

Theme

"Decoding the Middle East Footwear & Leather industry dynamics: Aligning demand, supply and trends"

DAY 1- TUESDAY, 08 DEC 2026

Ribbon Cutting

11:00 – 12:00 | OPENING PLENARY

- Welcome Remarks: Jeen Joshua, Managing Director, VERIFAIR
- Opening Remarks: Mukhtarul Amin, Vice Chairman, Council for Leather Exports- CLE , Govt. of India
- Chief Guest and Inaugural Address: TBC
- Special Keynote : *'Scaling Kenya's Leather & Footwear Industry: Investment, Innovation, and Export Readiness'*: Jimmy Odhiambo, CEO, Kenya Leather Development Council- KLDC , Govt. of Kenya.
- Closing Remarks: TBC

12:00 – 13:00 | SESSION 1

Panel Discussion: *The Demand Shift; How Brands, Distributors, and Retailers Navigate Geopolitical Headwinds?*

Speakers

- Jatin Kalra , Vice President, Apparel Group
- Saleh Al Rahmani, Founder, Via Milano

13:00 – 13:30 | SESSION 2

Keynote: "Opportunities & challenges for footwear industry in the Middle East"

- Speaker : Dinesh Shahani, President - Footwear Business, Landmark group

13:30 – 14:30 – Lunch

Draft Programme, more speakers are being updated

Some speakers may be suggestive in nature, subject to confirmation



14:30 – 15:30 | SESSION 3

Panel Discussion*: Global Footwear & Leather Market Outlook: Effective Strategies for Global Realignment & Growth*

Speakers

- Swati Singh, General Manager, 800 Leather Solutions
- Leena Junaidi, Managing Director, LifeBalance FootCare

DAY 2- WEDNESDAY, 09 DEC 2026

11:30 – 12:30 | SESSION 4

Panel Discussion*: 'Step into the future; Is Sneaker & Casual Revolution Rewriting Industry Rules?'*

Speakers

- May Ahmed, Founder, H&T Boutique
- Elm Barkley, Founder, Baga Baga
- Ketan Vyas, Managing Director, M.V.Shoe Care Pvt. Ltd.

12:30 – 13:00 | SESSION 5

Keynote: '*The Survival and Growth of SMEs in the Global Leather and Footwear Industry'*

- Speaker: Mohamad Mudabbir, Owner, Hayat Al Fajar Leather Products Trading LLC

13:00 – 14:00 – Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:00 | SESSION 6

Panel Discussion: *'Capitalizing on Premium Markets: Growth Perspectives in Footwear & Leather Industry'*

Speakers

- Morgan Papin, Chief Technology Officer, The Cobbler

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DAY 3- THURSDAY, 10 DEC 2026

11:00 – 12:00 | SESSION 7

Panel Discussion*: Sustainable Horizons: Redefining Footwear & Leather Industry in Middle East*

Speakers

- Elke Steijns, Founder, VOGAYA
- Piyush Shah, Founder, Geo Partnering

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Conference Ends

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