

LINEAPELLE – SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2016

Welcome to the Leather Space

1,241 exhibitors (69 more than at the September 2015 edition) from 22 nations. A whole series of new features designed to ensure the best possible visitor experience for the entire leather space. LINEAPELLE will be opening its doors to the world to strengthen the organization's position as a global point of reference for industry events, commerce, and style.

Attendance is a must.

From September 20-22, 2016, at the Fieramilano Rho fairgrounds, LINEAPELLE will be opening its doors to the world of leather to underscore the extent of the organization's international leadership as an essential point of reference for events, commerce, and trends in the fashion industry. This event has become a crucial one for tanneries and manufacturers of accessories, components, fabrics and synthetics, especially in today's complex economic landscape.

Exhibitors and delegations at the event.

The number of exhibitors was up 6% on the 2015 edition, reaching a total of **1,241** visitors, with 763 from Italy and 478 from 43 other nations. These figures illustrate the power and appeal of a trade show that continues to bring together and promote unity and interaction between all industry segments, including footwear, clothing, leather goods, furniture and design, automotive, and luxury goods.

Many international delegations will also be on hand thanks to coordination by ITA-Italian Trade Agency backed by the Italian Ministry for Economic Development.

Modern, more efficient services.

Thanks to a new organizational approach, to meet the needs of the entire value chain, LINEAPELLE introduces a series of logistic innovations, beginning with a more exciting, more accessible concept of its fashion-centric core in the form of trend areas located in the various pavilions (in aisle Z of Pavilion 13-15, in aisle U of Pavilion 9, and in aisle T of Pavilion 22). These will feature a wealth of style proposals for the 2017-18 Fall/Winter collection as developed by the various exhibitors and inspired by the underlying theme of the season: the **New Sensorium**.

Signage has also been revised and improved providing clear, complete information to enter and tour the trade show before visitors even cross the turnstiles.

The need for clarity in the market.

LINEAPELLE will be taking place within a complex economic landscape in which market dynamics have slowed down like never before, waiting to see what the fair will bring. *“The first half of the year has shown a fairly weak global economy,”* said **Gianni Russo**, president of the Italian Tanners’ Association (UNIC) and of the Conceria Russo in Casandrino. *“Looking forward, the end of the summer orders suggests that trends will remain low until the end of the year, particularly in the area of fashion accessories. It is our hope that greater momentum will come from the first orders for the upcoming fall/winter season”*.

On the whole, the tanning industry remains prevalently weak, although performance by segment varies. Bovine skins (although calf skins are something of an exception) and sheep and goat skins are experiencing the greatest difficulty, whereas the first half of 2016 was a positive period for accessories, components, textiles, and other alternative materials.

The overall trend in fashion accessories was encouraging in Europe. Clothing saw widespread declines, as furniture upholstery held its ground and automotive upholstery remained strong, despite its slowing down.

A message from the institutions

In the words of **Vincenzo Boccia**, president of Confindustria, at the start of the most important event for the international leather industry, LINEAPELLE is *“an example of how Italy needs to be aware of the need to maintain and further develop its position of leadership”*, and he went on to underscore the country’s great ability to work together within this industry. **Ivan Scalfarotto**, undersecretary at the Ministry for Economic Development, echoed this sentiment, saying that *“Italy’s fashion industry is a unique system, and each event is just one island within a single archipelago”*. One where the concepts of maximum quality and refined elegance are the keys to success.

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