



News Release from the IULTCS

26 February 2019

Jakov Buljan Announced as Recipient of the IULTCS Merit Award 2019

It is with great pleasure that IULTCS announces that Mr Jakov Buljan has been chosen as the winner of the prestigious IULTCS Merit Award for Excellence in the Leather Industry.

The IULTCS was founded for the purpose of encouraging the technology, chemistry and science of leather on a worldwide basis. It is therefore appropriate that we recognise the achievements of those of stature in our industry who have contributed significantly to our global understanding of the leather industry and its by-products. The IULTCS Merit Award is given biennially by the IULTCS Executive to an individual, whose past or current endeavours have had an extraordinary impact on our industry and provide an example for others to follow. Jakov Buljan fits this profile perfectly.

Having left the University of Zagreb, Croatia in 1966 with a degree in biochemistry Buljan then continued to spend his entire professional career in leather industry – commencing with a position as works manager at CIBALIA, Vinkovci, Croatia, one of the largest European producers in goat and hair sheep. He introduced important innovations in drying and milling resulting in higher output and quality. Subsequently he held various senior managerial positions, including in the joint venture tannery in India.

His dynamic style, field experience and language skills in 1983 brought him to Vienna, Austria to work for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, UNIDO, where he worked as a project manager until his retirement in 2003, but he remained as active as ever.

During his tenure with UNIDO Buljan launched new initiatives with emphasis on projects dealing with environmental issues in many developing countries where more than 50 Effluent Treatment Plants were designed, constructed or supervised under Buljan's leadership.

Training and dissemination of information have always been a high priority on his agenda. Thus, he was the organizer and lecturer of UNIDO workshops in many countries; also re-knowned for his meticulous preparation of background papers and project reports he frequently appears as technical editor, author and / or co-author of a number of technical papers and studies, manuals, brochures and videos. Probably the most widely referenced publication that appears in so many



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leather congresses internationally is “Mass Balance in Leather Processing,” co-authored with Reich and Ludvik, which was presented at the IULTCS Congress in 1997.

The Merit Award will be presented to Jakov Buljan during the XXXV IULTCS Congress in Dresden from 25-28 June 2019.

End News Release

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