Animal welfare is an important part of a responsible supply chain. Varner wants to contribute to improve animal welfare practices in our industry by setting strict requirements for ourselves as well as for our suppliers. Varner established an Animal Welfare Policy in 2008 and has since worked with continuously developing the requirements based on the latest reports and research into the status of each material we use, and the potential risks related to these. Varner Animal Welfare Policy is shared with our suppliers, and they are required to sign this as a part of the Varner Supplier Manual. We ensure the implementation of our Policy with procedures to follow up on from our suppliers.

Ethical aspects shall always be considered when choosing suppliers of animal materials. For Varner, this means a focus on traceability, health and safety, and a focus on animal welfare in farms and production units. These elements are also found in The Five Provisions on how animal welfare should be managed, set by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and used as guidelines for all suppliers to Varner. Varner Animal Welfare Policy is based on best industry practices and risk assessment for each production country of the raw material.

Varner does not purchase leather or animal fiber from areas known for systematic poor animal welfare conditions and areas where husbandry can lead to negative impact on the environment by contributing to water sources pollution, greenhouse gas emissions or even desertification.