



RENZACCI UK PLC

## PRESS RELEASE

**Issue Date :13 August 2007**

**Header :SUEDES AND LEATHERS - ENCOURAGEMENT AND GOOD ADVICE FROM RENZACCI**

Dry cleaning suede and leather garments can be very lucrative and dry cleaning specialist, **Renzacci UK** offers encouragement but also a word of caution to operators thinking about installing such a specialist service. Says Managing Director of Renzacci, Jason Alexander: "Suedes and leathers present very particular challenges that operators should be aware of. It is so very easy to ruin garments because each is made from different skins - perhaps even from different animals - and pigment uptake varies greatly. Injudicious use of solvents can leave a marked colour variation from skin to skin on the same garment. We at Renzacci are more than willing to share our experience with start-up operations."

The first thing to consider is the machine itself. An existing dry cleaning machine may do the job, if it is a high spec machine. For example, it should certainly have a minimum of three tanks and there should be a high level of control over the drum action and solvent temperatures. If operators are in any doubts about the capability of their existing equipment, they should contact Renzacci for advice.

The most crucial part of the processing of suede and leather is the choice of the correct solvent and, in the view of Renzacci, there are four possible routes to choose from. The correct solvent to use will depend on the experience of the operator. Arguably the most effective solvent at cleaning leathers and suedes is standard Perchloroethylene, but this is a natural degreaser and if not strictly controlled, can easily remove the natural oils and lead to the skin cracking. Renzacci strongly advise operators to contact them if they are considering this route.

A second option is hydrocarbon. This does not remove the natural oils in the fabric in quite the same way as Perchloroethylene. For less skilled operatives, it is much more user-friendly and forgiving. The downside is that both wash times and drying times are somewhat longer and furthermore, stain removal techniques are more labour-intensive, requiring greater levels of skill and training to master. Then there



The Renzacci KWL Excellence Range of Drycleaning Machines – Perfect for Suedes and Leathers



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non-carbon based options such as a Siloxane based solvents, but their cleaning power is reduced and dry cleaners may find that they do not remove some stains effectively. They, too, have increased wash and dry times when compared with 'perc'. Finally, suedes and leathers can actually be washed in a suitably specified washing machine. Amongst other features such washers will need to have the option of a slow drum speed and direct, highly accurate detergent dosing. Once again operators opting for the wash method should contact Renzacci for more specific advice on the suitability of their machine.

Renzacci manufactures perc, hydrocarbon and multi-solvent machines and wet wash systems, allowing the operator a full choice of solvent options.

Once cleaned, garments will need finishing and Renzacci sounds a note of caution in selecting a piece of equipment that is correctly specified for the job. Jason again: "Dry cleaners will need to invest in a correctly specified press, such as the Pony P3, which we distribute on an exclusive basis in the UK. A cloth press will not have the power to remove creases. The Pony P3 is equipped with extra powerful blowers and a 'hot head' that will do the job very effectively.

Whilst not wishing to deter anyone from adding suede and leather cleaning to their operation, we need to stress that it is quite different from dry cleaning cloth fabrics. That said, it is a highly profitable part of the business and with Renzacci's help, operators can make a success of it, provided demand is sufficient "

Dry cleaners considering starting their own specialist suedes and leathers service are invited to contact Renzacci on 0208 579 2661 for more specific advice on equipment and solvents, both of which they distribute. Advice given by Renzacci is free, impartial and not reliant upon purchase.