

LWG auditor Terms of Reference

Environmental auditing of leather manufacturers

Specification;

The provision of environmental auditing services delivering environmental stewardship audits using the latest LWG approved audit protocol for tanneries in different regions of the world. An objective of the LWG is to create a framework for improvement and therefore the provision of advice, support and guidance is a key part of the audit process.

Key Notes

- Audit providers that wish to offer their services to provide audits must be approved by the Executive committee of LWG. Individuals and not companies will be approved based upon their suitability. There will only be a limited number of auditors selected.
- All completed audits must be submitted to a peer review process so that the results, calculations and assumptions can be verified.
 - This will be conducted by the contracted facilitator which is currently BLC Leather Technology Centre Ltd
 - Auditors will be required to submit their clients full audit results. All results will be treated with the strictest confidentiality
 - In the event of a dispute the leather manufacturer can appeal to the executive committee
 - Auditors should note that if the leather manufacturer wishes to be listed on the LWG web-site they will need to submit their results to the LWG contracted facilitator for benchmarking. All results will be held confidentially by the facilitator and no individual data will be published

Recommended qualifications for the auditors

1. Educated to degree level or above in chemistry, biology, leather technology or environmental sciences
2. At least 5-10 years relevant experience in the tanning and finishing process
3. Third party qualified in environmental auditing techniques by a recognised provider

Recommended skills and knowledge

1. The ability to communicate general and technical information effectively through both verbal and written methods
2. The ability to write structured, concise reports
3. An understanding of restricted substance implications in tanneries
4. An understanding of clean technology application and water consumption management in tanneries
5. A thorough understanding of effluent treatment processes for tanneries
6. The ability to give coaching and advice to the leather manufacturers on water and energy savings techniques for the sector

Other recommended terms

1. Auditors must be able to demonstrate that there are no conflicts of interest with tanneries to be audited.