Galko - 25 years of tradition in leather accessories

Editorial

Industry news

Galko, a recognizable Croatian top quality brand, was founded in 1993. From family business to leading manufacturer of handbags and leather accessories, from two to more than 70 employees, Galko started into the shoemaker workshop of Ledinko family. There, the director, Božidar Ledinko, worked side by side with two colleagues, trying to develop and make a bag which will meet the market needs. A bag that will with its quality justify its price and with its design attract glance. Back then, Galko had no collections, but only one product – a bag, designed and handmade. Production of one bag took at least 20% more time than today.

After less than a year of being in business and after employing more craftsman, relocation to a bigger place was a logical step. Increased working space and production needs resulted in the first Galko catalogue created in 1995. First collection of eight fashion bags and small accessories was introduced in 1998. Although with small production facility, growth of Galko was evident. Three years later the company has been upgraded again. In 2001, the first branch office was opened. In 2002, Galko expanded its assortment with the introduction of hunter’s leather equipment, like rifle leather case, backpacks, bags, cases, etc.

The expansion of production capacity in 2005, resulted in a further company upgrade. The same year, the Post collection was introduced, containing bags, binders and baskets that apply to postal worker vehicle. The opportunities and the increase of business activities volume, enable in 2008, the establishment of the representative office in Zagreb, where it is still today. The same year, Galko received two significant awards: the Zlatna Kuna award for outstanding business results and contribution to the Croatian economy and the award for the most successful medium-sized entrepreneur, both awarded by the Croatian Chamber of Commerce. In order to remain market competitiveness, in 2010, Galko introduced the Gastro collection and two years later a special dedicated Police, Army and Security collections, that included high-quality accessories for the safe police, military and security services operations. This was the seventh collection in a rich assortment of products.
Aside from the domestic market, the company was also recognized abroad. Galko participated in various fairs, which were of a purposeful nature, in order to bring the product closer to the market (from Germany, France, and Romania, to Russia, America and the United Arab Emirates). Galko quality has been recognized thanks to its top quality leather and handmade production. Therefore, the company has been awarded several more times with the Golden Handbag Award in the International Week of Leather, Footwear and Clothing.

For 25 years Galko successfully puts on the market two fashion collections per year: autumn/winter and spring/summer collections, complementing them with the business collection and specialized, dedicated collections. In line with leading world brands, collections are generated one year earlier and presented in many international fairs.

Regardless of the brand recognition, the overall activities from the last 25 years are focused on continuous progress, monitoring trends and market needs. “The universal recipe for success and survival on the market does not exist. It takes a lot of love for the job you are doing and for which you are struggling and fighting with new market competition on a daily basis, but you still manage to maintain high quality products. Of course, you need an excellent team of associates who will work in cohesion to achieve success. The human factor is definitely the most important, and when you incorporate it into everything listed, you will get a partial recipe for the success.” - emphasizes the director of Galko, Božidar Ledinko. Galko is an example of successful entrepreneurship, behind which stands a lot of passion, love and commitment. Behind each bag, wallet, belt committed and worthy people stand.

Galko celebrated its 25th anniversary with the presentation of all current collections: the current spring/summer 2018 collection, the upcoming autumn/winter 2018/2019 collection and dedicated collections for hunting, post, police, army and protection as well as medical collection. With the presentation of Galko’s entire opus, the emphasis is on the diversity, inventiveness and quality. These were the main features of the brand throughout all these years, but also a sure course of success in the future.