# CTL LEATHER

A Garrett Leather Company

## LEATHER vs SILICONE PRODUCTS: **Why Leather Wins**

The Natural Choice for Sustainable Performance Design

# TRUE SUSTAINABILITY

**True sustainability looks at the whole life cycle.**

A surface isn't sustainable simply because it lasts — it's sustainable when it's responsibly sourced, maintained, and able to return naturally to the earth.

Leather meets all three. Silicone meets only one.

If sustainability is the goal, natural leather is part of a circular system — a byproduct turned into a long-lived material.

Silica-based alternatives are industrially made, non-biodegradable, and ultimately end in landfill.

It's easy to call silica sustainable because it's long-lasting — but true sustainability is about origin, use, and end-of-life.

Leather begins with nature and, in its purest forms, can return to it.

# FEATURE COMPARISON

| FEATURES | Natural Leather (Wax Pull-Up, Aniline, Semi-Aniline) | Silicone-Based Leather (100% Silicone) |
|---|---|---|
| **Origin** | Made from hides — a byproduct of the food industry | Synthetic polymer derived from silica and fossil fuels |
| **Sustainability** | Circular by nature; renewable and biodegradable in cleaner tannages | Non-renewable base, not biodegradable, limited recycling options |
| **Tactility** | Warm, soft, breathable — evolves with time | Rubber-like, dense, lacks organic touch |
| **Aging** | Develops patina; surface improves with use | Static appearance; may yellow or degrade with UV |
| **Repairability** | Can be reconditioned, re-waxed, revived | Difficult or impossible to repair once damaged |
| **Performance** | Naturally durable; can be treated for high-traffic or healthcare use | Highly resistant to stains and moisture, but less sensory depth |
| **Aesthetic Life** | Gains character over years | Fixed look; does not age gracefully |
| **End-of-Life** | Compostable or biodegradable in vegetable-tanned versions | Non-compostable; industrial disposal only |
| **Emotional Connection** | Authentic, storied, natural material | Engineered, functional, impersonal |

# RENEWABLE ORIGIN vs INDUSTRIAL CREATION

### LEATHER

Starts with a **renewable byproduct,** reducing landfill waste from another industry — nature's way of closing the loop.

### SILICA

Begins with **fossil fuels and sand** — both finite resources refined through energy-intensive processes.

**From nature, built for performance.**

# THE END-OF-LIFE ADVANTAGE

### LEATHER

Can safely **return to the earth,** especially in vegetable-tanned or hybrid forms.

### SILICA

Cannot biodegrade or compost, ending as **industrial waste.**

That's the quiet power of natural materials — **they come from the earth and, when their work is done, can return to it.**

# CTL LEATHER:
# THE NATURAL CHOICE FOR SUSTAINABLE PERFORMANCE

## Circular by Nature

Leather begins as a **byproduct of the food industry** — not as a manufactured material.

Transforming waste into a long-lived, high-performance surface is **circularity in its purest form.**

Leather reuses what the world already produces.

## Designed to Endure, Not Replace

In hospitality, **longevity is sustainability.**

CTL leathers are engineered to perform under heavy use — and can be **reconditioned, re-waxed, and revived** rather than replaced.

## Renewable Origin, Responsible Finish

Vegetable and hybrid tannages **minimize chemical load and water use** while preserving the hide's natural integrity.

Every square foot is unique — **no fossil fuels, no industrial polymers, no landfill legacy.**

From nature, built for performance.

## The Material That Connects

Guests notice what they touch.

Leather's **warmth, breathability, and tactile honesty** create emotional durability — keeping products in use longer and waste out of the cycle.

Performance that feels as good as it lasts.

# CLOSING THE LOOP

Leather doesn’t just perform — **it participates in the planet’s natural cycle.**

From renewable origin to responsible use and graceful return, it exemplifies true circularity.

Silica-based materials may imitate performance, but they cannot replicate nature’s balance.

Leather completes the sustainability loop — from nature, back to nature.

**Leather completes the sustainability loop — from nature, back to nature.**