

# Responsible Tannery Chemistry

**Short Guide**  
Version 1.1



**KIND  
LEATHER®**

Real Leather. Made with Kind

# Summary

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## Introduction

JBS Couros constantly seeks to reduce the environmental impacts associated with leather production through analysis and optimization of its production processes.

Life Cycle Assessments are important allies in the search for best practices, helping to understand the impacts of the leather production process on the environment. In this context, when we look inside the tanneries, the chemicals used in the industrialization steps stand out.

Understanding life cycle thinking, JBS Couros knows that, in addition to acting directly in its production processes, it is of utmost importance to address the impacts of the inputs used, and thus align which contributions can be made to establish joint leadership in sustainability within the supply chain.

To this end, Responsible Tannery Chemistry (RTC) was developed based on the main indicators adopted by entities and platforms, a system that collects and analyzes information on environmental parameters related to chemicals, as well as their respective application in recipes to produce leather articles. The result of these analyses will serve as a fundamental criterion for decision making regarding the adoption or not of an input for the production processes.

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## Objective

Through the development of this environmental performance assessment method and by promoting engagement based on shared knowledge, we seek standardization on how the level of environmental sustainability of a chemical is calculated.







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## Characterization and Methodology

The RTC is a quantitative analysis system composed of four parameters called “Sustainability Criteria” or “SC”, and each of them has a different weight in the generation of the final result, which will be the value used in the decision-making process. Each parameter corresponds to a different assessment related to sustainability. Thus, the RTC enables a comprehensive assessment that consolidates different criteria for environmental analysis.

SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA	WEIGHT
Environmental Impact Categories	50%
Biodegradability	20%
Hazardous Substances	15%
Biogenic Carbon	15%

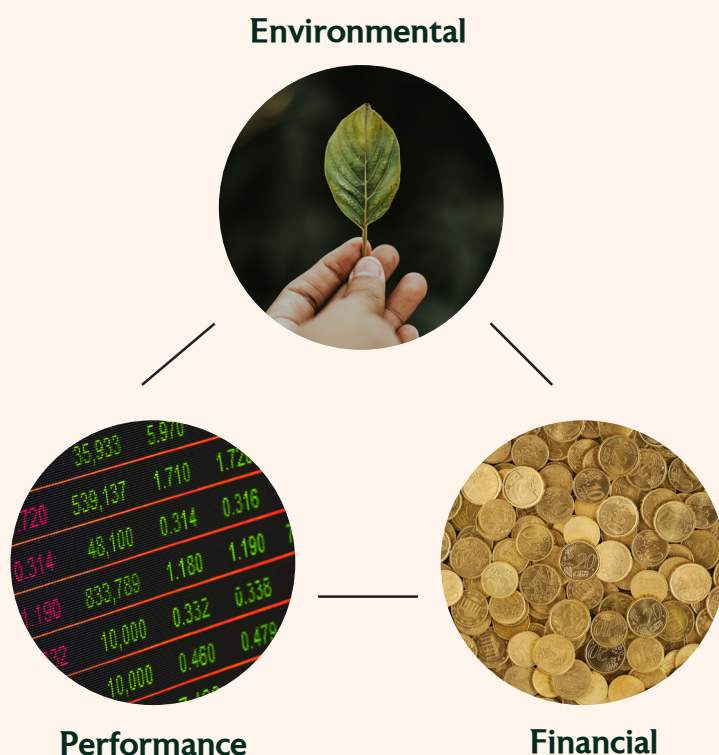
The system assesses the chemical considered for use in the context of the formulation in which it will be applied. Thus, the performance of the recipe is measured with the chemical and then without it. Next, a comparison of the results is made, so that, if the recipe demonstrates superior performance after the inclusion of the proposed specialty, it is recommended to initiate the research and development process with the chemical at JBS Couros.

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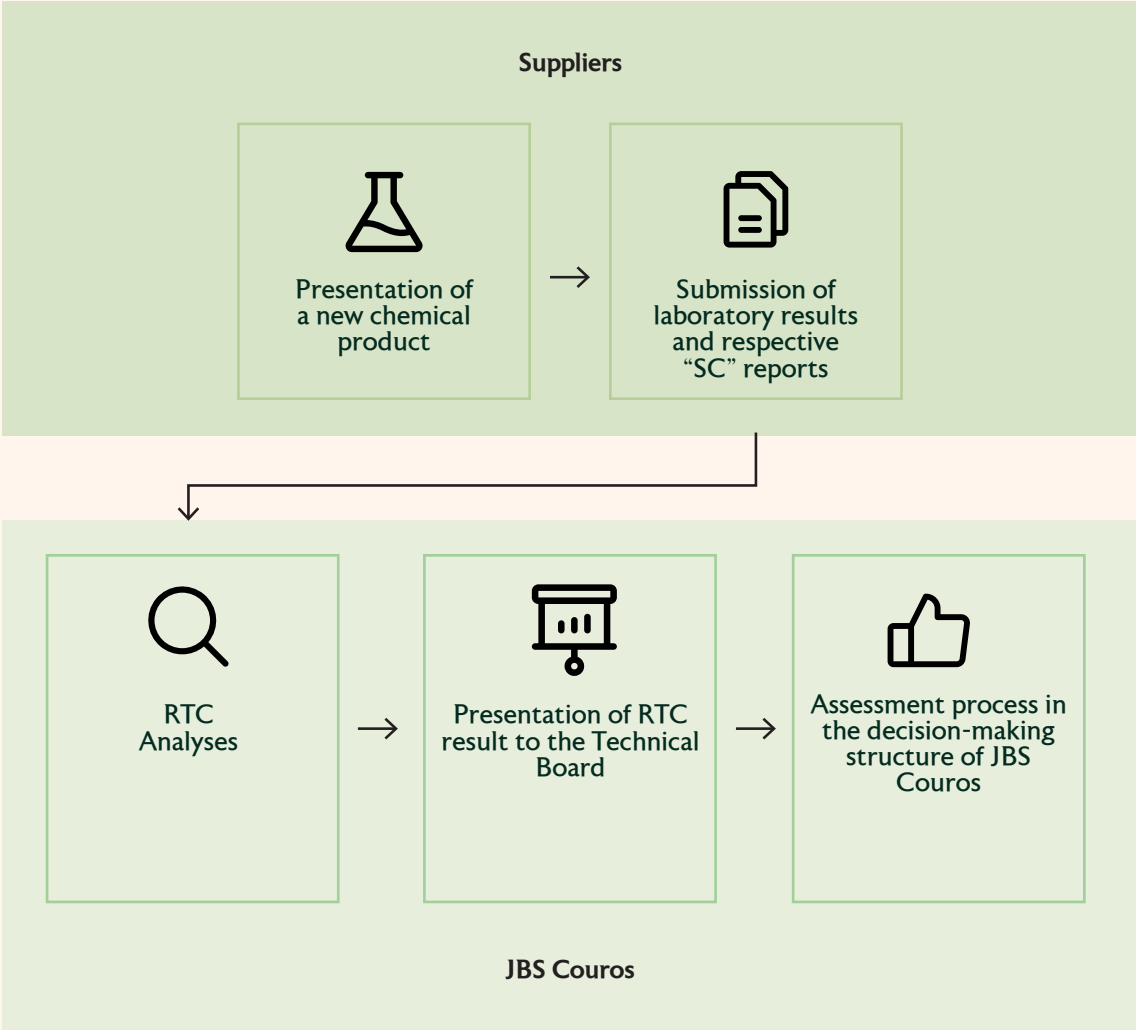
## Execution

In order for a new specialty chemical to be considered for testing in the production process of JBS Couros, its supplier must present, along with the technical data sheet, the results of the analyses and respective reports of the Sustainability Criteria described above.

After the data collection, the RTC analysis is carried out. The result from this analysis will compose, as a sustainability indicator, the decision-making structure for the potential use of the suggested chemical.



# Flow of the assessment of a new specialty with RTC



Want to find out more about  
RTC, its methodology and  
parameters analyzed? Scan here  
and access the website:



Developed by  
**(JBS)**  
Couros

Any questions or suggestions?  
Contact us: [rtc@kindleather.com](mailto:rtc@kindleather.com)

Av. Marginal Direita do Tietê, 500  
São Paulo, SP - Brazil