



ahslea

AUSTRALIAN HIDE, SKIN
& LEATHER EXPORTERS
ASSOCIATION

Sustainability Framework

Supply Chain Management

Key points

- Full physical traceability within most sites
- Encouraging collaboration with abattoirs leading to greater traceability
- All hides and skins are sourced within Australia
- Some sites are actively working to establish a national tracing system

Best practice

Supply chain management includes **sustainability in the supply chain**, which means **screening suppliers** and ensuring suppliers are being responsible in terms of their social and environmental management. **Traceability and transparency** are also key elements of supply chain management to guarantee the social and environmental performance of suppliers. Finally, good supply chain management **guarantees product safety and quality** and prevents economic, legal and reputational damage.

What the Australian industry is currently doing

- All sites exclusively source their hides/skins from Australian suppliers, emphasising domestic procurement and supporting local industries.
- The implementation of traceability is primarily driven by customer demand, with increasing requests for traceability from EU customers.
- It is recognised there is a need for research into alternative stamping/tracking methods, such as laser technology, to enhance traceability in the industry.
- Some sites are actively working towards a nationwide tracing system and collaborating with meat producers and processors, industry bodies and government to improve.

Sustainability Framework key industry commitment

- We are committed to investing in value chain traceability that improves the transparency of sustainability credentials from farm to finished product. This includes traceability of wetblue hides, brinecured hides and sheep skins commencing with benchmarking in 2024 and confirming targets from 2025.

The Australian Hide Skin & Leather Exporters Association (AHSLEA) is the national membership body representing the interests of the major exporters of Australian cattle and calf hides, sheep and lamb skins, kangaroo skins and goat skins. It is also a member of the International Council of Hides, Skins and Leather Traders Association (ICHSLTA), which promotes, develops and protects the international trade in raw hides, skins and leathers.

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