

Report from the Committee on Flaws and Defects

Meeting May 29th in Charlotte NC

1. The following basic concepts were unanimously agreed to:
 - Flaws, defects and natural range markings are inherent in all leathers.
 - Flaws are always "MAN-MADE" e.g. Cuts, holes, brands, swab marks, stains, pinch marks, machine damages etc.
 - Natural range markings, though not always usable on all parts of the furniture, are not defects. Some examples of Natural Range Markings are: fly bites, scars and scratch marks, grub holes, mange, insect damage, skin diseases, fat wrinkles, stretch marks, etc.

The buyer sets the standard for which types and how many natural range markings are acceptable on their furniture and therefor, there must always be a clear understanding between buyer and seller concerning the expectation of performance of each leather pattern.

2. Most upholstery leather is purchased in a "TR" ("Tannery Run") selection. This type of grading usually includes a percentage of "A" grade, a percentage of "B" grade and a percentage of "C" grade. It is incumbent upon both the buyer and seller to agree what the normal expected percentages of each selection will be for each leather pattern. Given that these ground rules have been accepted by both buyer and seller, the following standards shall apply:

- "A" grade hides shall contain 3 usable panels 28"x28"
- "B" grade hides shall contain 2 usable panels 28"x28"
- "C" grade hides shall contain 1 usable panels 28"x28"

If the percentages of each grade does not conform to the buyer-seller agreement or if the number of usable panels does not conform to the above requirements for usable panels for each grade, the shipment shall be deemed "sub-standard" at which time the buyer and seller can decide if further action is required.