# **Market Intelligence Digest**

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The Department of Trade and Industry - Export Marketing Bureau (DTI-EMB) is mandated to oversee the development, promotion and monitoring of Philippine exports. The DTI-EMB provides the exporters the enabling environment to make them globally competitive.

Export Marketing Bureau G/F and 2/F DTI International Bldg. 375 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue Makati City 1200, Philippines Tel. No.: (632) 8465.3300 Fax No.: (632) 8899.0111 http://www.dti.gov.ph/exports/ http://tradelinephilippines.dti.gov.ph/



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### **Nopal Skin**

Mexican entrepreneurs have created the first cruelty free vegan leather out of nopal (prickly pear) leaves.



#### **News brief**

With the aim of reducing animal deaths and creating water savings in the textile industry, two Mexican entrepreneurs claim to have created the first totally Mexican nopal derived fur. The development was successfully showcased in the last edition of the International Lineapelle 2019 Leather Fair, in October in Milan.

The vegan and organic leather is partially biodegradable, flexible, breathable, and lasts for at least 10 years. The material feels like animal based leather and does not use toxic chemicals, phthalates, or PVC in its production.

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#### Why it matters

As compassionate and conscious shoppers, opting to buying animalfree products, are flourishing worldwide, many industries such as the textile industry seem to be re-inventing themselves. We are seeing many brands and designers making more responsible choices by creating fashion ware out of recycled, cruelty-free, and sustainable materials. In doing so, they are proving that veganism can be extended to more than food and that sustainability can take design to a whole new level.

#### What we've seen

**Shroom Timepiece:** An Indonesian watchmaker is designing fashionable straps with mushroom leather as an alternative to animal skin or non-organic materials.

**Car Seat Clothing:** Hyundai Motor has joined hands with Chinese fashion brand Reclothing Bank to launch a fashion collection that is partly made of recycled automotive textile.

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#### What's next

With more sustainable and ethical materials available, the ecoconscious fashion wave will continue to influence designers and wardrobes. Consumers will increasingly demand to know what goes into their food and clothes. Production processes will start using clothing traceability or QR codes to reduce the carbon footprint and water waste. Footwear and accessory collections launched in conjunction with brands can help recycle industrial waste such as plastic bottles, cork or rubber.

### **Supported trends**

#### ✓ Hungry Planet

### Buzz: 5 Lifecycle: Established

Waste not, want not. Our throwaway culture is becoming a contentious issue and consumers are looking for ways to conserve the planet's resources.