The IULTCS official methods of analysis for leather

The IULTCS, through the IULTCS Testing Commissions (IUC, IUF and IUP), provides help and protection for the leather tanning industry worldwide by developing and publishing test methods that are explicitly relevant to leather manufacture and leather usage. Without the work of the IU Commissions, which develop these test methods, the leather industry could be open to having to meet performance standards of other materials that bear no relationship to the reality of working with leather.

The IULTCS test methods are accepted by the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), and following agreements in 1990 and re-affirmed in 2005, the ISO recognises IULTCS as an International Standardising Body. ISO has assigned the responsibility for the establishment of test methods for leather to IULTCS and the resultant test method documents are published as a joint IULTCS and ISO Standards. Since 1990 many of the IU methods have become joint IULTCS and ISO Standards. From 2005 it was agreed that ISO will be responsible for publishing all new joint IULTCS and ISO Standards. Member countries of ISO very often use the ISO Standards to establish their own National Standards.

Further, the European Committee for Standardisation (Comité Européen de Normalisation - CEN) has through the CEN/TC 289 Technical Committee i.e. Leather/ (Secretariat: UNI Italy) jointly adopted many of the IU / ISO Standards. Once formally accepted the EN Standards are mandatory in all EU member countries.

The IU Commissions and the CEN TC 289 Working Groups hold their technical meetings together to co-ordinate the development of leather test methods. Consequently, this combined work of the IU Commissions, CEN TC 289 and ISO allows the development of leather test methods that are adopted as joint International (ISO), European (EN) and IULTCS Standards.

**IULTCS Test methods up to 2005**

Sets of the Official IULTCS and SLTC Methods up to 2005 were published by the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists (SLTC). They are available in a loose-leaf, ring binder, which can be purchased online at: [www.sltc.org/shop-publications.htm](http://www.sltc.org/shop-publications.htm) (Website: Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists (SLTC), U.K.) SLTC e-mail: office@sltc.org

**IULTCS Test methods since 2005**

Since 2005 the IULTCS / ISO joint test methods are published only by ISO. The joint ISO / IULTCS Standards are available as the ISO Standard from your local country Standards Organisation or online from the ISO website, [www.iso.org](http://www.iso.org).

If you have any questions or comments relating to leather test methods, please contact either the IULTCS Secretary or the respective Chairman of the IUC, IUF or IUP Commissions (see [www.iultcs.org](http://www.iultcs.org) for their details).

Dr. Campbell Page
IULTCS Secretariat

IULTCS
e/o TFL AG, (S. Dickhaut-Guedemann)
Bau 914B, Rothausstrasse 61
CH-4132 MUTTENZ
SWITZERLAND
E-mail: campbellpage3@gmail.com or office@iultcs.org

Set out below is a complete list of the IULTCS official methods together with the reference numbers for the equivalent ISO Standards and European Norm (EN) methods.

Standards with numbers that include DIS (Draft International Standard) or FDIS (Final Draft International Standard) are still in preparation. They can be obtained from Standards Associations but are not yet officially approved Standards.

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<th>IUC Test method</th>
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<td>IUC 1 (1965)</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUC 2 (2002)</td>
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<td>Preparation of chemical test samples</td>
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<td>IUC 13 (1975)</td>
<td>Determination of zirconium</td>
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<td>IUC 15 (1973)</td>
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<td>IUC 16 (1969)</td>
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<td>IUC 17 (1980)</td>
<td>Determination of hydroxyproline in materials containing collagen</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUC 21 (2003)</td>
<td>Method for the detection of certain azo colourants in dyestuff mixtures.</td>
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<td>IUC 22 (2003)</td>
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<td>IUC 35 (2016)</td>
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<td>ISO 19071:2016</td>
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<td>ISO/FDIS 22517:2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUC 40</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUC 41 (2018)</td>
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** Standard is undergoing revision and an updated version is in preparation
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<tr>
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<td>Sampling location (same as IUC 2)</td>
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<td>IUP 13 (1961)</td>
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<td>IUP 17 (1966)</td>
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<td>IUP 21 (1963)</td>
<td>Measurement of set in lasting</td>
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<td>IUP 22 (1963)</td>
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<td>IUP 30 (1983)</td>
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<td>General principles of colour fastness testing of leather</td>
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<td>***EN ISO 105-A01</td>
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<td>IUF 131 (1966)</td>
<td>Grey scale for assessing change in colour</td>
<td>***ISO 105-A02:1993 (incl. later amendment)</td>
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<td>IUF 132 (1966)</td>
<td>Grey scale for assessing staining</td>
<td>***ISO 105-A03:1993 (incl. later amendment)</td>
<td>***EN ISO 105-A03</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUF 151 (1975)</td>
<td>Preparation of storable standard chrome grain leather for dyeing</td>
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<td>Approximate determination of the solubility of leather dyes</td>
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<td>Colour fastness of leather to light: Xenon lamp</td>
<td>***ISO 105-B02:2014</td>
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<td>Colour fastness in respect of staining raw crepe rubber</td>
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<td>Fastness to buffing of dyed leather</td>
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<td>IUF 458 (1984)</td>
<td>Colour fastness of leather to ironing</td>
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The following textile fastness Standards do not have equivalent IU leather test methods but are recommended for use as the International Standard for leather.

- Instrumental assessment of the degree of staining of adjacent fabrics: ISO 105-A04:1989 | EN ISO 105-A04
- Instrumental assessment for change in colour for grey scale: ISO 105-A05:1996 | EN ISO 105-A05
- Colour fastness & ageing to artificial light at high temperatures: Xenon: ISO 105-B06:1998 (incl. later amendment) | EN ISO 105-B06
- Oil repellency Hydrocarbon resistance test: ISO 14419:2010 | EN ISO 14419

** Standard is undergoing revision and an updated version is in preparation
*** Nearest textile International Standard, recommended for use as the International Standard for leather