

Business Jet *interiors* INTERNATIONAL

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THIS ISSUE:
Fresh look and
more features
than ever!

FUTURE SEATS

DESIGNERS REVEAL THEIR
VISIONS FOR 2025 AND WE
ASSESS THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

IFEC RELIABILITY

Experts discuss ways to minimize the chances of systems failing and make maintenance simpler

CERTIFICATION

Examining the industry's efforts to streamline the completion process without compromising safety

SEXYJET

The making of a fun and colorful GV that looks set to make a mark in the VIP charter market

WORKING WITH

WORKING WITH
leather

Leather is a key part of most VIP interiors. An upholsterer and a designer discuss how to optimize its natural beauty



Jean-Pierre Alfano

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
AT AIRJET DESIGNS



Scott Duncan

DIRECTOR OF INTERIOR
COMPLETIONS AT FLYING
COLOURS CORP



The Designer

JEAN-PIERRE ALFANO

CREATIVE DIRECTOR AT AIRJET DESIGNS

WHAT DO YOU FIND MOST ATTRACTIVE ABOUT LEATHER?

Leather is attractive because it offers a lot of textures, grains, styles and finishes, and delivers a warm, natural dimension to interior environments. What is also nice about leather is that it feels like a living material, because it changes with time and needs to be cared for.

HAVE YOU NOTICED ANY TRENDS IN TERMS OF POPULAR TYPES, APPLICATIONS AND STITCHES?

I have noticed that more and more attention is given to design and craftsmanship details, even on a single aircraft seat. When leather is the covering material, there is more interest in refined design features such as decorative stitching and contrasting accent features. Also, I have noticed more interest in the use of unusual leathers such as ostrich leather and shagreen, as well as textures such as salmon. Woven leather is also gaining popularity, as it can give volume and rhythm to a design.

HOW DO YOU USE LEATHER IN YOUR VIP INTERIOR DESIGNS?

We typically use plain grain leather for seats and divans, with embossing or stitched decorative inserts. Textured and more bold leather types are used for armrest or seatback surrounding surfaces. We also use decorative leather (Cordoba leather in some cases) on sidewall panels and even to cover cabinet and partition doors.

HOW DO YOU GET THE BEST OUT OF THE RAW MATERIAL?

Knowing how it is made, treated and prepared, and how it ages and can be fixed, is the key to successfully making leather part of an aircraft interior.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGING ASPECTS ABOUT USING LEATHER?

The main challenge is to retain the authenticity of the natural material, while ensuring uniformity in terms of grain and patterns.

IF YOU WERE DESIGNING YOUR OWN JET, WOULD YOU USE LEATHER?

If I were designing my own jet, I would design it in exactly the same way as for my clients. Leather would definitely be part of the equation.

1. AIRJET DESIGNS' ACJ340-500 CABIN DESIGN MAKES USE OF WHITE LEATHER TO BALANCE THE USE OF GOLD AND BLUE
2. WITHIN THE SAME DESIGN, SEATBACK LEATHER IS EMBOSSED TO PROVIDE A SUBTLE PATTERN

