

EDITOR'S

NOTE

Dear Readers,



Every institution has a story, but only a few create a legacy that continues to inspire generations. As FDDI commemorates 40 years of its remarkable journey, this Special Commemorative Issue of Creative Horizons celebrates not only the milestones achieved, but, also the people, partnerships and purpose that have shaped the Institute into a globally respected centre of excellence.

From its inception in 1986 with a vision to strengthen India's footwear industry, FDDI has evolved into an Institution of National Importance, making significant contributions across footwear, leather, fashion, retail, design, testing, research, skill development and entrepreneurship.

Over the past four decades, it has nurtured industry-ready professionals, empowered artisans and MSMEs, supported the sector through world-class testing and consultancy services, and strengthened India's position in the global footwear and leather ecosystem.

This commemorative edition brings together reflections on FDDI's evolution, landmark achievements, transformative initiatives, industry collaborations, alumni success stories, academic and research excellence, and the invaluable support extended by the Government, industry, faculty, students, alumni and other stakeholders.

Adding another feather to its cap, FDDI's quarterly magazine, Creative Horizons, has been assigned the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN: 3139-3926 – Online) by the ISSN National Centre, India. This significant recognition enhances the publication's authenticity, visibility and global discoverability, further strengthening its position as a credible platform for knowledge dissemination, academic discourse and thought leadership in the footwear, leather, fashion, retail and allied sectors.

As we celebrate this historic occasion, we express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has contributed to FDDI's growth over the last four decades. Their trust, commitment and collaboration have been instrumental in transforming FDDI into a vibrant institution dedicated to excellence, innovation, sustainability and nation-building.

We hope this Special Commemorative Issue serves not only as a celebration of FDDI's illustrious legacy, but also as an inspiration for the journey ahead.

Manoj Agarwal
(Editor-in-Chief)

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40 YEARS OF
EXCELLENCE
IN EDUCATION

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