

MECAM GROUP



# INFORMATION BROCHURE

LEATHER

FABRICS

FOAM

FRAME STRUCTURE

GUARANTEE CONDITIONS

# LEATHER

## 1) *Thickness*

A raw skin has a thickness of +/- 5mm which in most cases is too thick for manufacturing. Therefore, the skin is split in two parts : grained leather (upper part) and split leather (lower part). The strongest structure of the skin is the top layer in the grained leather. The fibre structure of the split leather is not compact at all and therefore not suitable for making high quality leather furniture.

### **a) Grizzly leather (new W322-leather)**

Grizzly leather is a split leather on top of which a microfibre fabric is glued. This gives the leather an exceptional strength and a full and beautiful appearance. The leather has been treated with a dirt resistant product, making it extremely maintenance-friendly.

### **b) Bycast leather (X099)**

Bycast leather is a split leather provided with a unique polyurethane protective layer which gives the leather its special characteristics. However, it will lose some of its suppleness. Sometimes, the leather can discolour when pressure is put on the leather. This pull-up effect is not detrimental to the wearing quality of the leather and therefore cannot be reason for complaint.

The minimum thickness for leather used for furniture is 1.0mm  
The most frequent thicknesses are between 1.2 and 2.0mm.  
Exceptionally, leather of more than 3.00mm is made.

## 2) *Grain*

The thickness of the leather largely determines the view of the grain. Fine leather has a finer grain, thick leather a rougher grain. By nature, the grain in the centre of the skin will be more fine. This natural grain will be kept for the most beautiful skins. Less pure skins will receive a mechanical print. This will make the leather very uniform in order to eliminate all the imperfections.

Thickness 1.2-1.4mm – fine grain



thickness 2.6-2.8mm – rough grain



**The quality** of the raw skin will be influenced by :

Environment,  
Climate,  
Residence,  
Nutrition,  
Health,  
Skin type : veal, buffalo, calf, pig, ...

The quality, type and country of origin are determinant for the characteristics of raw skin (elasticity, suppleness, fibre structure, ...)

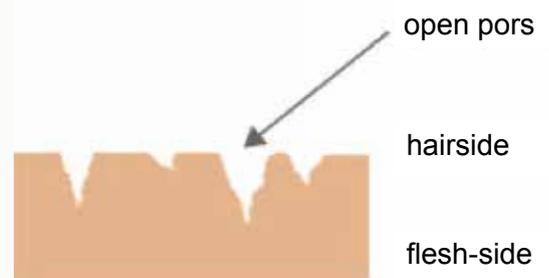
### 3) **Leather type**

The thickness of the skin and the leather type are 2 different things. The leather types mentioned below exist in thick as well as in thin leather. The skins with the least amount of scars and insect stings are kept as natural as possible. Less pure skins will be treated in order to hide the many insect stings and deep scars.

#### **Pure aniline leather**

After tanning, the skin will be mass-coloured.

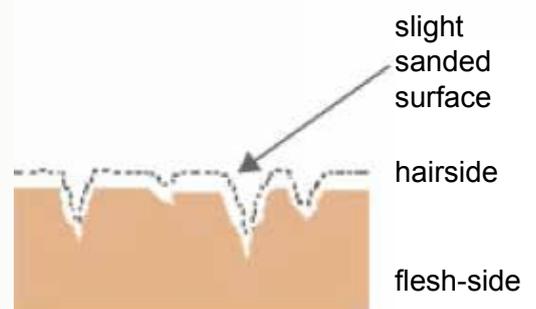
- + very natural leather, very soft to the touch
- Sensitive for stains and sunlight/price



Variant :

#### **Nubuck leather**

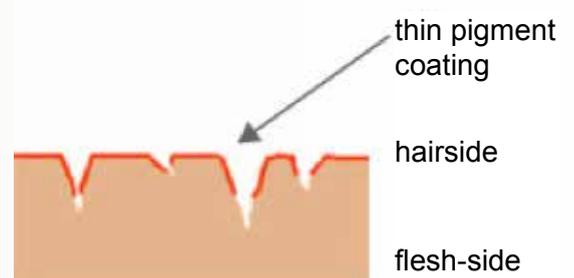
The surface will be sanded down slightly which will result into a writing effect and an even softer touch.



#### **Semi-aniline/pigmented leather**

The skin will be mass-coloured and will receive a thin pigment coating at the surface

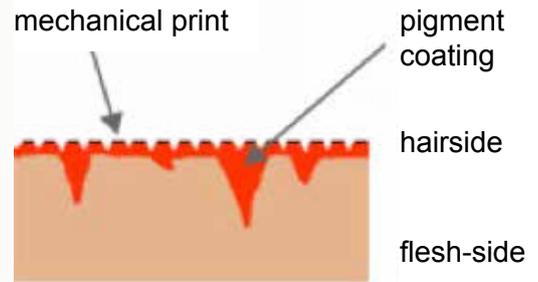
- + user friendly, resistant against stains and sunlight
- Slightly less soft than pure aniline



Variant :

### **Printed-pigmented leather**

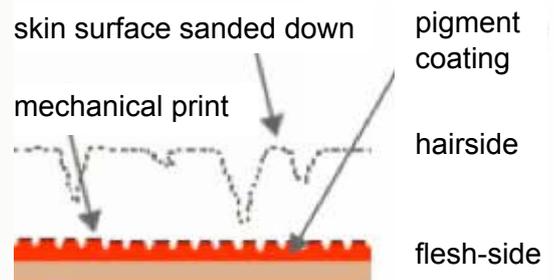
Skins with more scars receive a mechanical print. Usually, they will receive a slightly thicker pigment coating too.



### **Corrected grain leather**

The surface of the skin will be sanded down partially in order to smooth away the many insect stings and deep scars.

- + Price/ resistant to stains and sunlight
- Not so soft to the touch



### **TAURUS leather = All leathers of the Mecam Group (exclusive : W322 / W526 / W509 / LT8001)**

Leather is a beautiful product that carries nature's stamp. The Taurus leather has received a pigmented finish where the natural grain has or has not been corrected and has always been provided of a unique protective coating.

Taurus is a protective and coated type of leather with a lovely touch, which offers a 5 year guarantee on :

- rub fastness (resistant to discolouring of the leather)
- bending resistance (cracks, artificial aging of the leather)
- pigment attachment (attaching of the finish coating)
- light fastness (resistant to discolouring)
- stain service (service on the spot by service group)

This guarantee will be applicable only when the prescribed rules concerning maintenance have been respected. (see 4. explanation guarantee Taurus).

You can find these regulations in the first maintenance set which will be delivered with your suite.

The charms of real TAURUS leather

- insect stings : nature's stamps
- neck wrinkles : coming from the neck
- scars : proof of the genuineness of real leather

#### **4) Explanation Taurus guarantee :**

- Starterset with 1 guarantee stamp : we deliver this set to the customer with each order in leather
- Retailer has to sell the 5 year guarantee to end user by means of follow-up sets in shop (stamp system)
- End user completes the form from the starterset and sends this to Oranje
- In case of complaint and when activating the guarantee system, the end user has to contact the guarantee supplier (Oranje)
  - ° Taurus=guarantee on stains in general, skin stains, jeans,...  
see certificate+RUB FASTNESS/LIGHT FASTNESS
- Guarantee will be checked by Oranje by means of the amount of stamps per period – see recommendation on reply-card
- This system has been put up in order to allow us to control the maintenance of the leather by the end user, in other words, if the proper maintenance product has been applied in the correct frequency, the 5 year guarantee will apply
- No stamps = no guarantee, as we will have no proof if and when the leather has been maintained correctly

#### **5) Leather complaints :**

Cracks in the top layer of the leather can arise from :

- Too little or incorrect maintenance causing the top layer to dry out and causing cracks to appear. This will get worse when placing the suite too close to a heating appliance. Wrong maintenance e.g. dusting the leather with a damp chamois which contains traces of chemical polish which will eventually affect the top layer.
- Fats, acids, perspiration, etc which affect the top layer in such way that restoration with a leather cleaner is impossible. Eventually this will result in cracking of the top layer. (f.e. a cardboard box which has gone wet)
- Damaging of the top layer which can speed up above mentioned processes.

#### **Creasing of the leather :**

Leather is the skin of an animal which, through processing, will reach its final appearance and characteristics.

The skin consists of very tightly connected fibres which will give the leather its strength and durability. This fibre structure will depend on country of origin, race, age, sex, nourishment, climate etc of the animal.

The structure of the fibre will partly be determinative for the amount of creasing of the leather through the use of your sofa; additional factors are :

- Body pressure
- Body heat
- Period of usage
- Body weight
- Maintenance (insufficient maintenance will dry the leather out which will result in the leather getting harder and heavy creasing)

The above mentioned factors, combined with the natural character of the leather (leather breathes) will make some creasing inevitable. This is a characteristic of the leather which is not detrimental to its wearing qualities and therefore cannot be considered to be reason for complaint.

## **6) Good to know**

- Average surface of skin = 4,5m<sup>2</sup>
- European skins are bigger and more elastic but more expensive
- Delivery per 300/500 m<sup>2</sup> per leathercode = minimum 10 suites per code (which will exclude a one off complaint on the leather; complaint usually external cause)
- Every delivery will be checked on rub fastness and the results, including a testsample, are being kept for minimum 5 years
- Every order has a 100% traceability with regard to the leather
- Every delivery will receive an entry-controle : cfr report
- Differences in the colour of the leather between various units is due to shading/light entrance :
  - every order will be cut at random making it therefore impossible to cut one single unit out of 1 skin which could create colour difference between the different parts of that same unit but not between the various units of one complete order.
  - in case of complaint, move the different units in order to show and convince the customer that there is no colour difference between the various units.

# FABRICS

## **1) Flatweave**

The looks and the strength of this fabric will be created by the composition of the different yarns (cotton, polyester, viscosis,...), together with a specific weaving technology. Through use, pilling might occur. However, this is not detrimental to the wearing quality of the fabric and can easily be removed using a pilling apparatus.

Maintenance : vacuum weekly using a soft brush

Staining : try to remove stain using a suitable product (see list on website) – always treat from outside to inside.

## **2) Chenille flatweave**

Chenille is a particular type of yarn. The weaving of this yarn will create a “caterpillar” effect and a pleasant, soft touch. The looks and the strength of this fabric will be created by the composition of the yarns together with a specific weaving technology. Through use, pilling might occur. However, this is not detrimental to the wearing quality of the fabric and can easily be removed using a pilling apparatus. The use of chenille yarns will add to the beauty and softness of this fabric. Typical for this fabric is “shading”. This is a characteristic of this particular fabric and therefore cannot be considered to be reason for complaint.

Maintenance : vacuum weekly using a soft brush and refresh using a damp cloth.

Staining : try to remove the stain using a suitable product (see list on website) – always treat from outside to inside.

## **3) Velour**

Velour is the general term for all the fabrics from which the pile fibres are being weaved in a basic weave. The direction of the pile fibres determine the pile direction of these fabrics. The looks and the strength of this fabric will be created by the composition of the pile ends together with a specific weaving technology. Characteristic for this fabric is shading, which is caused by body heat and pressure which cannot be considered to be reason for complaint.

Maintenance : vacuum weekly using a soft brush and move in the direction of the pile.  
Refresh using a damp cloth.

Staining : try to remove any stain using a suitable product (see list on website) – always treat from outside to inside.

#### **4) Microfibre**

This fabric consists of synthetic micro fibres which are woven or glued and which give an exceptionally soft touch, strength and other technical characteristics.

Maintenance : vacuum weekly, using a soft brush and refresh using a damp cloth

Staining : try to remove the stain using a suitable product (see list on website) – always treat from outside to inside. NEVER remove stains using volatile solvents such as thinner etc.

#### **5) Leatherlook**

Leatherlook is a synthetic material, fixed on a textile basis and which has a remarkably nice and natural look. The material is extremely strong, supple and is micro-porous and considered as an imitation of leather.

Maintenance : dust weekly using a damp cloth or use a special maintenance set

Never remove stains using volatile solvents such as thinner etc.

#### **6) Tests**

Our fabrics comply with the standards for furniture textile for intensive domestic use.

They will be tested on :

- Wearing quality and amount of pilling
- Sliding fastness of the seam
- Rub fastness
- Light fastness
- Tear resistance
- Pull resistance

# FOAM

## 1) *Coldcured foam*

Coldcured foam of High Resilience (HR) is a foam with a high density. The base is polyurethane. The foam has a somewhat irregular, open cell structure, allowing it to breathe extremely well, it has a very high density and easily drains away fluids.

Seats : from 40kg/m<sup>3</sup> – Backs: from 23 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

## 2) *Polyether foam*

The base for polyether foam is polyurethane. Polyether is cheaper, but less hard-wearing, less elastic and has a lower quality than coldcured foam or visco-elastic foam (memory foam). One can add more air or less air, this will be indicated as specific weight : SW 20 = foam weight : 20kg/m<sup>3</sup>. Polyether foam can be manufactured in solid and supple variants, depending on the weight.

Application : back from 23kg/m<sup>3</sup>, arm from 30kg/m<sup>3</sup> (NO application in seat!)

## 3) *Visco-elastic foam (memory foam)*

Visco-elastic foam or memory foam has a polyurethane base. It consists of hollow cells which are not completely closed, so that the air in the cells will not be compressed. The foam reacts on warmth and pressure. It softens through body heat. After being pressed in, memory foam will return to its original shape within a few seconds. This particular reaction will be slower in case of memory foam compared to polyether foam or High Resilience foam.

## 4) *PU(R) Polyurethane moulded foam*

PU or PUR is a “thermoharder” which will be injected as a fluid in a mould after which it will be placed in an oven to harden into the desired shape. Density and firmness can be set per production run of minimum 10 pieces, making moulded foam more susceptible to differences in firmness. This type of foam is the most durable of all foams, but due to high mould and production costs only suitable for larger cushion series.

## 5) *Polypress (bonded foam)*

Polypress is a kind of residual product originating from the foam manufacturing industry and which is produced by grinding, glueing and compressing various foams. The density range of the grinded foams determines the firmness and density of polypress.

Applicable for “non comfort zones” only.

**The firmness will deteriorate in time, depending on the type of foam, duration and intensity of use. As a result of this, creasing of the upholstery on any suite will be inevitable.**

# CONSTRUCTION OF A SUITE

## 1) *Suspension : seat*

- Frame with round nosag springs (3.8mm wire thickness) stretched between 2 rails and always connected with each other by the use of nosag bars in order to ensure ideal distribution of pressure and to avoid overloading per spring.

When a softer comfort is required, the bars can be replaced by rubber bands. The springs will always be covered with a felt cloth in order to give protection to the foam.

- ° casual construction possible
- ° Spring interiors not necessary (still possible in certain models)
- ° Combination with pocket springs possible (pocket springs – picture)
- ° Possible differences in density between fixed items and reclining items because of amount/position of nosag springs per seat.



- Seat platform with polypropylene straps or flat nosag springs in combination with spring interiors with a wire thickness of 2.4mm and 8cm height (picture). The spring interiors will always be covered by a felt cloth in order to protect the foam and will be provided with a steel outer cover in order to improve the stability of the springs on the outside. The opening height in the foam in order to fit in the spring interior amounts to 6cm.

- ° tight upholstery
- ° Adjustable seats possible
- ° No difference in the firmness of different items
- ° seatplatform possible with round nosag springs resulting in above mentioned advantages with adjustable seats



## 2) Suspension : back

- Elastic rubber straps will be fixed depending on model/height of back, horizontally as well as vertically. The cross-straps will be fitted in order to achieve an ideal distribution of pressure per position of the back and in order to avoid creasing. In the position of the belly, less elastic (seat) straps, fixed straps or a fixed board are placed.

- ° Model independent and thus always possible. Therefore, most used back construction
- ° Casual or tight construction possible
- ° Susceptible to creasing when insufficient amount of foam is used



- Back with round nosag springs (2.8mm wire thickness) stretched between 2 rails and always connected with each other by the use of nosag bars in order to ensure ideal distribution of pressure and to avoid overloading per spring. When a softer comfort is required, the bars can be replaced by rubber bands. The springs will always be covered by a felt cloth in order to protect the foam.

- ° Not applicable to every model. Only applicable for high-backed models
- ° Ideal for reclining units
- ° Less creasing



**Manual :**  
**Fluffing up**  
**your couch cushions**



BEFORE



AFTER

The use of high resilience foams in combination of smooth cushions, in a variety of fillings, guarantees the comfort of this model. In time, you will have to restore the cushions in their original form because the stuffing will move towards the sideparts of the cushions, when being used daily. Sitting or leaning on the cushions, causes creases in the fabric or leather.

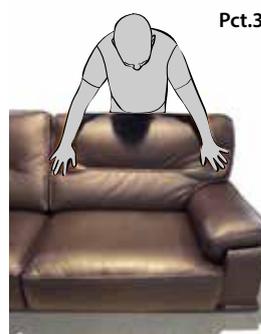
Most of the creases can be removed by regularly fluffing up the cushions.  
With the steps below you can restore your sofa to its original splendour.



Pct.1



Pct.2



Pct.3



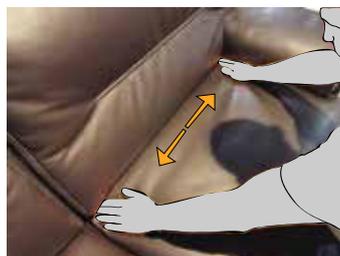
Pct.4

**Pct.1 :** Gently tap the backcushions with both hands, smoothing the cushion from the inside to the outside.

**Pct.2 :** Pull the end of the cushion with one hand and tap with the other hand.

**Pct.3 :** Stretch out the upholstery using both hands, from the inside to the outside.

**Pct.4 :** Now move to the two armrests. Tap them evenly moving from the inside towards the outside.



Use the same steps for smoothing the seatcushions.

# GUARANTEE CONDITIONS

In general, a furniture guarantee of 3 years is applicable, this means that :

- during the 1st year after delivery, the repair will be completely free of charge
- during the 2nd year, the customer pays 1/3 of the repair cost
- during the 3rd year, the customer pays 2/3 of the repair cost

The above mentioned rule will be applicable only when the customer rightly appeals to the guarantee conditions and not in case of abnormal use or misuse.

The decision whether the furniture has been correctly used or not, will be taken at Mecam by their service department.

The guarantee commences on the date of delivery

## Specific conditions of guarantee:

### Actions

3 years guarantee

Excluded :

- tolerance on the action by normal use (normal wear&tear)
- Bending, folding and breaking of the metal frame due to misuse or transport and manipulation after delivery to the 1st owner
- Static overloading of power lift when in use

### Electric parts

2 years guarantee

Excluded :

- Misuse of recliner and accessories  
(Wrong connection, different transformer, damaging wires, overloading motor)

Motors, transformer, manual  
Battery = guarantee of 2 years

### Frames

5 years guarantee

Excluded:

Breaking of the wooden frame or opening of the joints because of misuse or transport and manipulation after delivery to the 1st owner.

### Cushion interiors

5 years guarantee

Foam interiors (except : Construction with baggy filling materials (fluffy interiors): Furniture guarantee)

Excluded :

- Normal loss of density through use
- Sinking because of sitting on arm supports, standing on seatcushions, prolonged sitting on the seatcushion edges
- Overheavy people
- Bagginess

### Leather

Taurus & Sateno guarantee

Applicable : 5 years (applicable when using the appropriate maintenance sets)

Taurus guarantee on : rub fastness, tensile strength, pigment suture, colour fastness and stain service  
Sateno guarantee : not applicable on rub and colour fastness (see Taurus/Sateno brochure)

Taurus & Sateno guarantee not applicable = Furniture Guarantee

### Fabrics

Furniture Guarantee

Excluded:

- Fair wear & tear
- Wear because of sharp objects, no or incorrect maintenance, pets
- Non detrimental characteristics : Flattening, pilling (velours and chenille fabrics)
- Discolouring because of exposure to direct sunlight

(Transport)damages should be reported to our service dept within 15 days after delivery to the retailer. After 15 days, repairs will be charged.

**HOME-GROWN CRAFTSMANSHIP**

This quality product is made in Belgium