

Toni Baltes replaces Stephen Sothmann as ICHSLTA President

Worldwide

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Toni Baltes

The International Council of Hides, Skins, and Leather Traders Association (ICHSLTA) has held its 92nd Annual General Meeting virtually on April 21, 2021. At the meeting, ICHSLTA members reviewed issues related to the trade of hides and skins globally, with a focus on pandemic-induced consequences to the hides and skins trade.

The council also held its election for officer positions. After five years of presidency, Stephen Sothmann, President of the Leather and Hide Council of America, stepped down. The council elected Toni Baltes from German Wirtschaftsverband Häute/Leder as the new President, as well as Dennis King from the Australian Hides Skins and Leather Exporters Association and Nick Winters from the French Hides Association as Vice Presidents. LÉnaïg Manéat of the French Hides Association - Syndicat Général des Cuirs et Peaux in France continues managing the organisation's secretariat.

Toni Baltes is the current President of the German Hides Association and Managing Director of A+B Hides, drawing on 40 years of experience in the trade. He said: "Everybody decides for themselves to eat meat or not. If you do eat meat that came from humane slaughter, it is an ethical principle to utilise all of the animal's by-products completely and sensibly. In my new role as ICHSLTA's President, I want to and will continue to be committed to this and thank my colleagues for their trust."

The International Council of Hides, Skins, and Leather Traders Association represents the interests of the hide, skins and leather trades of more than 30 countries. Its principal objective is the promotion, development and protection of the international trade in raw hides, skins and leathers.