

**OPINION OF THE FORUM FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION PURSUANT
TO ARTICLE 13 OF THE DIRECTIVE 2010/75/EU ON INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS
(IED ARTICLE 13 FORUM)**

**CONCERNING THE DRAFT BEST AVAILABLE TECHNIQUES (BAT) REFERENCE
DOCUMENT FOR THE TANNING OF HIDES AND SKINS**

MEETING OF 13 SEPTEMBER 2012

Background

Article 13(1) of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (the Directive) requires the Commission to organise an exchange of information between Member States, the industries concerned, non-governmental organisations promoting environmental protection and the Commission.

Article 13(3) of the Directive requires the Commission to establish and regularly convene a forum composed of representatives of Member States, the industries concerned and non-governmental organisations promoting environmental protection and to obtain the opinion of the forum on the practical arrangements for the exchange of information foreseen under that Article. In accordance with Article 13(3) of the Directive, the guidance referred to in points (c) and (d) of the second subparagraph of that Article shall take account of the opinion of the forum and shall be adopted in accordance with the regulatory procedure referred to in Article 75(2).

Commission Decision 2011/C 146/03 of 16 May 2011 established the forum for the exchange of information pursuant to Article 13 of the Directive (the forum). In accordance with Article 3 of this Decision, the forum may be consulted on any matter relating to Article 13 of the Directive or on any matter relating to BAT as defined in Article 3(10) of the Directive.

Opinion of the forum on the draft Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference document for the tanning of hides and skins (version of 25 June 2012)

In accordance with Article 13(3) of the Directive the forum hereby gives its opinion on the draft Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference document for the tanning of hides and skins as presented at the meeting of the forum of 13 September 2012:

1. The forum welcomes the draft Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference document for the tanning of hides and skins presented by the Commission (http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/env/ied/library?l=/ied_art_13_forum/forum_meeting_2012/documents_article/2012_extractpdf/EN_1.0_&a=d).
2. The forum acknowledges the discussions held at its meeting of 13 September 2012 and agrees that the changes to the draft Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference document for the tanning of hides and skins proposed in the comments provided in Annex A should be included in the final document.

3. The forum reaffirms the comments provided in Annex B as representing the views of certain members of the forum but on which no consensus exists within the forum to include them in the final document.

Brussels, 13 September 2012

Annex A: Comments on the draft Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference document for the tanning of hides and skins that are consensual within the forum

Annex B: Comments on the draft Best Available Techniques (BAT) reference document for the tanning of hides and skins representing the view of certain members of the forum