



## **Stahl launches Proviera® Probiotics for Leather™, a 100% biodegradable Beamhouse range developed to improve the environmental footprint of leather production**

*Strategic target: high-quality leather with a lower environmental impact.*

**Waalwijk, February 29, 2016 – Chemical company Stahl announces it has obtained the rights to distribute Proviera® Probiotics for Leather™. Using a unique probiotic formulation, these products are 100% biodegradable and 100% natural. They provide a unique biotech alternative to existing chemicals and processing techniques used in the leather industry. This enables tanners to produce high-quality leather while simultaneously reducing the effluent load significantly.**

“Being market leader, we are especially aware of the fact that sustainability is a major challenge in our industry. Together with our partners and clients, we spark innovation to help create a better future,” says Huub van Beijeren, Chief Executive Officer at Stahl. “Proviera is excited to partner with Stahl, the industry market leader committed to innovation and sustainability in leather production. We both share the same vision of improving the environment and creating a better future using probiotics technology,” Juan Carlos Castell adds, VP Technology of Proviera.

“The innovative and durable Beamhouse range of Proviera will strengthen our portfolio in Beamhouse and is a next milestone in our sustainability journey after the introduction of our unique Stahl EasyWhite Tan™ system,” according to Harald Bauer, Group Director Wet-End, Chemicals & Dyes at Stahl.

### **Probiotics instead of synthesized chemicals**

Proviera leather biochemicals are metabolites derived from a proprietary fermentation and formulation technology using probiotic cultures and natural raw ingredients. As nearly 70% of the wastewater of leather production processes comes from the Beamhouse, the benefits in terms of sustainability are obvious when replacing traditional leather chemicals in this stage with 100% natural products. The secret lies in a powerful synergistic combination of different biochemicals derived from probiotics that are used instead of traditional synthesized chemicals.

### **Reduction of chemicals, water and waste**

One of the key advantages of Proviera® Probiotics for Leather™ is that they allow the reduction of chemical usage, water and waste compared to traditional Beamhouse processes. In addition, the leather quality can be improved. As the products are 100% biodegradable, they are non-hazardous and non-toxic. Furthermore, Proviera® Probiotics for Leather™ reduces odor levels inside and outside the tannery. Stahl has the distribution rights for Proviera® Probiotics for Leather™.