolo Rambaldini - R&D Manager, Fabrics & Coatings Division, Limonta; Alessia Zaramella - Marketing & Communication Manager, Dani S.p.A.

The event will be held in Italian.

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 • HALL 24, AISLE P

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16.00

GREENWASHING DIRECTIVE: MARKET IMPACT AND COMBATING UNFAIR AND MISLEADING COMMERCIAL PRACTICES

European Directive (EU) 2024/825 prohibits greenwashing and misleading commercial practices. In Italy, it has been fully transposed through Legislative Decree No. 30/2026, which will take effect on 27 September 2026. Sustainability marks, claims and labels will be permitted only if based on official third-party certification schemes or established by public authorities; "green labels" devised by companies themselves will be prohibited.

Moderator: Fabio Iraldo - Full Professor and Vice-Rector for Research Valorisation, Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa

Speakers: Marta Montanari - Environment and Sustainability Service, UNIC - Concerie Italiane; Giovanna Ceolini - President of ICEC and President of Confindustria Accessori Moda; Sabrina Frontini - Director of ICEC; Guglielmo Tozzi - Institutional Relations, Accredia; Gianpiero Geminiani - Legal Counsel, UNIC Group; Andrea Gemma - Professor of Private Law, Roma Tre University; Ivano Giacomelli

The event will be held in Italian, with simultaneous interpretation into English.

FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 • HALL 9, AISLE U

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EVENTS SCHEDULE

15 SEPTEMBER

10.30 am 11.30 am	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	FW 27-28 FASHION TRENDS PRESENTATION
11.30 am 1.00 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 HALL 24 AISLE P	LEATHER LEADERS
2.00 pm 3.00 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 HALL 24 AISLE P	THE HIDDEN POSITIVE STORY BEHIND EXOTIC LEATHER
2.30 pm 3.30 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	NATIONAL SKILLS STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE OF THE MADE IN ITALY TCLF FASHION MANUFACTURING SECTORS
4.00 pm 6.00 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	A REBEL SURFACE: LEATHER AS AN EVOCATIVE MATERIAL BETWEEN THE FASHION SYSTEM, COLLECTIVE IMAGINATION AND URBAN LEGEND

16 SEPTEMBER

10.00 am 11.00 am	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	FW 27-28 FASHION TRENDS PRESENTATION
11.30 am 12.30 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	NEXT GEN LEATHER DESIGNERS – AWARD CEREMONY
12.45 pm 1.45 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	WATER RESILIENCE IN LUXURY VALUE CHAINS
2.00 pm 3.30 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	HOUSE OF NATURAL MATERIALS
2.00 pm 3.00 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 HALL 24 AISLE P	INSIDEOUT BY C.L.A.S.S. - MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE
4.00 pm 6.00 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 1 HALL 9 AISLE U	GREENWASHING DIRECTIVE: MARKET IMPACT AND FIGHT AGAINST MISLEADING COMMERCIAL PRACTICES
4.00 pm 6.00 pm	 FASHION & SCIENCE THEATRE 2 HALL 24 AISLE P	MAKE WAY FOR THE NEW GENERATION. BUT IS IT REALLY SO? OPPORTUNITIES IN A WORLD WITHOUT CERTAINTIES

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION



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LINEAPELLE 108 PUTS METAL COMPONENTS IN THE SPOTLIGHT, A STRATEGIC SUPPLY CHAIN FOR MADE IN ITALY

LINEAPELLE 108 PRESENTS THE EXHIBITION “METAL COMPONENTS – FROM FASHION ACCESSORIES TO MADE IN ITALY SUPPLY CHAINS” ORGANISED IN COLLABORATION WITH CONSORZIO PHYSIS

LINEAPELLE is bringing the world of metal components to the forefront of its upcoming edition, highlighting their key role in the design, identity and value of fashion and design products.

From 15 to 17 September 2026, at Fiera Milano Rho, LINEAPELLE 108 will present the exhibition **“Metal Components – From Fashion Accessories to Made in Italy Supply Chains”**, organised in collaboration with Consorzio Physis.

The exhibition highlights a sector built on expertise, specialised manufacturing processes and know-how deeply rooted in Italy’s production districts. Buckles, fastenings, buttons and other metal elements are far more than simple functional details: they contribute to a product’s recognisability, define its aesthetic identity and enhance its value.

The exhibition also marks the beginning of the collaboration between LINEAPELLE and Consorzio Physis, created with the aim of promoting the manufacturing culture behind metal components and their cross-sector relevance, from fashion to other Made in Italy industries.

In this way, LINEAPELLE broadens the scope of its research and representation of the supply chain, bringing together materials, accessories, industrial expertise and design.

Location

Hall 22 – Stand N21/23 P21/25

LINEAPELLE Press Office
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LINEAPELLE 108: A HUB FOR TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION

TRAINING MEANS CONNECTING KNOWLEDGE, MATERIALS, INDUSTRY AND CREATIVITY. THIS IS A ROLE THAT LINEAPELLE CONTINUES TO DEVELOP EDITION AFTER EDITION, BUILDING COLLABORATIONS WITH UNIVERSITIES, ACADEMIES AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ITALY AND AROUND THE WORLD.

Educational projects, workshops, experimentation and opportunities for direct dialogue with companies turn every edition of LINEAPELLE into a training hub where students can explore the materials, processes and expertise that define the supply chain, translate them into new design experiences and present the results at the fair.

Here are the educational projects that will be showcased at LINEAPELLE 108.

IED TURIN AND IED SÃO PAULO

LINEAPELLE takes part in the international COIL project involving IED Turin and IED São Paulo, bringing its expertise and knowledge to the students. Bags developed through the collaboration between the two campuses will be showcased at the fair, alongside a series of dedicated workshops.

Location: Hall 15 - Stand A11

IUAV / LINEAPELLE

The collaboration with Università Iuav di Venezia continues. A selection of projects developed during the 2025/26 academic year will be on display, resulting from a programme that combines design, knowledge of leather and its supply chain, lectures and company visits.

Location: Hall 15 - Stand A17

ISTITUTO MODARTECH

Leather becomes a field of research and experimentation for Modartech Fashion Design students. Garments and accessories explore leather, artisanal techniques, weaving, engraving and heat embossing, combining craftsmanship and know-how with new design languages.

Location: Hall 15 - Stand B18

ACCADEMIA NAMI

Thirty unique pieces, including bags and accessories, showcase the work of first-year students at Accademia NAMI. The exhibition space will also become a live workshop, with traditional stitching, dyeing and manual techniques demonstrated throughout LINEAPELLE.

Location: Hall 15 - Stand A12

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COTANCE - METASKILLS4TCLF

LINEAPELLE hosts METASKILLS4TCLF, the European project focused on developing the skills required to support the digital and green transition of the leather, footwear, textile and clothing sectors, while creating new training models capable of engaging younger generations.

Location: Hall 15 - Stand A03

BEIJING INSTITUTE OF FASHION TECHNOLOGY

The programme's international dimension extends to China with the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology. Student-designed prototypes will be presented at LINEAPELLE, offering new creative perspectives from one of China's leading fashion education institutions.

Location: Hall 15 - Stand A20

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NEXT GEN LEATHER DESIGNERS CONTEST: A LINEAPELLE 108 LA PREMIAZIONE DELLA PRIMA EDIZIONE

IL 16 SETTEMBRE SARANNO PREMIATI I VINCITORI DEL CONCORSO PROMOSSO DA LINEAPELLE E PIATTAFORMA SISTEMA FORMATIVO MODA ETS PER AVVICINARE I GIOVANI DESIGNER ALLA PELLE E AI MATERIALI

Mercoledì 16 settembre alle ore 11.30, a LINEAPELLE 108, saranno premiati i vincitori della prima edizione di Next Gen Leather Designers, il concorso promosso da LINEAPELLE e Piattaforma Sistema Formativo Moda ETS, rivolto agli studenti diplomandi delle scuole associate alla Piattaforma ETS.

Il progetto, avviato nel settembre 2025, nasce per creare un collegamento diretto tra formazione, creatività e industria, stimolando le nuove generazioni di designer a conoscere e utilizzare in modo creativo e responsabile la pelle e i materiali.

I partecipanti hanno sviluppato i propri progetti nelle categorie Fashion Design - womenswear, menswear e agender - e Accessori, lavorando sul tema Bridging Tribes, Building Dreams, scelto da Fashion Graduate Italia 2025. Un invito a esplorare l'incontro tra identità, culture e visioni e il dialogo tra innovazione e artigianato, digitale e analogico, locale e globale.

I lavori selezionati saranno esposti a LINEAPELLE 108 presso il Talent & Training Hub situato nel Padiglione 15, mentre la cerimonia di premiazione si svolgerà il 16 settembre alle ore 11.30 presso il Fashion & Science Theater (Padiglione 9). alla presenza della giuria composta da Fulvia Bacchi, Mariella Milani, Marco Poli, Laura Bittau, Andrea Bigozzi e dai designer Giuseppe Buccinnà e Daniele Amato.

Next Gen Leather Designers consolida la collaborazione tra LINEAPELLE e Piattaforma Sistema Formativo Moda ETS, sviluppata negli anni per mettere in relazione le scuole di moda italiane con le aziende produttrici di pelle e materiali per il fashion system.

Un confronto che punta a portare nella formazione dei futuri professionisti una maggiore conoscenza dei materiali, dei processi produttivi e delle competenze della filiera, trasformandola in strumento concreto di progettazione.

«La partnership tra Piattaforma Sistema Formativo Moda e Lineapelle rappresenta un ponte fondamentale e strategico tra il mondo dell'alta formazione e l'eccellenza dell'industria manifatturiera italiana. Con la prima edizione del contest Next Gen Leather Designers, abbiamo voluto offrire ai nostri giovani talenti l'opportunità di confrontarsi concretamente con la materia e con la filiera produttiva.

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La pelle è una materia straordinariamente ricca, capace di unire tradizione, innovazione e creatività. Mettere gli studenti nelle condizioni di conoscerla e sperimentarla significa offrire loro gli strumenti per interpretarne le potenzialità espressive e progettuali, sviluppando al tempo stesso una consapevolezza concreta della materia, dei processi e della sostenibilità. I 37 progetti esposti qui a Lineapelle mostrano la capacità delle nuove generazioni di partire dalla conoscenza del materiale per sviluppare idee nuove e personali, coniugando creatività, competenza e attenzione al futuro. È un percorso virtuoso che continueremo a far crescere insieme: a fine ottobre, in occasione di Fashion Graduate Italia 2026, lanceremo la seconda edizione del concorso per dare continuità a questo importante dialogo tra scuola e impresa.» dichiara Matteo Secoli, Presidente Piattaforma Sistema Formativo Moda ETS.

PIATTAFORMA SISTEMA FORMATIVO MODA ETS

LINEAPELLE - Fiera Milano Rho

TALENT & TRAINING HUB - Pad. 15, corsia A 21/23 - B 22/24

NEXT GEN LEATHER DESIGNERS CONTEST

PREMIAZIONE

Mercoledì 16 settembre - ore 11.30

LINEAPELLE

FASHION&SCIENCE THEATRE 1 - Pad. 9, corsia U

Ufficio Stampa

press@lineapelle-fair.it

Dal 2008, Piattaforma Sistema Formativo Moda Ente del Terzo Settore è l'hub che riunisce le migliori Istituzioni e Accademie italiane che offrono percorsi formativi post diploma nel settore moda. Le scuole che compongono l'associazione hanno da sempre uno stretto legame con il patrimonio culturale, storico e industriale italiano. Così riunite, costituiscono un segmento fondamentale per l'innovazione e per la crescita di nuovi talenti e creano gli strumenti per allineare offerta formativa ed esigenze di mercato. Tra gli obiettivi dell'associazione - che ha un ruolo nevralgico nel coordinamento e nello sviluppo armonico del sistema formativo italiano della moda - ci sono anche le attività atte a sviluppare collaborazioni con Istituzioni ed Enti locali, nazionali e internazionali. www.piattaformasistemaformativomoda.it; www.fashiongraduateitalia.it

National Skills Strategy for the future of the Made in Italy

TCLF fashion manufacturing sectors

***An International Talk organized by Confindustria Accessori Moda in collaboration with
PIN di Prato and Politecnico Calzaturiero to discuss the manufacturing of tomorrow***

Lineapelle – September 15, 2:30 PM – Hall 9

The Talk "**National Skills Strategy for the future of the Made in Italy TCLF fashion manufacturing sectors**" organized by Confindustria Accessori Moda at Lineapelle, will bring together the European leaders of the Metaskills4TCLF project and Confindustria Accessori Moda in dialogue with leading national representatives of production, training, and labour market matching.

Metaskills4TCLF aims to strengthen the dialogue between businesses, trainers, and institutions, to train qualified young people equipped with the skills now essential to the markets. Within the project, a proposal for a National Strategy for the skills of the Italian TCLF system was drafted – clothing, leather, tanning, footwear, leather goods, and accessories – with the objective of translating European guidelines on strengthening skills in the fashion manufacturing sectors into an Italian key. The Italian National Strategies are indeed at the centre of the Talk proposed on the exceptional international stage provided by the Lineapelle fair.

The heart of the strategy, strongly co-created by all stakeholders, is the need to enhance an increasingly concrete dialogue between businesses, trainers, and institutions, developing tools and initiatives for training and for companies that enable generational renewal based on the most up-to-date skills now indispensable to the markets in the fashion manufacturing sectors.

The strategy starts from a clear premise: Italy represents one of the productive hearts of European TCLF, thanks to the strength of its districts, the heritage of technical and artisanal know-how, the ability to produce quality, innovation, and flexibility throughout the entire supply chain. For this very reason, the issue of skills today assumes a decisive value for the competitiveness of Made in Italy.

The document highlights some structural critical issues: the aging of the workforce and the risk of losing tacit know-how; the difficulty of attracting young people to production and technical roles; the need to update skills in relation to sustainability, circular economy, traceability, data, and digitalization; the difficulty, especially for SMEs, of transforming these needs into accessible and continuous training pathways.

On this basis, the strategy identifies six intervention priorities:

- renew initial and tertiary professional training pathways;
- make lifelong learning more accessible and strategic for SMEs;
- strengthen green, sustainability, and compliance skills throughout the supply chain;
- accelerate digital readiness and data management;
- improve attractiveness, inclusion, and retention of labor in the sector;
- build a National Pact for TCLF skills, linked to regional and district partnerships.



The logic of the document is not to create new parallel structures, but to align existing tools – institutions, Regions, ITS Academy, vocational training, interprofessional funds, associations, businesses – around shared priorities, measurable objectives, and a common implementation framework.

Among the operational proposals are, among others: a national TCLF professional map, an SME Skills Check, short and modular training modules, pathways dedicated to green and digital skills, mentoring schemes for know-how transfer, and the construction of a monitoring system based on common KPIs.

The Talk therefore opens a discussion on a central point: how to transform this strategy into a concrete platform (the National Pact) for collaboration between businesses, training, employment services, and institutions, capable of accompanying the sector's transition and consolidating over time the competitiveness of the Italian fashion manufacturing system, in a process that starts in September 2026 and concludes in 2032, with ambitious objectives, such as training 5% of the workforce needed by the fashion sector as a whole every year (therefore approximately 25,000 people per year) and engaging in dialogue with at least 1,000 companies on an ongoing basis, to obtain from them the necessary feedback on their skill needs, in order to orient training courses so that labour supply and demand coincide as much as possible.

On stage:

- The European leaders of the Metaskills4TCLF project
- For businesses, Confindustria Accessori Moda and Confindustria Moda
- Randstad, voice of services dedicated to work and skills
- The representative of the ITS Italia training network in the fashion sector

Moderated by the voice of UNIC, Concerie Italiane: the first and important link in the Made in Italy leather accessories supply chain.

Confindustria Accessori Moda

Confindustria Accessori Moda è la Federazione che riunisce le associazioni cui fanno riferimento i comparti chiave della filiera pelle italiana: calzaturiero (Assocalzaturifici), pelletteria (Assopellettieri), abbigliamento in pelle e pellicceria (AIP), concia (Unic concerie italiane). La Federazione tutela quella filiera di eccellenza che ha reso l'industria degli accessori moda Made in Italy grande nel mondo. Il suo ruolo è la difesa e la valorizzazione di tutto quel saper fare, creativo e tecnico, che in Italia produce ricchezza, cultura e crescita sociale.



MARKET INSIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 2026



LINEAPELLE

ITALY – Current estimates for the Italian tanning industry in the first half of 2026 indicate an overall decline of 6.4% in **turnover** and 5.2% in **production volumes** compared with the same period last year.

The negative trend affecting the tanning industry – and, more broadly, the entire international leather supply chain – for almost four years therefore continues. The reasons behind the persistent **market weakness** remain largely unchanged from those identified in previous market analyses and are primarily rooted in the **global geopolitical situation**, which continues to be highly challenging and uncertain in terms of future developments. The inflationary trend also shows no clear signs of easing and continues to significantly constrain the purchasing power of a substantial share of consumers worldwide, particularly when it comes to spending on fashion, furniture and automotive products.

Italian exports of leather have also recorded negative results, with an overall decline of 4.9% in value compared with the same period last year.

An analysis of **shipments by major destination market** shows that only 4 of Italy's top 20 export destinations did not record a decline: France (+8%), which is increasingly consolidating its position as the leading destination for Italian leather exports; Portugal (stable); Turkey (+2%); and Cambodia (+40%).

Exports declined to Spain (-4%), Vietnam (-8%), Germany (-2%), Romania (-13%), China (-8%, including Hong Kong), the USA (-1%), Tunisia (-11%), Serbia (-14%), Albania (-3%), Poland (-21%), the United Kingdom (-6%), South Korea (-5%), India (-20%), Hungary (-21%), Slovakia (-5%) and Mexico (-6%).

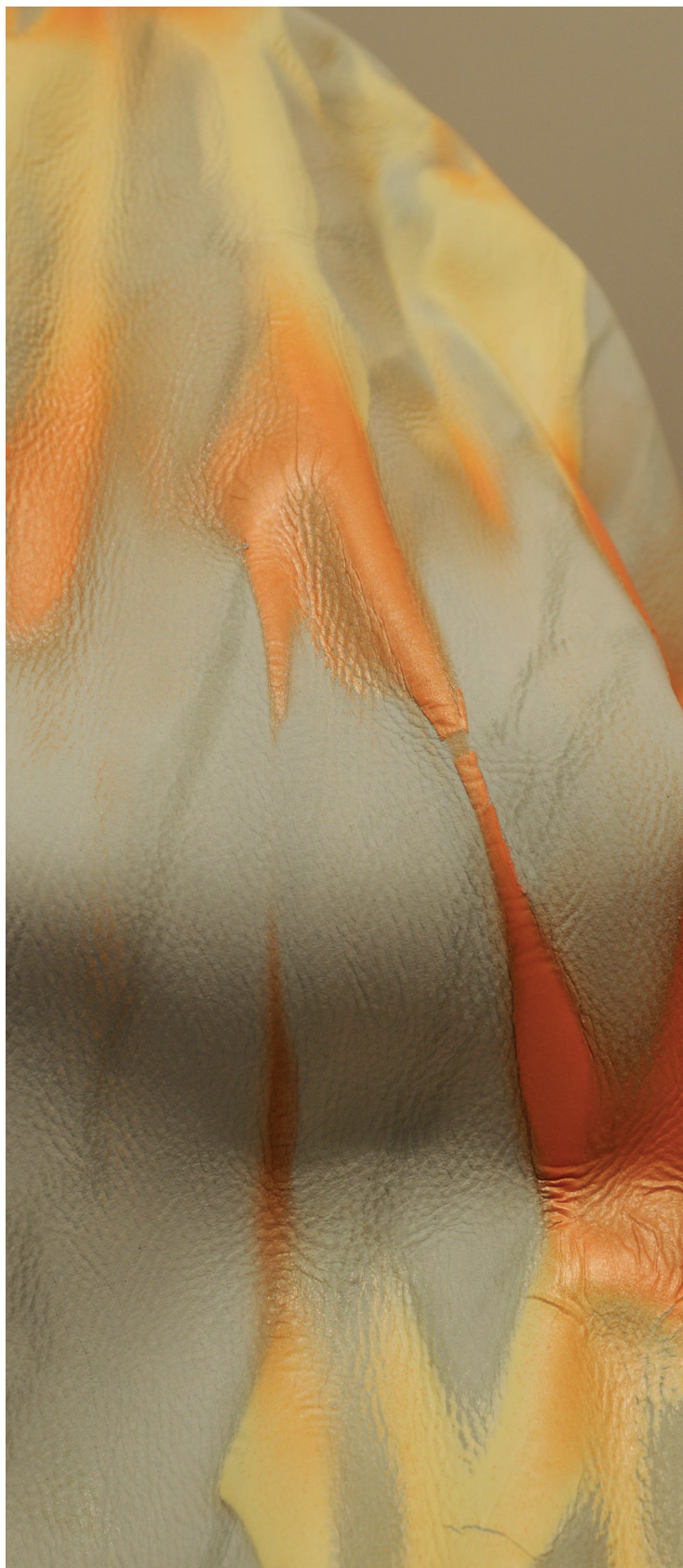
Unfortunately, an analysis of the **performance of the individual segments and production districts** of the Italian tanning industry reveals no exceptions to the overall negative picture outlined above.

One of the few positive developments is the improvement in short-term market dynamics recorded in the second quarter of the year compared with the first quarter.

OTHER COUNTRIES – An analysis of **medium and large bovine leather** production in the first part of 2026 also reveals a broadly negative picture across the rest of Europe. Exports from Austria, the Netherlands, Portugal and Poland declined by double digits, while negative results were also recorded in Germany and Spain. Only France and the United Kingdom posted growth.

Outside Europe, the picture is more mixed, with export declines in India, Brazil, Pakistan and Turkey, while China, Mexico and Argentina recorded recoveries.

Export trends also varied across the **small-skins leathers segments**. **Calf** leather recorded positive results in both France and Spain, while **sheep and goat** leather exports increased in Spain, China, Pakistan and the United Kingdom, but declined in France, India and Turkey.



ACCESSORIES, COMPONENTS, SYNTHETICS

TEXTILES, SYNTHETICS AND LEATHER ALTERNATIVES – The Germans' six-month slump is dragging down the EU overall average, which remains stable thanks to the resilience of the Italian and Portuguese manufacturers. The synthetics have performed well in the year-to-date figures for 2026, whilst synthetic fabric materials have slowed to a negative standstill. Critical issues are affecting regenerated leather fibres, with all major EU producers reporting a decline in results over the period under review.

MANUFACTURING SECTORS

FOOTWEAR – The glimmer of recovery for the **Italian footwear sector** in early 2026 already appears to have faded; the cumulative figures for the first six months of this year now show a further contraction in the sector, a trend echoed by other major European footwear manufacturers. Indeed, there appears to be no relief from the troubles facing the European footwear sector, which, after so many poor quarters, has also concluded the first half of this year with marked and widespread declines. The performance of the major Asian competitors, Turkish manufacturers and South American producers has also been generally negative, with the exception of Mexico, which is on the rise.

LEATHER GOODS – Similarly to what happened in the footwear sector, the **Italian leather goods** sector also confirms the ongoing critical issues observed between the end of last year and the first part of 2026. The EU leather goods sector as a whole is struggling, with lower results for most European manufacturers, despite the notable exception of France, which saw a 4% increase. The picture outside the EU also reflects the sector's difficulties, with marked and widespread declines, apart from Pakistan, which experienced growth.

GARMENTS – The performance of European packaging manufacturers has been encouraging, with widespread growth in the first six months of this year, although significant exceptions to this trend do exist. The picture is mixed beyond the EU's borders, where Turkish and Indian players are struggling, whilst Chinese and Pakistani manufacturers are experiencing significant growth.

UPHOLSTERY – The sharp slowdown in the **upholstered furniture sector** at EU level is a cause for concern, with marked declines for all major EU manufacturers, particularly in Italy and Germany. This is also a critical moment for China, which has seen a significant decline in the year-to-date figures for 2026. The United States offers some reassurance, with figures on the rise. The **automotive sector** is regaining momentum at EU level in the year-to-date figures for 2026, with new car registrations rising in all major European markets. However, whilst the first half of the year shows positive growth, the second half of 2026 is expected to see a slowdown, with registrations totalling over 10.8 million units – just 0.5 per cent higher than 2025 volumes. Beyond Europe's borders, US new car registrations are down (-3%). China, on the other hand, has seen a double-digit slump (-26%). The Indian market is performing very well, with registrations

ACCESSORIES AND COMPONENTS – Despite the upturn in Germany and Romania, and a slight improvement in the sector in the second quarter of this year, the EU accessories and components sector average closed the first half of 2026 in negative territory (-2 %), weighed down by declines among the other major European players, particularly Italy and France. A sector-by-sector breakdown once again favours small metal parts, whilst other accessories are struggling. Downbeat performance from other footwear accessories and components, which saw double-digit declines at EU level over the period.

up by 19%. UK registrations rose by 9% over the period.

LUXURY BRANDS – The geopolitical and economic landscape facing the leading luxury brands in 2026 remains uncertain. Positive signs are emerging for the traditionally more resilient players, whilst others are struggling to return to profitability after multiple quarters of declines. Thanks to an acceleration in the second quarter of 2026, organic growth by French giant **LVMH** rose in the first half of 2026: +2% compared with 2025. Demand from the US market is driving growth in the fashion and leather goods division (+1% in the second quarter of the current year), although the half-year figures are unchanged from the first six months of last year (organic growth of -1%). The **Kering** Group has reduced its losses, closing the second quarter of 2026 at +2% (at constant exchange rates) and with cumulative growth remaining stable in the first six months of the year (+1% compared with the same period in 2025). The group's fashion and leather goods division is slowly recovering (-1% in the first six months) despite persistent difficulties faced by **Gucci** (-5% in revenue in the first half of the year, at constant exchange rates). **YSL** and **Bottega Veneta**, on the other hand, performed well. **Hermès** once again posted excellent results, growing by 6% in the first half of the current year (at constant exchange rates). Sales figures were favourable in all major geographical regions with the exception of the Middle East, which saw a slight decline (-4%). Japan, however, performed very well (+11%), as did the United States (+15%). The leather goods and saddlery division posted solid growth: a cumulative increase of 10% for 2026, with slightly higher growth in the second quarter of the current year. **Ferragamo's** recovery was cautious but steady, with revenue rising by 5% in the second quarter of the year, bringing the half-year total for 2026 to +2% (at constant exchange rates). Sales growth in North America was significant. The footwear division performed well (sales up 6% in the first six months of 2026); leather goods, by contrast, struggled (-3%). The **Prada** Group continues to thrive, closing the first half of the year with a 5% increase in revenue (at constant exchange rates), following a 7% rise in the second quarter of 2026 alone. **Prada** performed well (+3% sales in the half-year, +6% in the second quarter). **Miu Miu** also saw growth (+2.5% in the first six months of the year, +3% in the second quarter of 2026). Growth was excellent in the Americas (+17%) and in Asia-Pacific (+6%), whilst there were some signs of weakness in Europe (-4%) and a sharp decline in the Middle East (-24%).