

SETTING STANDARDS FOR LEATHER SOFTNESS WORLDWIDE

ST300 SOFTNESS TESTER



MSA

the ST300 is a means of determining the softness of leather
without defacing the hide or skin

The **ST300 Softness Tester** is a precision instrument that provides a dependable means of monitoring leather softness. The ST300 is non-destructive, so doesn't require samples to be removed from the leather prior to testing. This enables a quality system to be set-up between supplier and customer whenever leather softness is a priority.



OPERATION

The dial indicator on the ST300 must be set to zero before use. A reading is obtained by placing the leather between the clamp arms of the unit and then locking the arms by pressing down on the operating lever.

In carrying out this action, the load pin is retracted while the top and bottom arms are locked.

When the lever is released, the load pin is lowered in a controlled descent by means of a miniature pneumatic cylinder.

The load pin deflects the leather and this deflection is measured and displayed on the dial indicator.

DIGITAL SOFTNESS MEASUREMENT

The ST300D Digital Softness Tester is an easy to use unit offering two major features not found on the analogue version:

- digitally displayed figures to within 0.01mm
- statistical analysis of measurements taken

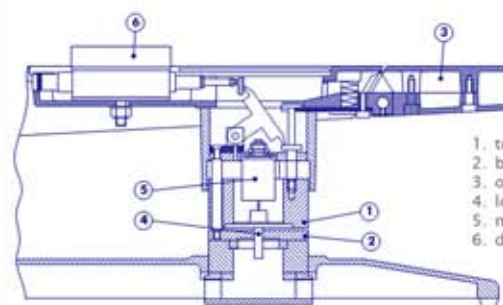
The ST300D features an RS 232 interface, which enables links to be made to a computer for data manipulation and storage. To facilitate this, MSA can supply an ingenious software product which will allow data received for a PC's RS 232 port to be input directly into ANY application program that accepts keyboard input. Programs such as spreadsheets and databases can then be used to create customised analysis of data without expensive dedicated software.

Known as a software wedge, it's easily configured for use with any Windows application. Because the link between ST300D and your PC is provided in real time, flawless data entry is achieved.

The wedge supports a rich set of dynamic data exchange (DDE) commands that allow other applications to take complete control of it's functions. This means that your target application program can perform actions once data is received from the ST300D, e.g. graphs or charts can be updated in real time, or calculations performed.

Good quality control is a key factor in running a successful, profitable business. In this respect, the Leather Industry is no exception. Traditionally, the grading of leather softness was achieved by means of subjective sensory analysis by skilled inspectors. The need was clearly identified for a simple, inexpensive and easy to use machine which would produce reliable, repeatable measurements on a range of leather with varying thickness and softness. The ST300 was developed and designed in conjunction with BLC Leather Technology Centre with the needs of both suppliers and users in mind.

The ST300 is available as a conventional analogue unit (*graduated in 0.1mm divisions*), or as an electronic digital unit (*displaying figures to 0.01mm/0.0005"*). The digital version features an RS 232 interface, thereby enabling links to be made to a computer for data manipulation and storage. Using electronic test equipment, both versions can be calibrated precisely and re-set to original factory parameters.



1. top leather clamp
2. bottom leather clamp
3. operating lever
4. load pin
5. miniature pneumatic cylinder
6. dial indicator



INDUSTRY STANDARD

The ST300 was adopted as the **industry standard** in 1995 and it's method of measurement is now referred to as IUP/36 (equivalent ISO method ISO 17235:2002). The ST300 allows buyers to specify what degree of softness is required, removing the element of subjective opinion.



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