



SUSTAINABLE LEATHER, LEATHER PRODUCTS & RUBBER  
MANUFACTURING IN AFRICA VERTICALLY INTEGRATED PROCESSING  
FROM RAW HIDES TO FINISHED SOLES ZAMBIA

KASMEL TRAVERSE ENTERPRISES LIMITED 2026

# THE PROBLEM

- The Problem Africa imports >80% of finished leather goods and shoe soles despite vast raw material supply. Importing drives long lead times, high forex costs, and carbon emissions. Local manufacturers lack scale, sustainable tech, and export-grade quality.
- Greenhouse gas emissions from waste Unused hides typically get landfilled or burned. In landfills they decompose and emit methane and CO<sub>2</sub>. The Leather and Hide Council of America estimates 134 million hides are wasted globally each year, creating over 40 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent emissions annually. In the US alone, up to 5.5 million hides were wasted in 2019, about 17%. India wastes roughly 30% of hides in landfills. [worldfootwear.com](http://worldfootwear.com)[worldwildlife.org](http://worldwildlife.org)
- Loss of a renewable by-product Hides are a co-product of the meat industry. If not used, the livestock farming and slaughter emissions still occur, but the hide's potential to replace synthetic materials is lost. UNIDO argues that because hides are a waste stream that tanners valorize, they should enter the tannery with zero allocated footprint. Throwing them away means you lose that circular benefit. [mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com)
- Pollution from decomposition Raw trimmings, fleshings, and hides putrefy easily, producing noxious odors and leachate that can pollute soil and groundwater. Salt used to preserve hides can wash into groundwater when dumped. [intechopen.com](http://intechopen.com)
- Wasted resources Processing 1 tons of raw hides produces only about 200 kg of useful leather; the rest becomes waste. If the hide itself is discarded, all the water, land, and feed used to raise the animal effectively goes to waste too. Tanning uses 15,000–120,000 m<sup>3</sup> of water per tons of raw material, but discarding hides means the upstream impact happened with no downstream product. [mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com)
- Missed circular economy opportunity Hides contain collagen and fats that can be recovered for gelatin, pet food, fertilizer, biofuels, or re-tanning agents. Throwing them away means more virgin synthetic materials are used instead, which have their own carbon and micro plastic footprint. [mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com)[mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com)[mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com)[mdpi.com](http://mdpi.com) Bottom line: Discarded raw hides add to landfill methane, waste the embedded resources from livestock, and miss the chance to displace synthetic materials. That's why many in the leather industry frame hide utilization as waste valorization.

# OUR SOLUTION

- To operate a full-chain facility in Zambia: Meat processing, hide processing, leather tanning, leather goods manufacturing, and rubber sole production. We use both virgin materials and recycled conveyor rubber and worn tyres to produce durable, export-grade soles. Vertical integration cuts costs, ensures quality, and keeps value in-country.
- Setting up an integrated Meat processing, leather processing, rubber soles manufacturing, and leather products manufacturing facility in Lusaka, Zambia, will provide high-quality, locally sourced materials and products for the domestic and regional markets. Our focus will be on sustainability, quality, and customization to cater to diverse customer needs.
- Distinctive Aspects: Local sourcing and supply chain: By using locally sourced raw materials, we reduce reliance on imports, support local farmers, and minimize logistics costs.
- Eco-friendly production: Implementing environmentally friendly processes and materials, we appeal to the growing demand for sustainable products.
- Customization and flexibility: Offering tailored products for various industries (e.g., safety boots, school shoes, and designer footwear) and customers, setting us apart from mass-produced imports.
- Competitive pricing: Leveraging local resources and efficient production, we offer competitive prices without compromising quality.
- Competitive Advantage: Proximity to resources: Zambia's strong livestock sector provides access to high-quality hides and skins, reducing raw material costs.
- Growing regional market: Strategic location allows for easy access to regional markets, capitalizing on Zambia's membership in SADC, AFCFTA and COMESA.
- Government support: Zambia's government encourages investment in manufacturing, offering incentives and support for businesses like ours.
- Skilled workforce: Access to a skilled and trainable workforce at competitive labor costs.
- Key Highlights: Integrated production process ensures quality control and reduced lead times Strong focus on sustainability and eco-friendliness Customization and flexibility to meet diverse customer needs Competitive pricing due to local sourcing and efficient production By setting up in Lusaka, Zambia, we leverage local advantages, cater to regional demand, and establish a strong foothold in the growing leather and footwear industry.

# PRODUCTS

- Meat processing: Beef, sausages, bacon, ham, salami, smoked meat, meatballs, corned beef, kebabs.
- Processed leather: Wet blue, crust, and finished leather for footwear, furniture, and accessories.
- Leather goods: Belts, bags, safety boots, Combat boots, school shoes, smart and casual footwear and custom B2B products.
- Rubber soles: Virgin compound soles for premium + eco-soles made from recycled conveyor Rubbers and tyres. Built for African conditions.

# COMPETITIVE EDGE

- We will be the only local player with full vertical integration from hide to sole.
- Dual material model: virgin for premium, recycled for sustainability and cost. Products engineered for durability in heat, dust, and heavy-use sectors like mining and military. Strategic Zambia location gives COMESA, SADC and AFCFTA market access with lower logistics costs.

# MARKET OPPORTUNITY

- Africa footwear market: \$13.4B and growing 5%+ yearly. Most soles still imported from Asia. Regional demand for leather PPE and boots driven by mining, construction, and agriculture.
- Increase production capacity: Expand manufacturing facilities and equipment to meet growing demand.
- Market expansion: Target new markets in SADC, AFCFTA, COMESA, and other regions, leveraging Zambia's trade agreements.
- Product diversification: Introduce new products and product lines, such as leather accessories and footwear components to meet the demand.
- Strategic partnerships: Collaborate with international companies to access new markets, technologies, and expertise.
- Target Markets: Regional markets: SADC, AFCFTA and COMESA countries, focusing on South Africa, DRC, Tanzania, and Kenya.
- International markets: EU, US, and China, targeting niche markets for high-quality leather products.
- Local market: Growing Zambian market, focusing on government and corporate sectors.
- Opportunities: Growing demand: Increasing demand for leather products in Africa and globally.
- Trade agreements: Zambia's membership in SADC, AFCFTA and COMESA provides preferential access to regional markets.
- Local sourcing: Access to high-quality raw materials and local expertise.
- Innovation: Opportunities for innovation in sustainable production, product design, and e-commerce.
- By executing this plan, we'll scale up our business, expand our market presence, and solidify our position in the leather industry.

# BUSINESS MODEL

- B2B2C sales to footwear manufacturers, safety/work-wear brands, and wholesalers. Contract manufacturing for regional and export brands.
- Waste-to-value revenue: paid take-back of used conveyors and tyres + sale of recycled soles.
- Target gross margin: 35-45% through integration and recycled.

# SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

- Recycling used tyres and conveyor belts diverts waste from landfills and burning.
- Local processing reduces import emissions and shipping distance.
- Seeking tech for eco-friendly tanning and low-energy rubber processing to meet EU REACH, LWG standards and world class standard.

# TRACTION & MILESTONES

- Secured land
- footwear manufacturing operational (Need Expansion)
- MOUs with 4 Congolese firms and one letter of intent to buy 22,000 pairs of safety boots quarterly for them to supply in the mines.
- Commission rubber recycling line, achieve 10,000 pairs of soles/month.

# PARTNERSHIP, DEBT/LOAN/GRANTS ASK

- We are seeking partners or debt \$4M for:
- Meat processing technology
- Eco-friendly tanning systems and wastewater tech.
- Automation for leather cutting, stitching, and sole molding.
- Sustainable rubber compounding and devulcanization for tyres and conveyors includes (Virgin material processing).
- Goal: Reach export certification and scale to 50,000+ soles/month across Africa.

# TEAM

- Names: Mr. Kasonde Mwamba, Title: Founder and Managing Director, 15+ years in leather supply chain and industrial Management, manufacturing
- Name: Mr. Ernest Mulenga, Title: Production Manager, 15+ years in leather footwear manufacturing and design.
- Name: Mr. Douglas Sondoyo, Title: Production Supervisor, 20+ years in leather footwear manufacturing and design.
- Advisors: Expertise in sustainable materials, Law, Finance and trade in COMESA, SADC and AFCFTA:
  1. Name: Mr. Mwale Peter, Title: Board Chairperson, 30+ years in industrial Management
  2. Name: Mr Lawrence Trevor Alexander, Title: Board Member, 30+ years in industrial Management, Supply chain and manufacturing.
  3. Name: Dr. Chananga Bwembya Nkowan, Title: Board Member, 15+ years in industrial Management, Supply chain and manufacturing.

# CONTACT

- Kasonde Mwamba
- Email: [Kasonde.mwamba@Kasmel.co.zm](mailto:Kasonde.mwamba@Kasmel.co.zm)
- Group Email: [Kasmelboard@Kasmel.co.zm](mailto:Kasmelboard@Kasmel.co.zm)
- Phone: +260971118843
- WhatsApp: +260971118843
- Let's build Africa's sustainable leather and sole supply chain together.  
Website: [www.kasmel.co.zm](http://www.kasmel.co.zm)

# THANK YOU



BY KASONDE MWAMBA

CONTACT: +260971118843/+260966673694

EMAIL: [Kasonde.mwamba@Kasmel.co.zm](mailto:Kasonde.mwamba@Kasmel.co.zm)

WEBSITE: [www.Kasmel.co.zm](http://www.Kasmel.co.zm)