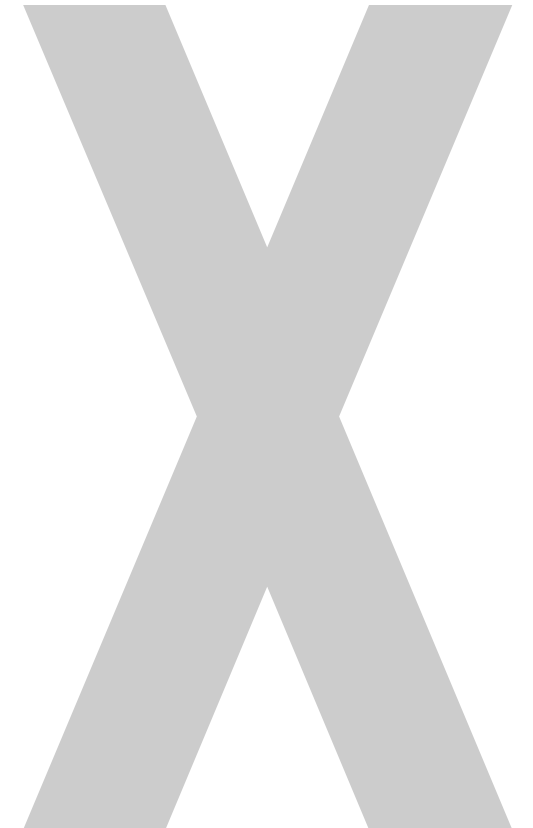


Green Beamhouse – A toolbox for cleaner Waste water

P. Rajasekaran, Christopher Henzel, Marc Hombeck

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Green Beamhouse – Lanxess' roadmap for cleaner waste water
 - a. TDS/Salt reduction: The Peltec C process
 - b. COD reduction: The Peltec X-Zyme process
 - c. Sludge reduction: The Peltec X-Zyme SLR process
3. Details Green Beamhouse - A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of the X-Zyme process

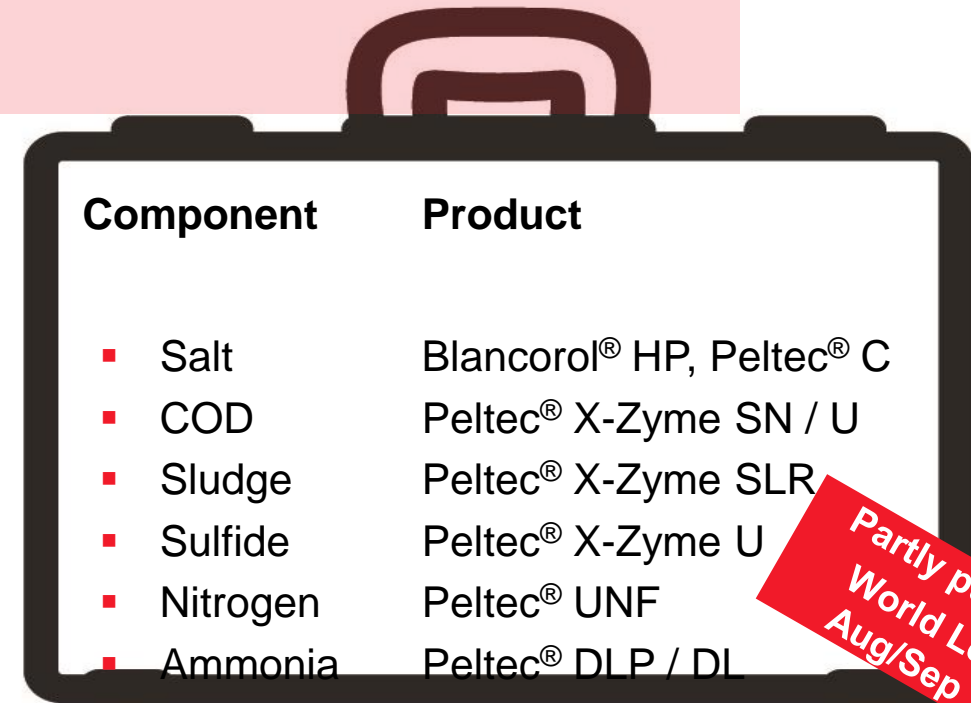


Sustainability has become one of the mega-trends – also for leather production

Sustainability = Waste water improvement



“Green Beamhouse Toolbox” by Lanxess

A graphic of a black briefcase with a brown handle, containing a table of products.

Component	Product
▪ Salt	Blancorol® HP, Peltec® C
▪ COD	Peltec® X-Zyme SN / U
▪ Sludge	Peltec® X-Zyme SLR
▪ Sulfide	Peltec® X-Zyme U
▪ Nitrogen	Peltec® UNF
▪ Ammonia	Peltec® DLP / DL

Partly published:
World Leather
Aug/Sep 2019

Green Beamhouse – a toolbox for improving waste water by chemical recipes

Target of lower waste in waste water can be achieved
in different ways

Process-based improvements

Waste water improvements which require change of tannery processes or different mechanical processes, e.g.

- Fresh hide utilization / Brine curing CLRI
- Green fleshing
- Lime recycling
- Hair saving process
- Lime splitting

Product-based improvements

Waste water improvements which require changes of the recipe. Changes can significantly impact all relevant waste-water components, for India e.g.

- TDS
- COD
- Sludge

Green Beamhouse Toolbox

Salt Improvement: Avoidance of pickle or utilization of a low-salt pickle

General idea / theory

Origin of salt

- Largest amount of salt derives from preservation (salting) of raw-hides
- Second largest salt-addition is during pickling, ending up in the waste water

How to avoid salt

- Utilization of fresh hides
- Avoidance of pickle by switching to specific organic tanning agents (e.g. X-Tan®)
- Reduction of pickle-salt addition by utilization of Blancorol® HP

LXS product solution

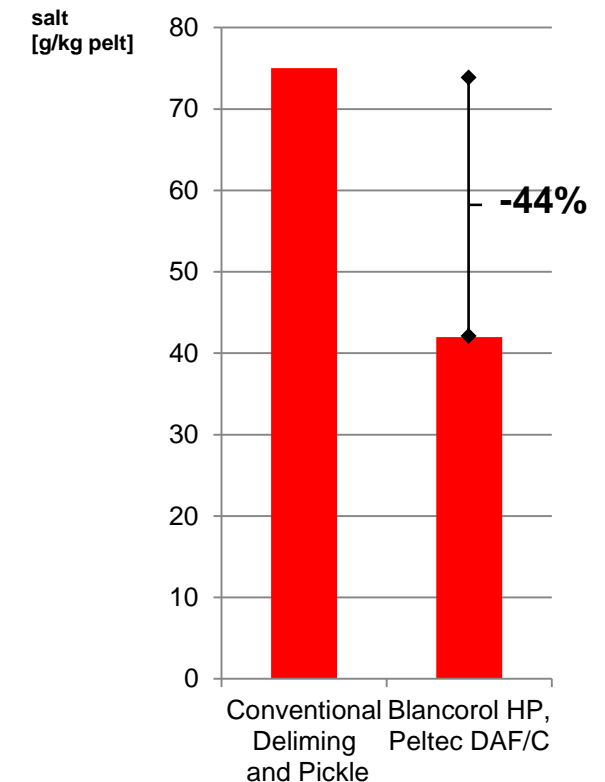
Peltec® C /DLP

- Deliming with Peltec® C or Peltec® DLP reduces salt application
- Pickling with Peltec® C combined with Blancorol® HP does not require additional salt

Blancorol® HP

- Blancorol® HP helps to reduce salt requirements to 3,8 Bé (std: 6-8 Bé) → less salt in waste water
- 1.5 to 2% Blancorol® HP (fully) replaces sulfuric acid plus partly formic acid
- Blancorol® HP enables earlier chrome addition and reduces pickling time <1 hour

Impact of Peltec® C, Blancorol® HP



Low salt Deliming Process

Peltec® C and Blancorol® HP save salt and water

Application Details

- Pelt splitting recommended
- Peltec® C to be used as single deliming agent
- Bating at pH 8.5
- Best results in combination with Blancorol® HP pickle process
- No wash after deliming, only float reduction
- Float Bé of 4° required, can be adjusted with Peltec® C
- Addition of Blancorol® HP as replacement for sulfuric acid
- Application of CTS at penetration of pickle of ca. 50%,
Gain: More time for CTS penetration

Standard vs. Peltec® C process = 70kg/t less salt

	Product	Standard process	Peltec C process	Δ - TDS	Δ - water
Deliming	water	50%	50%	x	x
	ammonia sulfate	2.5%	0%	-2.5%	
	PELTEC C	0%	1.5%	+1.5%	
	Na- bisulite	0.3%	0.3%		
	bating agent	0.4%	0.4%		
wash	water	200%	0%		-200%
Pickle	water	50%	0-20%		-30%
	NaCl	6%	0%	-6%	
	sulfuric acid	1.3%	0%		
	BLANCOROL HP	0%	1.7%		
	CTS	6%	6%		
	MgO	0.5%	0.5%		

Savings	-7%	-230%
----------------	------------	--------------

X- Blue Tanning, Pickle Free Tanning system

A Two Step Tanning Process with salt savings

1. X-Tan® Wet White Process

- Pelt splitting recommended
- Salt free deliming with Peltec® DLP
- Bating at pH 8.5
- No pickle required → no addition of NaCl required
- Tanning process starts at pH 8.5 and ends at pH 4.5

2. X-White Chroming Process

- Shaving of wet white
- Reduction of products/salt due to 1/3 less hide weight
- Start retannage with chrome tannage
- No pickle required → no addition of NaCl required

Standard vs. X-Blue process = 35% less salt

	Product	Standard process
Deliming	water	50%
	ammonia sulfate	2.5%
	Na- bisulphite	0.3%
	bating agent	0.4%
wash	water	200%
Pickle	water	50%
	NaCl	6%
	sulfuric acid	1.3%
	CTS	6%
	MgO	0.5%
Total Salt:		17%

	Product	X-Blue Process
Deliming	water	50%
	Peltec DLP	2.0%
	Na- bisulphite	0.3%
	bating agent	0.4%
wash	water	200%
X-Tan Tannage	water	50%
	X-Tan W	3%
	Tanigan HS	3%
	formic acid	1%
shaving	1/3 weight reduction	
Retannage		
Chroming	formic acid	0.5%
	CTS	6%
Neutralisation	customer	
Retannage	customer	
Total Salt:		11%

COD Improvement: Removal of hide components and reduction of surfactants by enzymatic process

General idea / theory

Origin of COD

- Organic matter of raw hides which is washed out during beamhouse process
- Organic beamhouse chemicals added to the process and finally end up in waste-water as COD

How to avoid COD

- Avoidance of unnecessary hydrolysis of the hide / switching to hair saving process
- Reduction of organic chemical additives by switching to enzymatic process

LXS product solution

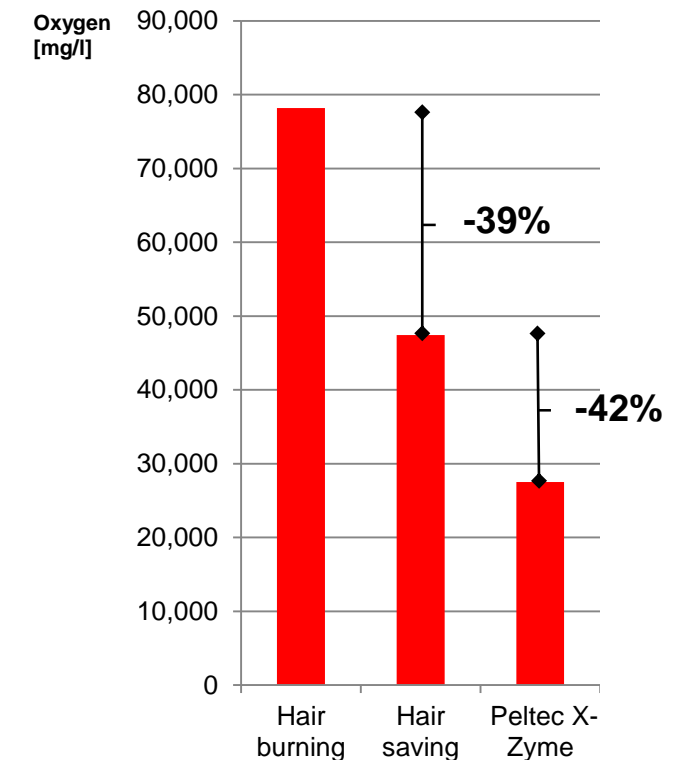
Peltec® X-Zyme SN

- Enzyme-based product ensuring the mild washing out of hyaluronic acid during soaking
- Peltec X-Zyme SN reduces otherwise required surfactants that end up as COD in waste water

Peltec® X-Zyme U

- Enzyme-based product which cleaves the hair roots forming easily filterable hair
- Subsequent hair saving process allows significant reduction of COD

Impact of Peltec® X-Zyme SN / U



COD Improvement

Peltec® X-Zyme Process

Soaking: Peltec® X-Zyme SN

Background

- Key target is removal of non-collagenous proteins
- Hyaluronic acid (HA) is locked in place by glucose amino glycans (GAGs) of dermatan sulfate proteoglycan (DSP)

Process

- Cleavage of GAGs allows easy removal of HA
- No proteolytic activity of enzyme: No damage of collagen during prolonged soaking or accidental overdosing

COD reduction

- No application of wetting agent
- Strongly reduced amount of emulsifier required
- No degreasing during soaking
- Application of Peltec® BLE-F for grease reduction

Unhairing: Peltec® X-Zyme U

Background

- No pulping of hair improves the waste water
- Reduction of lime: moderate swelling causing less wrinkles

Process

- Peltec® X-Zyme U selectively degrades basal membrane of epidermis and loosening the hair roots
- Hair loosening is achieved after ca. 45-60 min; enzymatic activity is completely stopped by pH-increase
- Addition of lime results in immunization of hair

COD reduction

- Subsequent (semi) hair-saving process with reduced amount of lime removes residual hair with moderate swelling
- Replaces application of organic sulfur compound (mercaptan), which increases the COD
- Application of lipase Peltec® BLE-F does not contribute to COD

Sludge Improvement: Removal of inorganic sludge by replacement of lime during opening up

General idea / theory

Origin of Sludge

- Organic sludge results from unhairing: hair and pulped hair plus epidermis. Furthermore it originates from dirt / dung and scrapped of sub cutis
- Inorganic sludge mainly results from hydrated lime

How to avoid Sludge

- Employment of hair saving process incl. hair filtering, green fleshing
- Replacement or reduction of lime by alternative products

LXS product solution

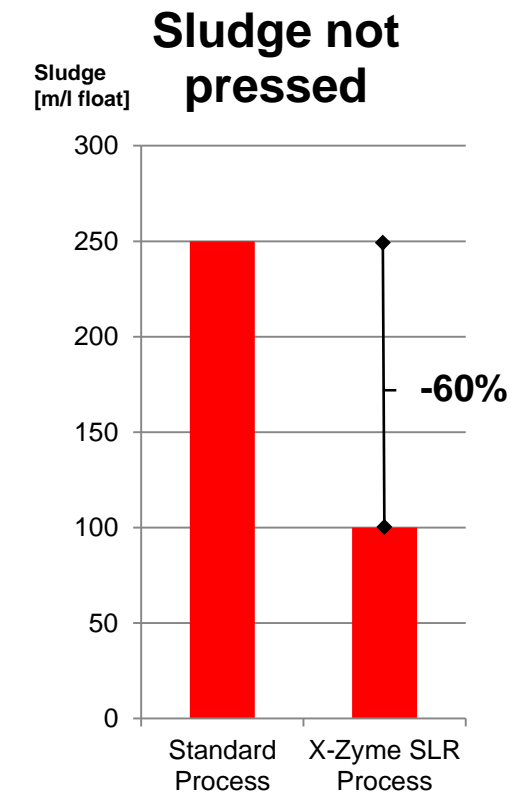
Peltec® X-Zyme SLR

- Replacement for hydrated lime
- Enzyme-based product
- Ensuring good “opening up” of collagen
- Uniform soaking

Peltec® X-Zyme U

- Enzyme based unhairing auxiliary
- Improved hair saving process with hair filtering

Impact of Peltec® X-Zyme SLR



Sludge reduction

Peltec® X-Zyme SLR process

Lime free opening up results in significant sludge reduction

Background

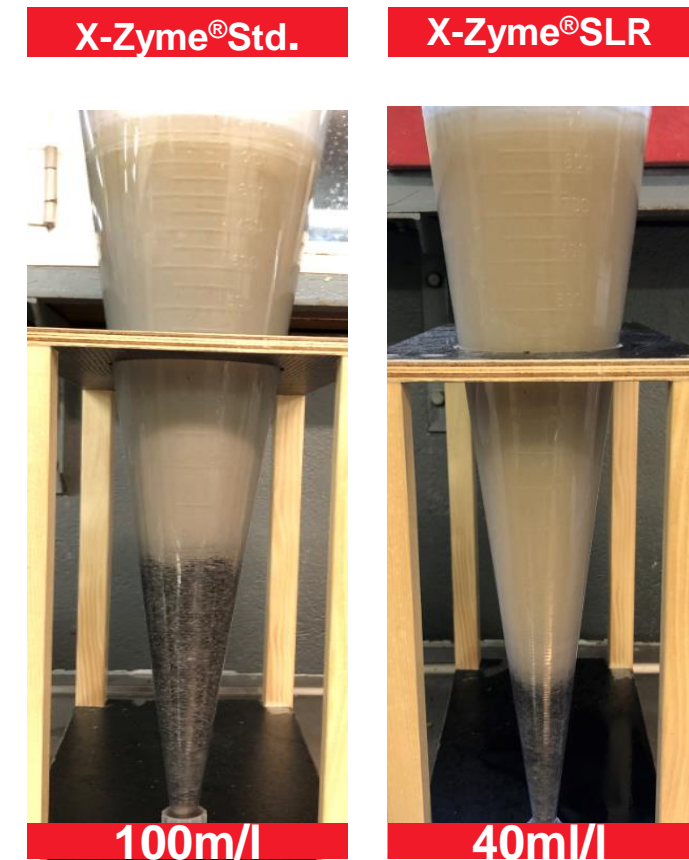
- Enzymatic lime free opening up of the fiber structure
- Strong selective action on dermatan sulfate proteoglycan → opening up process

Process

- Opening up moved to soaking process → Peltec® Zyme SLR applied in the soaking
- Small amount of lime (0.8%) added for immunization
- Reduced offer of swell regulator required due to lower alkalinity
- Reduced volume of deliming agent required due to less lime added
- Full sustainability results achieved in combination with Peltec® X-Zyme U

Sludge reduction and more advantages

- Significantly less sludge with good biodegradability achieved (ca. 40-70% reduction)
- Improved COD vs. standard X-Zyme process
- Crust with soft round handle
- Good physical properties
- Excellent waterproofing conditions



Green Beamhouse: Lanxess' roadmap to cleaner waste water, further investigation by LCA for X-Zyme

Summary: Reduction factors of critical waste water components

Waste water component	Product	Reduction factor
▪ Salt	Blancorol® HP, Peltec® C	-44%
▪ COD	Peltec® X-Zyme S, U	-42%
▪ Sludge	Peltec® X-Zyme SLR	-60%
▪ Sulfide	Peltec® X-Zyme U	-24%
▪ Nitrogen	Peltec® UNF,	-20%
▪ Ammonia	Peltec® DLP / DL	-74%

Next step: LCA X-Zyme process

- A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) describes the impact of a complete BH-process, not of single products. It looks at all relevant compartments:
 - Fossil energy
 - Global warming
 - Eutrophication
 - Toxicity
 - Acidification
 - Photo chemical ozone formation
 - Agricultural land use
 - Fresh water use
 - Solid waste
- In comparative LCA only the differences caused by process shift are analyzed and reviewed

Comparative LCA: Peltec® X-Zyme process offers significant reduction of chemicals

Recipe-comparison between Standard- and X-Zyme process

Production step	Material	Standard process [% of hide weight]	X-Zyme process [% of hide weight]	Delta
Soaking	Surfactant	0,20%	0,10%	-0,10%
	Protease	0,50%		-0,50%
	Peltec X-Zyme S		0,12%	0,12%
	Preservative	0,15%	0,15%	0,00%
Liming	Surfactant	0,10%		-0,10%
	Thioglycolic acid	0,80%		-0,80%
	NaHS	1,00%	1,00%	0,00%
	Ca(OH) ₂	3,00%	2,50%	-0,50%
	Na ₂ S	2,50%	1,00%	-1,50%
	Phosphate	0,34%	0,34%	0,00%
	Na ₂ CO ₃		0,20%	0,20%
	Peltec X-Zyme U		0,08%	0,08%

Comparative LCA

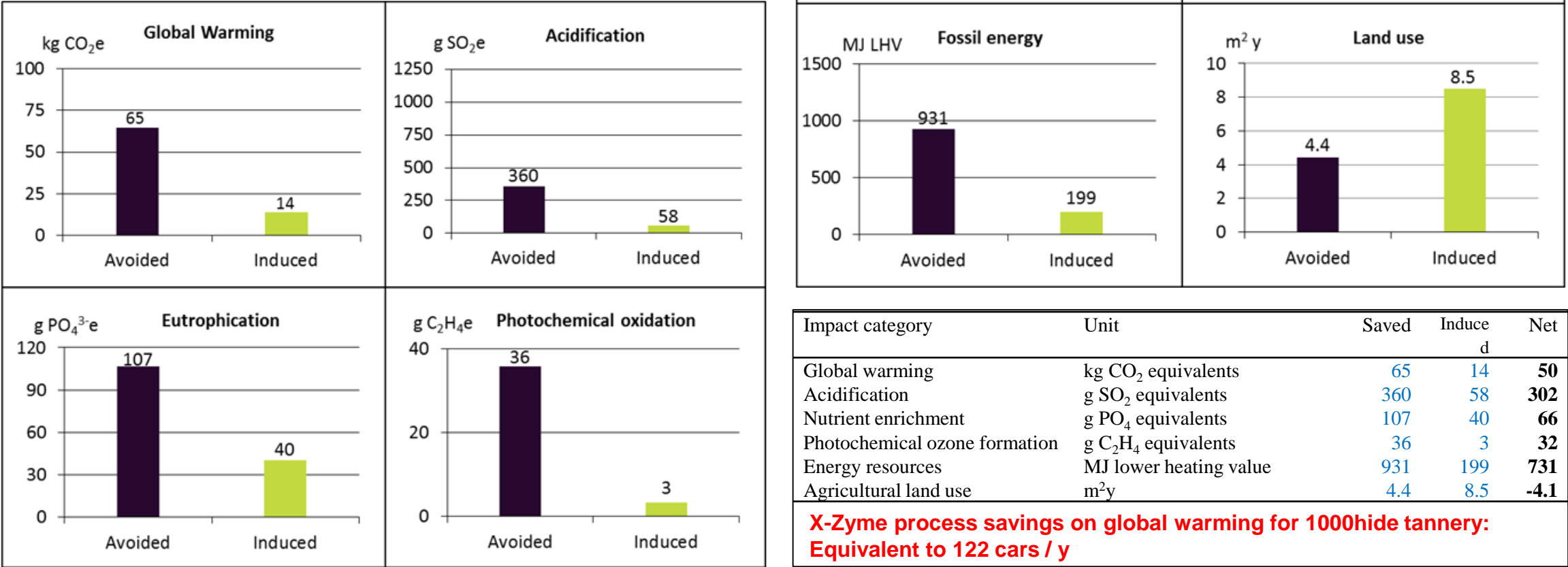
- In this example a semi hair saving (tannery std.) and a X-Zyme hair saving process were compared
- Recipes are customer specific, but principles apply to virtually all tanneries
- All values derive from full size production trials
- Both processes are suitable for upholstery and shoe-upper leather
- Net-reduction of chemicals are 30kg / ton of pelts
- Significant improvement of waste water regarding COD, BOD, sulfide

Published:

**International Leather
Maker Nov/Dec 2017**

Comparative LCA: Peltec® X-Zyme process leads to beneficial results in almost all impact categories

Comparison of waste water values



How to improve waste water

Process changes (e.g. hair saving) have large effects on waste water



Green Beamhouse offers further improvements by recipe changes



Peltec X-Zyme process is the flagship for waste water improvements



**Quality avoids
waste**



Sulfide Improvement: Replacing sulfide containing reduction agents by enzymatic unhairing system

General idea / theory

Origin of sulfide

- Sulfides are added for unhairing in the form of Na_2S , NaHS or mercaptans

How to avoid sulfide

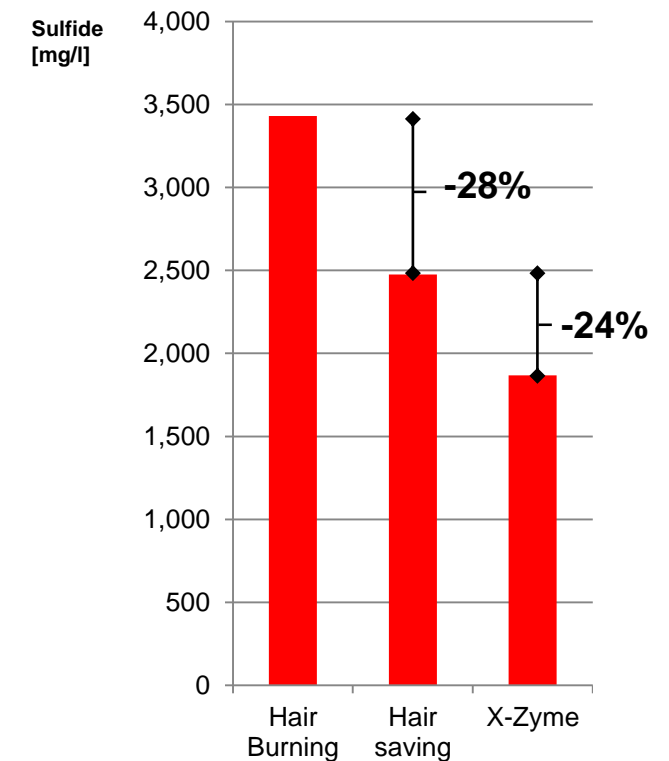
- Reduce required sulfide-volume by switching from hair burning to hair saving process
- Switching to a non-sulfide unhairing system (e.g. oxidative unhairing)
- Reduction of sulfide addition by utilizing enzymatic unhairing additives

LXS product solution

Peltec X-Zyme U

- Enzyme-based product cleaving the hair roots. Hereby partly substituting sulfide action and leading to less required sulfide
- Improved removal of hair roots leading to cleaner grain
- Pelts are reported to be flatter and smoother

Impact of Peltec X-Zyme S/U



Nitrogen Improvement: Introduction of lime recycling and utilization of amine-free swell regulators

General idea / theory

Origin of nitrogen

- Nitrogen derives from proteins of the raw hides ending up in the waste water
- Swelling regulators in liming are traditionally based on amines

How to avoid nitrogen

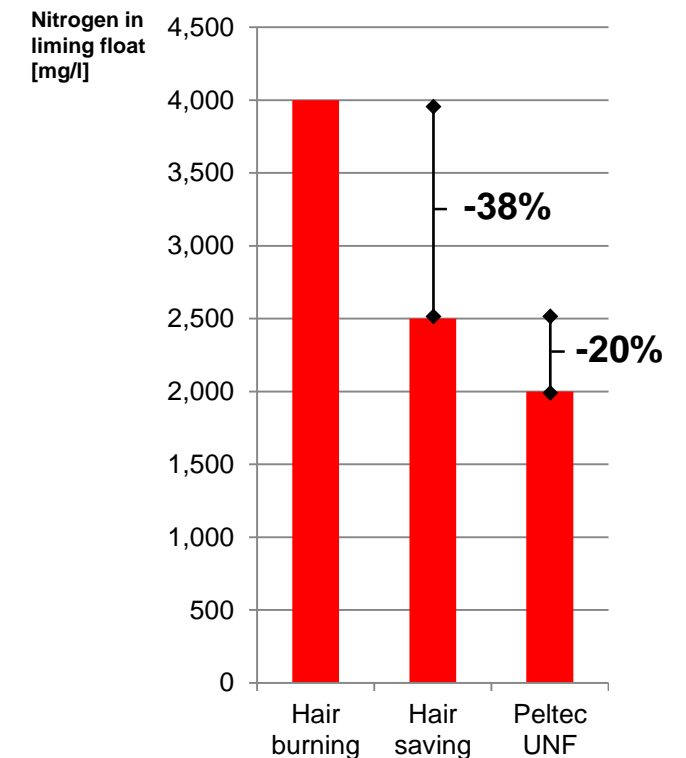
- Reduce amines from hides:
 - Liming: Switch to hair saving
 - Pickle: Shorten time and reduce temperature to avoid hydrolysis
- Introduce lime-recycling system which re-utilizes liming float including swell regulators
- Utilization of nitrogen-free swell regulators

LXS product solution

Peltec UNF

- Product is based on patent-applied nitrogen-free chemistry: No nitrogen is added to the float
- Product regulates the swelling during liming process and ensures good opening up
- No extensive plumping leads to reduced growth marks and belly draw as well as better removal of hair roods which results in clean pelts
- Cost competitive versus traditional products

Impact of Peltec X-Zyme S/U



Ammonia Improvement: Deliming with ammonia-free deliming agents

General idea / theory

Origin of ammonia

- Ammonia is added as a standard deliming agent to buffer the pelt after liming

How to avoid ammonia

- Utilization of ammonia-free deliming agents significantly reduce the nitrogen content in the waste water
- Current solutions (boric acid / dicarboxylic acids) have HSEQ-/performance disadvantages

LXS product solution

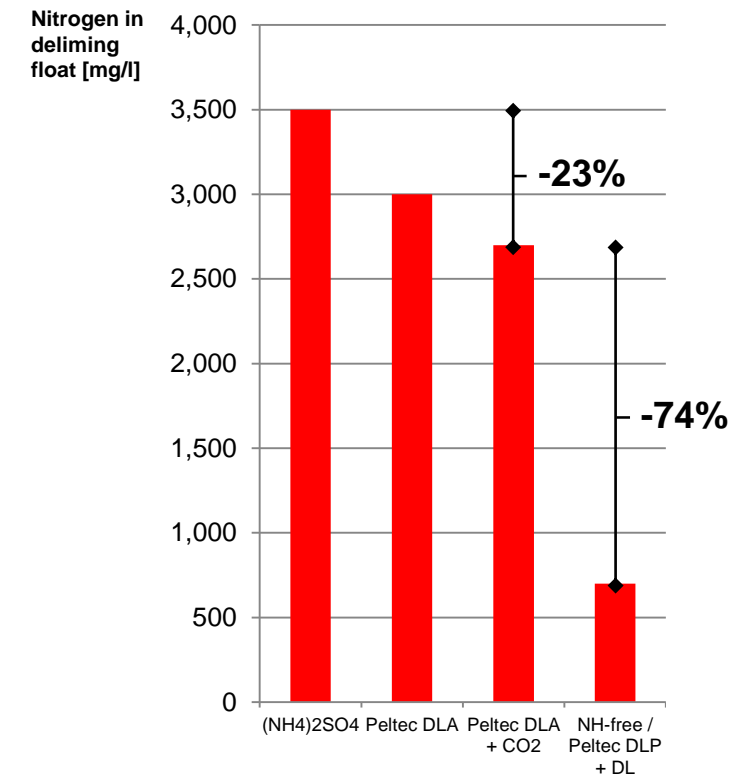
Peltec DLA

- Ammonia-reduced deliming agent which can be combined with CO₂ deliming

Peltec DLP / DL

- Products are completely free of nitrogen salts and ammonia compounds
- Peltec DLP quickly and uniformly penetrates even full substance pelts, time can be adjusted by addition of Peltec DL

Impact of Peltec X-Zyme S/U



Comparative LCA: X-Zyme process shows significant reduction of waste water values

Comparison of waste water values

- Common waste water value measurement performed on soaking and liming floats
- Hides were washed before soaking to exclude variable load of dirt attached to the hides
- Pollution of beamhouse waste water can be reduced by up to 50%

	Unit	Conventional process	X-Zyme process
BOD after soaking	kg/m3	14,9	4,7
BOD after unhairing/liming	kg/m3	23,1	12,9
COD after soaking	kg/m3	24,2	12,0
COD after unhairing/liming	kg/m3	54,0	25,5
Total nitrogen after liming	kg/m3	4,0	2,5
Sulfide after unhairing/liming	kg/m3	3,4	1,9

* Given per tonne of hides (the functional unit)



Comparative LCA: X-Zyme process savings on global warming equivalent to 122 cars / y

Environmental savings put in perspective for mid-size tannery (1000h/d)

- **Global warming:** 50kg CO₂ eq. per ton of salted hides
=> Impact mid-size tannery (1.000 hides/day) is equivalent to **122 cars/y***
- **Fossil energy:** 730 MJ LHV (lower heating value)
- **Land use:** - 4.1m²y
=> 180 MJ/m²y is the gain of the additional land use.
=> This, compared to the yield achieved for bio-ethanol, outperforms the savings by **16 times****

* 142g/PK_m CO₂ eq., Umwelt Bundesamt, 1,5P/Car, 20.000Km/y

** FOA of United Nations 2008: 11MJm²y for bioethanol



LANXESS

Energizing Chemistry