

### Achieving intense shade in semi-chrome suedes

Semi-chrome suede has a good nap, but dyeing of semi-chrome suedes into dark rich shade is a problem since semi-chrome crust leathers as compared to full chrome crust leathers has reduced affinity to anionic dyes. Affinity of the leather to the anionic dye can be enhanced by increasing the cationic charge of the leather. This could be achieved by treating the leather with substances like amino sulphonic acids; the amino sulphonic acid complexes with chrome in the leather through sulphonic site and the cationic charge of the leather is enhanced by the amino sites of sulphonic acids. The amino sulphonic acid chosen was 4,4' diamino-stilbene 2,2' disulphonic acid since this product might impart in addition, certain amount of fullness to the leather because of its high molecular size.

The following experiments were carried out:

(i) The vegetable tanned skins after the usual stripping were soured and

ii) The same process was followed excepting that the total chrome offered was 2.5% in the form of basic chromium sulphate and the treatment with the disulphonic acid was dispensed with.

It has been observed that leathers that had undergone treatment with the diamino stilbene disulphonic acid, were dyed to considerably richer shades. The penetration was uniform and were more soft than the control. This indicates that by the use of diamino stilbene disulphonic acid as an intermediate under suitable conditions, richer and darker shades can be obtained on semi-chrome leathers with dyestuffs which normally do not give such shades.

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