



**Minutes of the IULTCS Council of Delegates Meeting
14th October 2009 at 10:40 hrs
Beijing International Hotel
Beijing, China.**

1. Record of the Delegate Attendance

At the Council of Delegates (COD) meeting there were 34 Member Delegates present with voting rights, out of a possible total of 36 voting rights.

The Secretary welcomed the delegates and IULTCS members to the meeting in Beijing and thanked them for the very good attendance.

2. Minutes of the Council of Delegates meeting, 23rd June 2007 in Washington DC

The COD minutes had been previously circulated to all Members and were also posted on the website. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

3. President's Report

As this is my last public opportunity to address you as IULTCS president, I would like to take a few minutes to pay tribute to the Executive Committee and fellow officers for their support and contributions over the last 2 years. We must not underestimate nor undervalue the critically important work of our Commission Chairman, representatives on the EC and contributing members. The work of these bodies is very important for our Union and the leather industry. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.

As we have recognised Prof Covington's lifetime contributions to the leather industry by the merit Award for Excellence, let me also recognise the contributions and wise words of my immediate predecessors, Prof. Jaume Cot and Marc Folachier who articulated a broader vision and enhanced mission for the Union. I have worked hard over the last 2 years to ensure that the framework and structure of our organisation was appropriate for this journey. This is necessary pre-requisite if we are to fulfil any of our objectives. For in effect, we lose our meaning as an organisation if we are not perceived as contributing value to our larger constituency which is the global leather industry.

Let me touch on a few highlights of the last few years.

1. The IULTCS is financially sound, the balance sheet is improved – thank you Campbell Page for your prudent handling of our organisations finances.
2. We are growing; we have increased our Union membership this week and are in discussion with other prospective new members.
3. The approval in this meeting of direct representation of our members on the Executive Committee, I believe, will improve the speed, efficiency and effectiveness of communication and will allow more direct input by its members.
4. During the past 2 years the EC had quarterly teleconferences, which I believe helped our members feel closer, more involved and able to contribute more to a global organisation.
5. Our 7 Commissions are functioning well:
 - a. The IU testing Commissions (IUC/IUP/IUF) continue their excellent work. We all owe the Chairman and their Commission members a huge debt of gratitude for what they contribute to make our industry function more efficiently. Thanks, Joan Carles Castell, Mike Wilson and Campbell Page.
 - b. The IUE Environmental Commission serves a valuable function as a benchmark for global regulatory standards. Thanks, Dr Rajamani.



- c. The IUT Training Commission under its new chair, Jeffry Guthrie-Strachan has proposed a plan to develop a “Continuing Professional Development” certification, which we hope will help raise standards of professionalism in our industry.
 - d. The IUR Research Commission under its new chair, Dr. Dietrich Tegtmeier, has a new mission to create IU supported research platforms to help focus regional research and facilitate funding and collaboration.
 - e. The new IUL Liaison Commission under our Past president Marc Folachier aims to provide clear and positive communication within and about the industry.
6. Over the last 2 years we have celebrated milestones reached by some of our regional member associations and we have also recognised individuals of excellence. We have participated in regional conferences and meetings and we have also reached out to other global and regional leather organisations with the aim of closer co-operation – I am glad to recognise that members of the ICT, Cotance and ICSHLTA have been active participants in our Congress.

The grand event of the IULTCS calendar is of course the global Congress. Let me take this opportunity to thank the Congress organisers for the excellent facilities, good organisation and generous hospitality that I believe we have all enjoyed. Sincere thanks as well to those who have presented oral papers and visual displays this week. Without your hard work and willingness to share, such a Congress would of course not be possible. I believe that we have all learned something, entertained new ways of doing things and made new friends. Most importantly, sharing time with others who make their living in the same industry provides a fellowship that reinforces who we are as human beings and gives meaning to our work.

There is one more duty that I need to perform, and that is to acknowledge the current Vice-president – Dr Bi Shi, who is to take over the leadership of the IULTCS at the end of 2009. I know that he is ably qualified and I am convinced that with the support of the incoming Vice-President, Dr Volkan Candar and the able and ready assistance of Dr Campbell Page, along with the current Commission Chairs and new Executive Committee structure, that the Union is strong and in good hands.

As parting words, I ask you to contemplate your role in the :

- Identity of leather
- Image of our industry
- Innovation of the leather making process.

Thank you for attending this COD meeting and I look forward to your continued support and contributions to the IULTCS.

a). Election of Vice-President

The Executive Committee has elected Dr Volkan Candar, Turkey, as the new Vice-President. Dr Candar will assume his new duties as from 1 January 2010. The meeting endorsed this choice by a unanimous card vote.

b). Election of new Members and Associated members

At the Beijing Congress, TILA – Taiwan International Leather Association agreed to join IULTCS. They were welcomed as a new IULTCS Member.

c). Transfer to new President, Vice-President and Past President

The Vice-President, Dr Bi Shi, will assume his duties as the new President as from 1 January 2010.

At the same time Elton Hurlow becomes the Past President. Marc Folachier, currently Past President, moves off the Executive Committee and plans to enjoy his well earned retirement. The Executive Committee passed their sincere thanks to Marc for all his excellent initiatives and work he has put into IULTCS during his years as Vice-President, President and now Past President.



4. Secretary/Treasurers Report

a) Adoption of Audited Accounts for 2007 & 2008

Mr Peter Hechler, a registered auditor in Basel, Switzerland, has reviewed the IULTCS accounts from 2007 & 2008. The audit report along with the 2 year accounts (in US dollars) has been approved by The Executive Committee and copies circulated in Beijing to each of the EC Member Societies.

The audited accounts show that over the 2 years, 2007 and 2008, a US dollar income surplus of \$6552 was achieved.

A proposal to accept the 2007 & 2008 Audited Accounts was made by the Dr Candar and seconded by Christine Powley-Williams. The meeting voted in favour by a unanimous card vote.

b) Current Financial situation

The budget, accounts and assets of the IULTCS are reported in detail each year at the March meetings of the Executive Committee. This information is included in the EC meeting minutes, which are circulated to all IULTCS Members and available on the IULTCS website.

There have been no changes in the investments and budget since they were reported in March 2009. With the improving financial market situation the value of the main investment Fund with UBS has increased steadily during 2009.

The investment with the Bank of Ireland (BOI) will mature on the 19th October 2009. The amount initially invested will be returned, but relative to other currencies the GBP has fallen considerably in value over the last couple of years and this will have a negative impact.

At present IULTCS has a current bank account balance of 27200 EUR. This balance is more than required and at some stage part of it is planned to be invested. However, the imminent maturing of the BOI investment and the continuing turbulence in the finance markets has meant there has been no hurry to do this.

We anticipate an excess of income over expenditure during 2009 to allow us to remain in a good financial situation. Although the IULTCS has sound assets the aim continues to be that we live within our income each year.

c) Updates and changes to the IULTCS website

We continue to keep the IULTCS website up to date, and use the website as the way of conveying information about our activities.

If there any errors or alterations that need to be made to the website, please let the Secretary know.

d) IULTCS promotional brochure

A promotional brochure about the IULTCS and its activities has been printed and included in the Congress welcome packs. Additional copies are available for Members to use, for example, at local Conferences. We thank those Members who answered our request for publicity photos of leather activities.

5. Merit Award and VESLIC Award

The Merit Award has been awarded to Prof. Dr Tony Covington at the Congress opening ceremony. The next Merit Award will be at the Valencia Congress in 2011.

The Swiss IULTCS Member, VESLIC, has offered to support young presenters at IULTCS Congresses and Conferences by awarding a prize to the best presentation. The winner will be announced during the closing ceremony.

6. Adoption of Revised Statutes

Amendments to the Statutes, already approved by the Executive Committee, have been circulated earlier to all Members for their approval. In addition, Elton Hurlow explained the aim of replacing regional



representatives with a representative from each Member. This allows direct representation and shortens the communication chain.

Comments were sought from the floor of the meeting and, as there were no comments, a motion was put to the meeting that the revised Statutes should be adopted. This motion was proposed by Tony Covington (UK) and seconded by Patricia Casey (Argentina), it was accepted by a unanimous card vote.

Elton Hurlow pointed out there was a need to delay implementing the change from Regional to direct representatives in order that the IULTCS Executive Committee was in compliance with its Statutes. He proposed that the implementation be delayed to 1st December by which time each Member will have informed the Secretary who their direct representative is. On the 14th December a teleconference will be held to welcome all the Member Representatives to the IULTCS Executive Committee.

The motion to delay the implementation to the 1st December was proposed by Tony Covington (UK) and seconded by Christine Powley-Williams (UK), it was accepted by a unanimous card vote.

7. IULTCS Commission Reports

a). IUC/IUF/IUP Commissions

Combined IUC, IUF and IUP meetings were held in 2008 & 2009 at:

- Milan, Italy, 13th March 2008
- FILK, Germany, 13th September 2008
- Milan, Italy, 17th March 2009
- SATRA, UK, 16th September 2009

Chairpersons

IUC	Joan Carles Castell, Spain
IUF	Dr Campbell Page, Switzerland
IUP	Mike Wilson, UK

The minutes of the joint IUC, IUP and IUF meetings, held together with CEN/TC 289/WG1, WG2 and WG3, are available on the IULTCS website at <http://www.iultcs.org/commissions.asp>. In addition, minutes of the meetings are circulated worldwide to any experts who cannot attend. If anyone wishes to be added to the circulation they are most welcome. All comments received are tabled at the meetings and discussed.

All leather test methods are now developed as together with CEN/TC 289 as joint EN and IU/ISO Standards. Having consistent global test methods for leather is important as the leather industry has limited technical expert resources and we need to focus on a single test procedure.

The change to electronic communications and the agreement in 2005 with ISO that ISO publish all new test methods jointly as IU and ISO Standards has required a change in the ratification procedure by the COD of official IULTCS test methods. The procedure is to list the new joint IU and ISO methods published and to request the COD approval. A list of the new test methods since June 2007 is listed in Annex A. The COD gave their approval by a unanimous card vote.

All members of IULTCS have the chance to comment on the draft documents of new and revised ISO Standards, since these draft documents are now made openly available on the IULTCS website (http://www.iultcs.org/iultcs_methodsdraft.asp) and anyone can download them and submit comments.

b). IUE Commission - Dr S Rajamani

The International Union of Environment (IUE) Commission has technical member representation from more than 30 countries from the entire world Leather Sector. The Commission meets every year in one of the member countries and interacts on the environmental issues and technological solutions to tackle the pollution problems in the leather sector. The technical guidelines prepared for environmental



protection aspects for the leather industry based on the field requirements and experiences in different countries is being regularly updated and disseminated through IULTCS website.

In 2008 and 2009, Dr Rajamani has made presentations on IUE activities at Rio de Janeiro, Reutlingen, Argentina, India and now Beijing. He is publishing the IUE documents (which are available on the IULTCS website) in the Indian leather journal, "Leathers", to help reach a wider audience. Contacts with other organisations, institutes and authorities involved in environmental matters have been maintained.

The 2009 IUE meeting was held here in Beijing and took the chance to update all the IUE documents with the latest technical input. The updated IUE documents consist of 11 chapters starting from "IUE 1 Recommendations on Cleaner Technologies for Leather Production" and ending with "IUE 11 Recommendations for Occupational Health and Safety in the use of Chemicals in Tanneries". All the documents are available on the IULTCS website.

c). IUT Commission – Dr. Jeffry Guthrie-Stachan

Elton Hurlow reported on behalf of Jeffry Guthrie-Strachan. The IUT Handbook on Continuing Education was close to completion. The proposal is to have with a certificate which rewards those people in the leather industry who are undertaking further training. In the absence of Jeffry, Elton chaired a very well attended IUT meeting during the Congress.

d) IUR Commission - Dr Volkan Candar

With Volkan Candar's appointment as Vice President, he had asked that a new Chairman of IUR be appointed. Dr Dietrich Tegtmeier has accepted this job. Elton and Volkan are working with him to further development to concept of platform technologies needed by the leather industry and how the IULTCS can support research through the IUR Commission.

In the absence of Dietrich, Elton chaired a well attended IUR meeting during the Congress. The opinions of those who attended will be passed on.

e) IUL Liaison Commission – Marc Folachier

The aim of the IUL is to improve the communication of the work being done by the IULTCS. Marc Folachier has been the media liaison office for the IULTCS. He has established new communication channels for IULTCS to the global leather media. To improve this further, the IULTCS as a neutral, informed leather information source needs to be able to react quickly to media reports, both positive and negative. An recent example is the combined effort of 4 EC members to produce an IUL response within 24 hours to change an incorrect media release regarding dimethyl fumarate. A number of IUL information releases have been made and all have been prominently published in the leather magazines world-wide.

Marc said to keep this fast reaction a database of expert items on various topics would be a help. In addition, a further expanding of the list of news media contacts for publishing of leather information releases was needed. Those who have knowledge of key news media contacts were asked to let him know. There are still a few countries with leather publications that were not on his circulation list for IULTCS information releases. The EC members agreed to help him with these contacts during the Congress.

Marc commented that as he is now retired and in future not able to travel to meetings, he requested that IULTCS appoint from the end of 2009 a new IUL Chairman.

8. Any other business

There was no other business.



9. Location and date of the next Council of Delegates meeting.

The next Council of Delegates meeting will be held during the next IULTCS Congress in Valencia, Spain on 30 September 2011.

Campbell Page
Secretary/Treasurer IULTCS

Annex A

The following test methods have been published as joint IU / ISO Standards since June 2007

IUC 8-1 (ISO 5398-1)	Leather – Chemical determination of chromic oxide content – Part 1: Quantification by titration
IUC 8-2 (ISO 5398-2)	Leather – Chemical determination of chromic oxide content – Part 2: Quantification by colorimetry
IUC 8-3 (ISO 5398-3)	Leather – Chemical determination of chromic oxide content – Part 3: Quantification by atomic absorption spectroscopy
IUC 8-4 (ISO 5398-4)	Leather – Chemical determination of chromic oxide content – Part 4: Quantification by inductively coupled plasma – optical emission
IUC 18 (ISO 17075)	Leather – Chemical tests – Determination of chromium (VI) content
IUC 19-1 (ISO 17226-1)	Leather – Formaldehyde content; Part 1: Quantification by HPLC
IUC 19-2 (ISO 17226-2)	Leather – Formaldehyde content; Part 2: Quantification by colorimetric determination
IUC 25 (ISO 17070)	Leather – Chemical tests - Determination of pentachlorophenol content
IUC 26 (ISO 27587)	Leather – Chemical tests - Determination of free-formaldehyde content in process auxiliaries
IUP 44 (ISO 23910)	Leather – Ophysical tests - Determination of stitch tear resistance
IUP 53 (ISO 26082)	Leather – Physical tests - Determination of soiling with rubbing for automotive leather

The following existing test methods have been revised since June 2007

IUC 3 (ISO 4044)	Leather – Chemical tests – Preparation of chemical test samples
IUC 4 (ISO 4048)	Leather – Chemical tests – Determination of matter soluble in dichloromethane and free fatty acid content
IUF 434 (ISO 11643)	Leather – Fastness tests – Colour fastness of small samples to solvents
IUF 470 (ISO 11644)	Leather – Test for adhesion of finish