



Sustainability Report 2014

Environmentally Preferable Flooring

Introduction

Welcome to Polyflor's 9th report

The aim of this brochure is to clearly report Polyflor's sustainability performance for 2013. We have sound environmental; quality; responsible sourcing and CSR (corporate social responsibility) credentials and policies in place, but it is important to continue to build on this and thus openly communicate it to all stakeholders.

Transparency is central at a time where environmental issues become increasingly important and companies seek commercial advantage wherever they can. The term 'greenwashing' is one that we are all aware of and something that we want to avoid.

Polyflor's goal is to be as transparent and informative as possible, operating an open communication policy with all stakeholders. We will continue to report everything, regardless of it seeming positive or successful. For instance, we recycled 40% less general waste (excluding vinyl production waste) in 2013, compared with 2012's figures. However, it is important to point out that this was largely due to our commitment to minimise waste from the outset.

In recent years Polyflor has achieved many great accomplishments, including being the first vinyl manufacturer to achieve individual BRE A ratings (now A+ ratings); being the first commercial flooring manufacturer to achieve GreenTag LCARate certification and also being a co-founder member of Recofloor, the UK's market leading recycling scheme for vinyl flooring.

Despite such positive credentials, Polyflor recognises the need to continually improve its sustainability performance. Like all manufacturers, we have an environmental impact and we also have an important responsibility to minimise this impact. This report sets out to highlight our endeavours in doing so and is further supported by visible 'cradle to grave' life cycle analysis via BRE and EPD.



Environmentally Preferable Flooring

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Sustainability Report 2014



Our Vision

Polyflor's vision is to be as carbon neutral as possible, as well as being socially and economically responsible. The vision of our business model is fully encompassed by the Three Pillars of Sustainability, which focus on **Environment, People and Economic Sustainability.**

- The avoidance of emissions to the ecosystem
- The introduction of products that are environmentally consistent with their intended use by providing a high level of durability, reliability, ease of maintenance and safe disposal at end of life
- Active participation in industry initiatives and projects that improve environmental impact
- Careful selection of materials, processing techniques and state of the art technology to reduce environmental impact
- Compliance with circular economy principals
- Reduction of waste to a minimum
- Conservation of resources by use of recycling
- Engaging and raising environmental awareness by regular and open communication with all stakeholders
- To go above and beyond in the communities in which we operate
- Best practice procurement and business ethics



Sustainable Progress

Polyflor has for many decades been recognised as a leading global manufacturer of high quality, high performance floorcoverings. In the 2012 Palmer Market Research Report for resilient flooring, Polyflor was also recognised as the leading sustainable company with architects in particular rating Polyflor for "Good environmental ethics".

Energy Efficiency

- Carbon emissions reduced by 814 tonnes in 2013 - total carbon emissions reduced by 18,426 tonnes since 2000

Recycling

- Liquid waste fell from 167 tonnes in 2012 to 70 tonnes in 2013, a 91% reduction when compared to 2000's figures
- Recofloor continued to grow, as per the following KPIs:
 - 510 collectors (9% growth from registered collectors in 2012)
 - 68 drop off sites (5% increase through additional distributors joining Recofloor)
 - Won gold award in the International Green Apple Environment Awards 2013, for Environmental Best Practice

NPD

- Launched in May 2013, Secura is Polyflor's first luxury vinyl sheet and features PUR for improved maintenance benefits and lower environmental impact. Secura is the first Polyflor sheet product available in multiple widths (2, 3 and 4 metres) and can be loose laid on areas up to 24m², thus reducing installation wastage and use of adhesive

Air quality

- Many of our flooring ranges are now certificated through the Afsset scheme, with the VOC emissions' results being exceptionally low, achieving A+

Transport

- A new policy was introduced, whereby drivers should attain a B rating on their driver's KPI
- Driver trainers appointed to permeate 'Best Practice' throughout the fleet
- Four new fuel efficient trailer boxes added to the fleet
- Decreased carbon emissions largely from fleet efficiencies through increased volume of bulk loads and backhaul procedures

Assessments

- PVC Best Practice on Polyflor's homogeneous flooring ranges, independently verified by NCS International Pty Ltd to meet the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) best practice guidelines

1

Materials



PVC makes a major contribution to the quality, safety & cost-effectiveness of construction materials, as well as contributing to lower environmental impacts of completed projects

It is the most widely used polymer in building & construction applications and over 60% of Western Europe's annual PVC production is used in this sector

PVC Europe



- Up to 85% sustainable material used in Polyflor flooring
- REACh compliance - No harmful substances such as formaldehyde
- Polyflor does not use plasticisers that are classified on the REACh authorisation list

About Vinyl

Vinyl is a cost effective multi faceted plastic - a necessity in everyday life due to its flexibility, durability, performance and functionality. Used in flooring, cables, windows, packaging and medical equipment including blood bags and surgical tubing, this material is irreplaceable for many of its lifesaving applications.

It is important not to make decisions on a product's environmental performance, based solely on emotional rationale, but to view with an open mind and scientific approach. A life cycle analysis for instance, represents a holistic approach which cannot be dismissed. Through modern manufacturing processes vinyl has a low environmental impact and exceptional performance characteristics within a multitude of uses, where no other material could perform as well or cost effectively.

A Greener Option

Vinyl is an environmentally sound choice. Over its life cycle, vinyl floorcoverings perform comparably or better than competing materials across a range of impacts.

Vinyl flooring is exceptionally energy efficient to manufacture, using less energy than other plastics and linoleum. Due to its incredible durability it has a long service life, greatly reducing short-term replacements and subsequent energy consumption. Polyflor products' ease of maintenance also means that energy intensive cleaning is not required and need for harsh chemical cleansers, polish, strippers and water usage is massively reduced, if needed at all.

As a material vinyl is ideally suited to being recycled. It is 100% recyclable and can be recycled many times over without losing any of its performance properties. If it is not recycled, vinyl has a high calorific value and may be safely incinerated generating energy recovery. Landfill is the last option, but a safe option as vinyl remains chemically inert without producing leachate.

A Safer Option

Vinyl is the most thoroughly researched, tested plastic, meeting all international health and safety standards as per the intended application.

In the event of a fire, vinyl is flame retardant due to the chlorine content and once removed from the fire it will self extinguish. In the event of a fire, vinyl flooring typically outperforms linoleum and rubber flooring.

Key Sustainability Credentials of PVC for use within the construction industry

1. Safe in use.
2. More variation in uses than any other plastic.
3. Best use of natural resources.
4. Low energy consumption.
5. Low carbon emissions.
6. Best cost : performance ratio.
7. Excellent energy efficient ratings.
8. Excellent BRE ratings.
9. Can be recycled into more construction products than any other polymer.
10. Comes with a 10 year proven European-wide voluntary agreement.

Polyflor Materials

Vinyl is made up of 57% salt (chlorine) and 43% oil (ethylene), salt being one of the world's most abundant natural resources.

Chlorine has an established place in the natural world: The sea, plants and animals all contain and produce vast quantities of chlorinated molecules. Chlorine is also a chemical used within the manufacture of essential, every day items. For example, 85% of medicines either contain chlorine or use chlorine in the production process. Chlorine is not emitted during the production stage of Polyflor flooring - chlorine is chemically bound within vinyl and remains so during the process and the life of the flooring.

Ethylene comes mainly from gas or oil, but ethylene from biomass is also used. Ethylene is also a natural product, given off by ripening fruit. Only 4% of barrel oil is used for all plastic products globally and vinyl flooring uses only a tiny fraction of this, with most oil used for heating and travel consumption.

Polyflor floorcoverings predominantly use natural materials. The homogeneous range of products for example, uses up to 85% natural materials with the average being 71% across the range. This includes calcium carbonate filler. The high abundance of this material in the earth's crust makes it a sustainable material and its use diminishes the polymer content, thus reducing the usage of oil. The unique composition of vinyl flooring means that it is extremely practical, durable and has a typical life span of twenty years or more. It is incredibly efficient to recycle, which subsequently minimises the use of raw materials.

Plasticisers are added to our flooring to enhance product performance characteristics through a range of operational temperatures. Softening the vinyl is important in making it the flexible and versatile product that it is. Polyflor uses ortho-phthalates and non phthalate alternatives. Ensuring that we get the right balance between what is best for product performance, the environment and what our customers want is critical and something which is constantly evolving.

All raw materials used in the manufacture of Polyflor vinyl flooring are responsibly sourced from suppliers who, like Polyflor, are ISO 14001 certified or demonstrate robust environmental management. Polyflor follows the strictest industry regulations ensuring no harmful substances, such as formaldehyde; lead; cadmium; mercury or hexavalent chromium are included in our vinyl. All Polyflor products are REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation & restriction of Chemicals) compliant.



2

Production



Sustainable Production includes the following elements:

- 1.** Efficient use of natural resources, including materials, water & energy
- 2.** Minimization of wastes & emissions, including those discharged to water, air or on land
- 3.** Reduction of risks to humans & environment from use of chemicals and disposal of chemicals used in industry

United Nations Industrial Development Organisation



- Polyflor vinyl has a low carbon footprint, using less energy in the production phase than many other resilient flooring materials
- 100% recyclable & can be recycled many times over, without loss of performance
 - Most production waste vinyl is recycled back into new product

Energy Efficiency

The amount of energy required per m² of material produced has continued to fall year on year down to 2.70Kwhr per m² representing a 46% drop since 2000. This reduction in energy used has been as a result of hard work on the company's environmental objectives.

- Vinyl uses less energy to produce than other plastics, at least 15% less energy than linoleum and 50% less energy than ceramics, due to their lengthy processes in 'ovens'
- Its typical life of 20-25 years means fewer replacements so less energy to produce flooring for the life of the building
- Energy consumption of Polyflor's manufacturing process has been reduced by over 46% in the last 13 years
- Carbon emissions reduced by 18,426 tonnes since 2000

into context it gives equivalent carbon dioxide emissions as 1 kg of frosted cornflakes, both at 1.9kg CO₂. Recycled PVC is just 0.3kg CO₂. Here are some other every day examples:

- 1kg Lamb = 14kg CO₂
- 1 kg Cheese = 11kg CO₂
- 1 kg Aluminium = 10kg CO₂

Our carbon emissions were reduced by 814 tonnes in 2013 and 1,202 tonnes in 2012. The total 18,426 tonne reduction in carbon emissions reported has been independently audited - Polyflor is working with the Carbon Trust's Energy Management programme, which provides commercially viable solutions to help UK businesses and the public sector cut carbon, energy and costs.

Two significant contributors to our recent progress have come from the following initiatives at our Whitefield manufacturing site:

- 1) The installation of the AirStar system, which reduces compressed air. This has had a massive impact on carbon emissions - reducing our carbon footprint by 20% in 5 years
- 2) Powerstar implemented a voltage optimisation system, which uses a patented triple wound transformer, enabling voltage reduction without compromising supply. From this, results have shown that the site's annual energy consumption has been reduced by 12.8%

Energy Saving initiatives

1) Installation of automatic shutdown systems to ensure machinery is switched off when not in use

2) The implementation of lighting optimisers has continued across the site, which produces a saving of around 25% on energy used

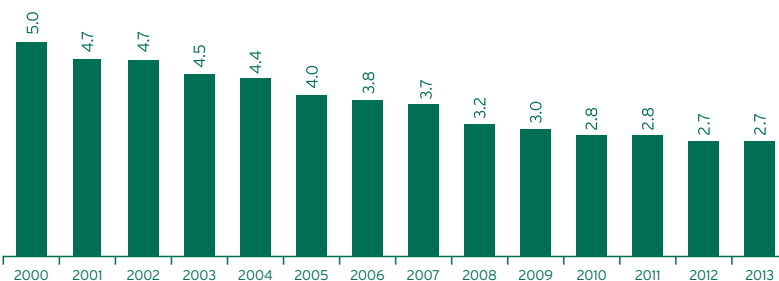
3) Installation of automatic lighting in offices

4) The metering and monitoring systems used in the factory for air, steam and all energy consumption has been crucial in identifying areas of leakage, unnecessary use and ways to cut the energy required

Vinyl is exceptionally energy efficient to produce and embedded energy is further reduced when recycled material is used in place of raw materials. PVC has a relatively low carbon footprint, to put this

18,426 tonne reduction in carbon

Energy Usage per m² manufactured (Kwh)



46%
LESS ENERGY
since 2000

Working with
CARBON TRUST

Water Use

Water is a natural resource, which must be protected. Water usage can be high in many manufacturing plants, but Polyflor has taken a number of steps to ensure that water usage is minimised.

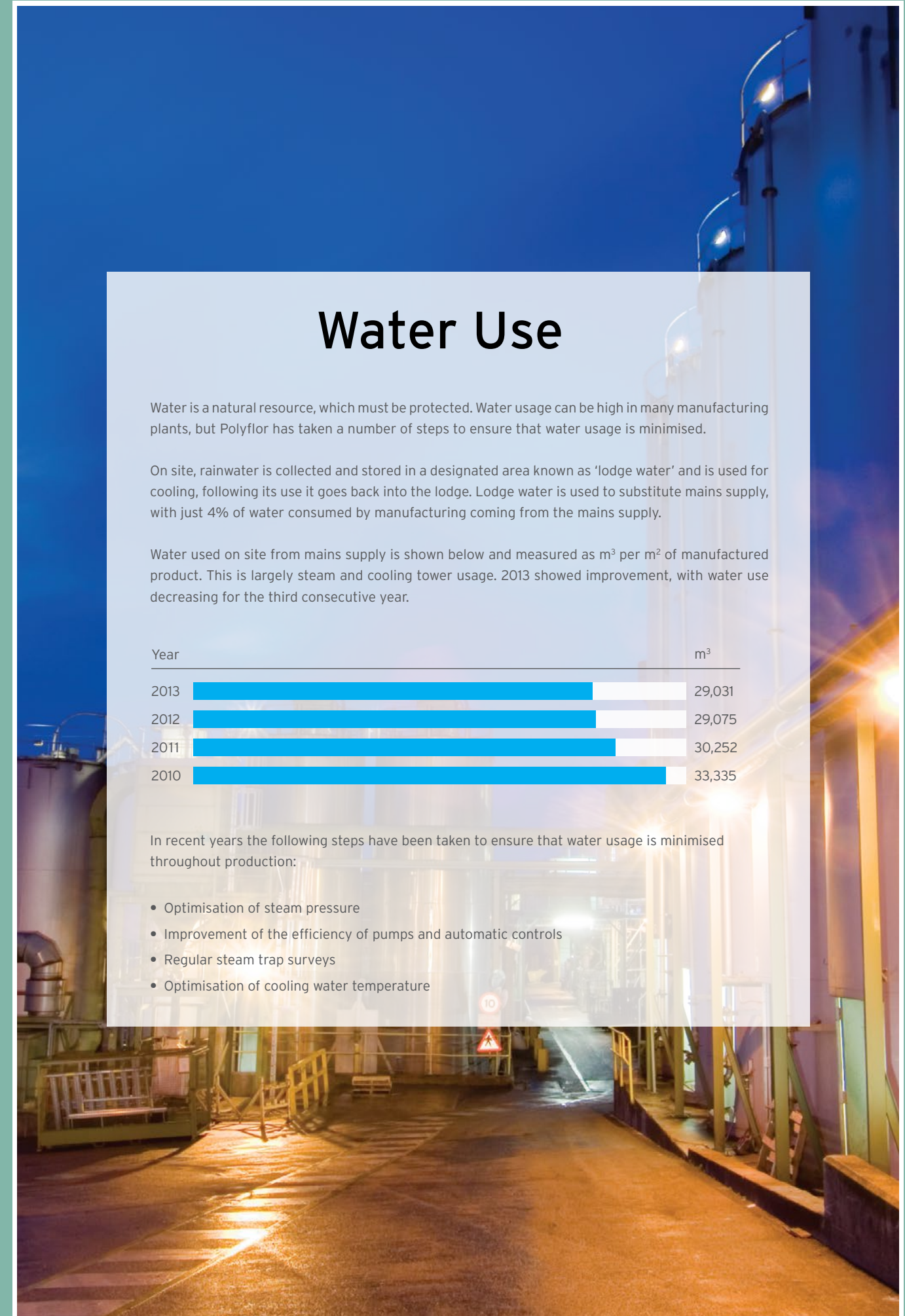
On site, rainwater is collected and stored in a designated area known as 'lodge water' and is used for cooling, following its use it goes back into the lodge. Lodge water is used to substitute mains supply, with just 4% of water consumed by manufacturing coming from the mains supply.

Water used on site from mains supply is shown below and measured as m³ per m² of manufactured product. This is largely steam and cooling tower usage. 2013 showed improvement, with water use decreasing for the third consecutive year.

Year	m ³
2013	29,031
2012	29,075
2011	30,252
2010	33,335

In recent years the following steps have been taken to ensure that water usage is minimised throughout production:

- Optimisation of steam pressure
- Improvement of the efficiency of pumps and automatic controls
- Regular steam trap surveys
- Optimisation of cooling water temperature



Waste Management

Even with an increase in production throughout 2013 there has been continual progress on site in reducing dry and liquid waste.

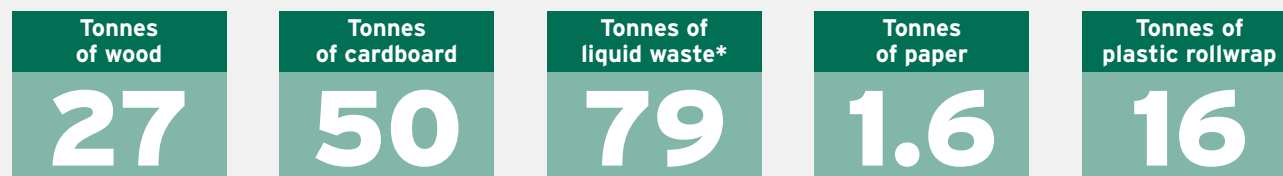
As a business with electrical and electronic equipment to dispose of, we are fully compliant with the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directive and therefore recycle such waste accordingly.

Improvements on waste management (such as the updated waste management system at the Oldham sales and distribution centre, which reduced the amount and frequency of waste) and recycling initiatives meant that dry waste fell from 7.5% of production volume in 2002 to 1.35% in 2013, equating to a significant reduction in dry waste of 82% in 11 years. Liquid waste in 2013 was 70 tonnes, an impressive 91% reduction when compared to 2000's figures.

As production increases, investment is continually made to improve storage and handling facilities for subsequent waste on site. Limiting the potential for waste at the outset will continue to be a priority.

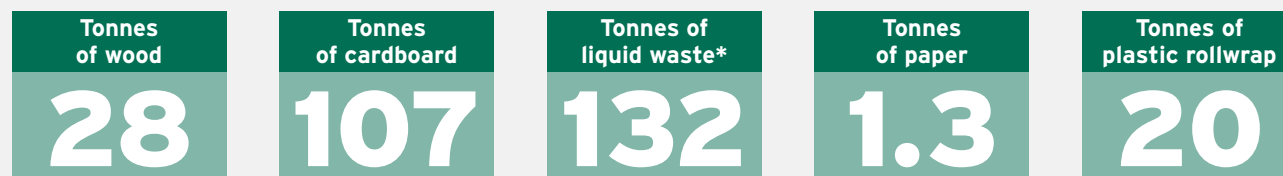
We recycled 40% less in 2013, compared with 2012's figures. All general waste categories recycled were lower with the exception of paper waste, which increased by 0.3 tonnes. This reduction in waste recycling is largely due to our commitment to minimising waste, by using less packaging material and being more diligent with our suppliers, for instance. It is important to Polyflor that we reduce potential waste in the first place.

Waste recycled in 2013:



173.6 Tonnes of total waste recycled

Waste recycled in 2012:



288.3 Tonnes of total waste recycled

*Plasticiser condensate from factory ovens

Recycling

Vinyl Waste Recycled

Polyflor has been recycling vinyl since the 1950s, when we pioneered the manufacture of homogeneous flooring. It has always been considered a perfectly natural part of the manufacturing process.

- Vinyl flooring is most suitable for recycling and is 100% recyclable
- 25% average recycled content across Polyflor ranges
- Up to 40% recycled material content
- 9,570 tonnes of production waste and 800 tonnes of post consumer waste recycled in 2013

There can be few materials better suited to recycling than vinyl flooring. Vinyl is 100% recyclable and can be recycled many times over without losing any of its performance properties, furthermore recycled vinyl requires 85% less energy to manufacture than virgin PVC.

Post production waste vinyl is generated on site from scrap material produced during and after production, this comprises vinyl chippings, clean trims and off-cuts as well as recovered dust. We also recycle glass which is post consumer waste, combined with the aggregates, into many of our Polysafe products. Additional post consumer waste is returned to Polyflor, via the Recofloor recycling scheme, which operates throughout the UK, Eire, Australia and New Zealand.

In the Future

After minimising waste, recycling is at the heart of Polyflor's operations. Whilst significant investment has been made over recent years to improve our recycling capacity and capability, we will continue to develop further, both on site and via the investment we make in Recofloor.

We will continue to fully utilise all options available in the recycling of post consumer waste back into new product, although we must be mindful of legacy additives in this waste material and will need to be managed effectively. Returned material identification will be a key factor in preventing materials being used in Polyflor flooring that would not and should not be included.

3

Logistics & Installation



- Polyflor fleet reduced carbon emissions through increased volume of bulk loads & backhauling; new, fuel efficient fleet and improved driver effectiveness
 - New luxury vinyl sheet developed with lower environmental impact; improved maintenance benefits; available in multiple widths (2, 3 & 4 metres); can be loose laid up to 24m², thus reducing installation wastage & use of adhesive
-

Transport & Logistics

The efficient distribution of our products is imperative to our customers. It is important that we achieve this whilst acting responsibly within the supply chain and minimising our carbon footprint.

Achievements for 2013

- Appointed a Driver Trainer - extending this to two Driver Trainers - both will be trained by 'MAN Profi Drive' to permeate 'Best Practice' throughout the Polyflor Fleet
- A new policy was introduced, whereby Polyflor Drivers should attain an overall B rating on their Driver's KPI (presently this is an overall C rating)
- Four new box trailers have been ordered for the fleet. The trailers have been specified for fuel efficient performance, with an estimated fuel saving reduction of around 6.8%
- A decrease in carbon emissions from transportation have largely been due to the increased volume of bulk load orders and will continue be driven by Polyflor's bulk load activity. Therefore vehicles are being loaded more efficiently so there is more weight, increasing carbon emissions per mile from 1.22kgs in 2012 to 1.24kgs in 2013
- However, carbon emissions per tonne of product despatched, decreased from 42.82kgs in 2012 to 37.19kgs in 2013 (these figures do not include our Backhaul gross weight carried, which would reduce Polyflor's emissions per tonne even further)
- Overall, carbon emissions have fallen due to fewer deliveries and more bulk load orders
- A new backhaul procedure is in place, which reduces the amount of Polyflor vehicles returning to the distribution centre empty. Where possible we plan to reload our import containers with our export goods, further reducing vehicles running empty to and from our UK distribution depot

Packaging

Polyflor flooring is packed in the most effective manner to provide necessary protection, whilst minimising waste. Recycling of various elements of our packaging waste is organised on site, with recycled packaging used where possible. An environmental objective as outlined within ISO 14001 was realised in 2012, with plastic roll wrap being reduced to zero, saving 96 tonnes of waste material.

Distribution

As a UK manufacturer, Polyflor distributes product from its central distribution centre in the North West of England through a network of wholesalers throughout the UK and around the world, a model that ensures efficiency through the transportation of full, bulk loads.

Transportation

Polyflor operates its own transport fleet in the UK which is maintained and updated as often as possible to ensure the latest and most fuel efficient vehicles are used. All Polyflor HGVs are Euro 5 compliant, for instance. As well as improving the HGV fleet, reducing the environmental impact of the fleet was also achieved by improving driving efficiencies, bulk loads and backhauling procedures.



A benefit of vinyl flooring being much lighter than other flooring materials produces a positive outcome in transit, reducing fuel consumption.

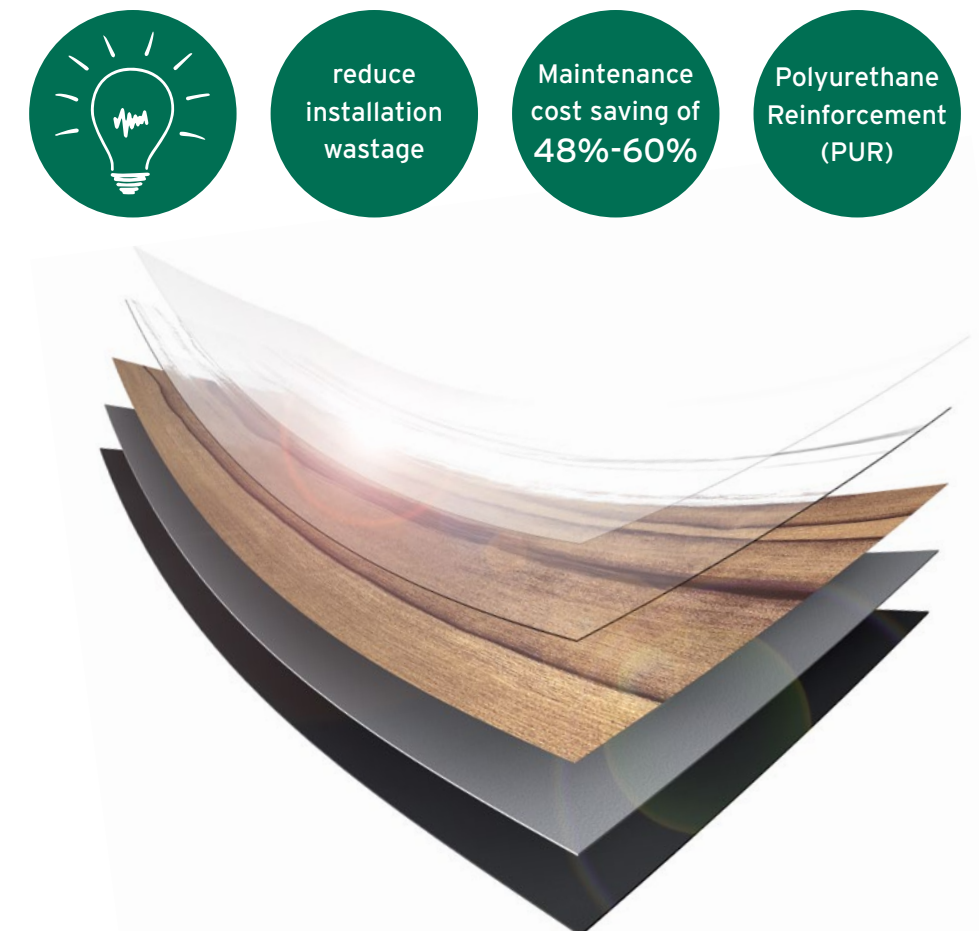
Installation and R&D

In collaboration with industry partners, Polyflor is working on developments in new products and technologies. We are continually evaluating new ideas or alternatives which minimise environmental impact.

Our research and Development team continue to investigate materials used in Polyflor's products for the most environmentally sound and safe vinyl flooring achievable. Recycled material increased - significantly in some cases - as outlined within our environmental objectives.

All Polyflor Luxury Vinyl Tiles now have Polyurethane Reinforcement (PUR), for improved sustainability, reducing the environmental impact of the in-use phase. Polyflor LVTs with PUR will benefit the environment and end user with significant reductions in the use of water, power, chemical cleansers and polish, also giving the end user fantastic cost savings of 48% to 60%.

Launched in May 2013, Secura is Polyflor's first luxury vinyl sheet and features PUR for improved maintenance benefits and lower environmental impact. Secura is the first Polyflor sheet product available in multiple widths (2, 3 and 4 metres) and can be loose laid on areas up to 24m², thus reducing installation wastage and use of adhesive.



4

In Use



We wanted to select a vinyl flooring with really good lifecycle, good floor products that would be easily maintained & durable. Polyflor had the best products to last the next 20 years – a very good lifecycle to minimise cleaning & good durability

*Raz Favotto, Thiess Construction
(New \$721 million Royal North Shore Hospital,
Sydney, Australia)*



- Perfect for indoor use areas - no compromise on the function or the environment
 - Market leading low maintenance benefits
- Extremely low VOC emissions, with no negative contribution to indoor air quality

Fit for Purpose

Choosing an environmentally preferable product from Polyflor means zero compromise in the function of the product.

- Positive environmental credentials and benefits are built into our flooring
- Other elements, whether underfoot safety, hygiene, ease of maintenance, durability or aesthetics work hand in glove with the environmental performance of the product

The majority of Polyflor 2.0mm floorcoverings obtain the highest Use Area Classification of 23/34/43 to EN 685, making them suitable for heavy domestic, very heavy commercial and heavy or light industrial use. In comparison, a greater thickness is required for linoleum to achieve a similar recommendation, but even at 2.5mm thick it is not recommended for class 43 areas. Under the Agrément (UPEC) system only 3.2mm thick linoleum had the same wearability as most of the accredited Polyflor products.

Another of vinyl's strengths is its much greater resistance to water, whereas many alternative materials are not suitable for use in areas where there can be the extensive contact with water. Vinyl is impervious and can be thermally welded with the joints actually fused together and is inherently more flexible and easily self-cured. This flexibility also means that vinyl has much better recovery from indentation.

At Polyflor we are clear in our belief that there is no reason that our customers need to compromise on performance, choice or budget in order to use products with the lowest environmental impact.

We do not manufacture a specific range of environmental flooring, we manufacture vast ranges of the highest quality, BRE rated commercial flooring with a level of performance and benefits in use which also result in class leading environmental features. This philosophy carries on into all our new product developments, where the demands of the customer, the facility and environmental requirements are built into the product specification from day one without compromising supply. From this, results have shown that the site's annual energy consumption has been reduced by 12.8%.



Low Maintenance

Market leading low maintenance

Ease of maintenance has always been a key criterion in the selection of any floor coverings. Any client will wish for their floor to remain in excellent condition throughout its life and for the cleaning process to be as cost-effective and straightforward as possible.

Poor maintenance damages aesthetics, impairs performance, shortens floor life and creates hygiene problems in critical areas. The in-use phase of the resilient flooring life cycle accounts for at least 80% of its environmental impact, given Polyflor floor covering's potential 20-25 year life span. In recognition of this, Polyflor provides low maintenance options throughout the product portfolio. Our easy to clean PU and PUR ranges ensure that use of polish, water, strippers and chemical cleansers are significantly reduced and thus contribute to significant maintenance cost savings for the life of the floor.

All new ranges launched with market leading maintenance and environmental benefits built in and existing ranges have had these benefits added. Continuously improving technologies enables flooring to raise the standard in terms of durability, maintenance and performance, sought by the customer.

- All Polyflor products are designed with low maintenance features
- PUR reinforcement is cross-linked and UV cured for superior cleaning benefits, enhanced protection and optimum appearance retention

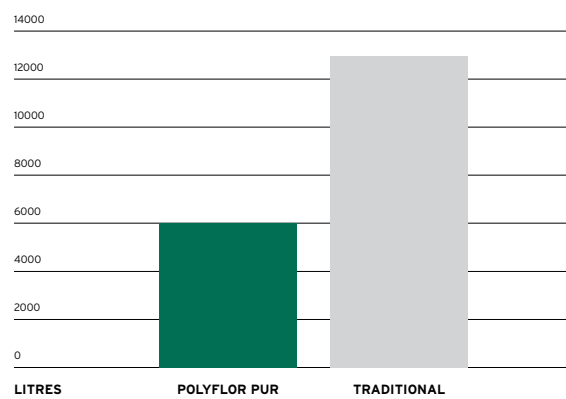
- Environmentally preferential using less energy, polish, water and cleansing chemicals
- Polyflor homogeneous PUR is polish free for life and Polysafe PUR should never be polished
- Polysafe PUR achieves superior cleaning benefits and facilitates easier soil release, whilst enabling optimum appearance retention
- Economically sustainable, with 48% to 60% maintenance cost saving over a 20+ year life when compared to untreated vinyl flooring

Creating clean and hygienic environments

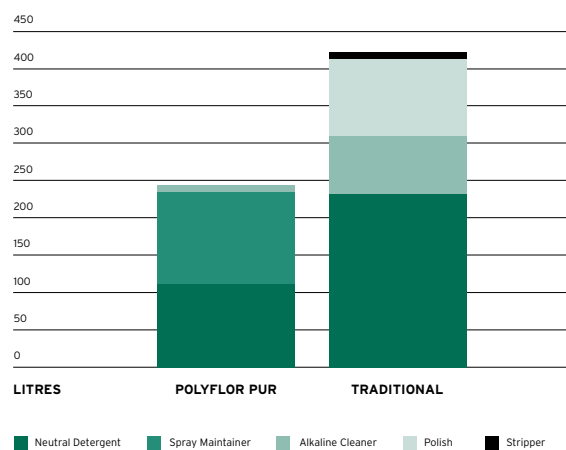
Vinyl sheet flooring can be welded at the seams, forming an impervious base that facilitates ease of cleaning by eliminating gaps and cracks where dirt can gather.

Polyflor flooring also stands up to the test where hand gel dispensers are housed. Polyflor homogeneous PUR, heterogeneous PUR, LVT PUR and Polysafe safety PUR ranges are compatible for use with the most commonly used alco-based hand gels, some of which have a very high concentration of ethanol. Discuss this further with our experienced Customer Technical Services Department (tech@polyflor.com).

WATER USAGE 1 year 1000m² PUR vs Traditional vinyl



CHEMICAL USAGE 1 year 1000m² PUR vs Traditional vinyl



Safety Performance

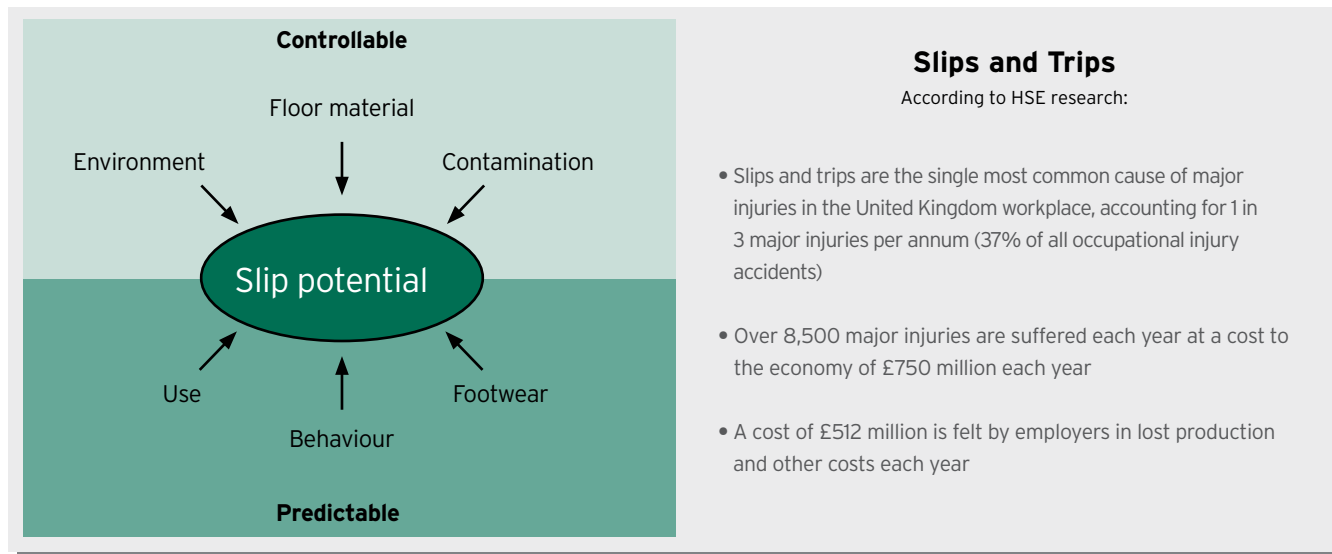
Health & safety within the environment is an important factor to consider when selecting a floorcovering, particularly with key concerns surrounding slips and trips and also fire performance.

Slip Resistant

Polyflor flooring can be used in all internal use areas and this also includes areas where hazards are potentially much higher, for instance in kitchens and stairwells where slipping is likely and where the consequences of doing so are the most dangerous. Polysafe flooring complies with and exceeds the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidelines and is independently assessed by the British Board of Agrément and meets the European standard, EN 13845. Polysafe helps prevent accidents and injuries with its slip resistance properties, which are made up of a combination of aggregates including quartz, aluminium oxide silicone carbide and recycled glass, along with the surface emboss which provides the required roughness to create the necessary friction.

Fire Performance

Vinyl is engineered to provide the best fire performance characteristics of all resilient flooring materials. Compared to other materials vinyl flooring is slow to ignite in a fire - the chlorine content makes it flame retardant. In fact, a fire which is large enough to ignite vinyl would have already produced fatal levels of carbon monoxide from other burning materials before any danger from burning vinyl flooring. Regarding fire safety classification, vinyl flooring typically outperforms linoleum, achieving class Bfl to EN 13501-1 (8kw/m or greater) with linoleum achieving class Cfl to EN 13501-1 (4.5kw/m or greater).



Air Quality

The VOC emissions on our range of floor products are all below the very strictly set accepted levels. Products have been tested by independent laboratories, with certificates available upon request.

Indoor air quality is a key consideration when selecting building products, and Polyflor vinyl flooring makes a significant contribution towards creating indoor environments with very low VOC (volatile organic compounds) emissions. All of our flooring ranges have already passed key international standards but we continuously look to reformulate our ranges to ensure their VOC emissions are kept to the lowest levels achievable. Polyflor ranges have undergone many independent and rigorous VOC tests and have approval certification for the following: AgBB; Swedish B.P.D (FLEC test); Finland M1 test; GBCA Compliant (GreenTag approval); Afsset A+ and FloorScore®.

The most recent test method by Eurofins, is 'Indoor Air Comfort'. This test method is the most comprehensive and stringent within the industry, worldwide, and tests for all known emissions. Polyflor products tested to date have achieved Indoor Air Comfort Gold.

Along with positive VOC test results, there is no evidence to suggest that vinyl flooring contributes to common allergies such as asthma or dust allergies and is favoured for its superior 'cleanability' over other flooring products and is used in the strictest of hygiene zones throughout hospitals. Furthermore it is non-shedding, whereby most allergies are caused by airborne dust. Clean room test certification for non-shedding is available on most ranges.

Dioxins are toxic chemicals which occur as an unwanted byproduct of some chemical reactions within manufacture (of any product using heating or thermal processing) and during incineration, for example. It is important to note that PVC is not a significant contributor of dioxin emissions - power stations and the steel industry are the biggest man made producers of dioxin emissions. The annual dioxin concentration of the UK PVC industry is less than 140mg per annum, whereas a single tug boat in the North Sea is 70mg per annum. Dioxins occur naturally in the environment, for instance with natural fires and wood biodegradation. Regarding Polyflor specifically, stringent audits are carried out on the manufacturing site to ensure that all emissions fall well under EU industry standards - this is particularly important to us as manufacturing is in operation within a residential area. Most waste vinyl is recycled - either into new flooring or other useful products, such as road traffic cones. It does not get incinerated - although incinerating our vinyl would not be detrimental or risky with properly managed, modern, quality incinerators which are very clean. If incinerated, vinyl waste has an appreciable calorific value, producing energy - this contributes to domestic heat in Sweden. Where in the past vinyl has gone to landfill, this has been a safe method of disposal as it does not breakdown and create harmful gases in landfill site, but this is not ideal.

- No negative contribution to indoor air quality
- Passed all the most stringent international VOC emissions tests, including AgBB, Indoor Air Comfort Gold, Afsset and FloorScore®



5

Closing the Loop



Demonstrating our commitment to green issues certainly acts as a 'selling tool' for our business. As margins get tighter, this helps to differentiate our business & attract new customers through being able to offer that little bit extra

Recofloor Gold Award winner Sean Dawson, Hull Flooring's Managing Director, recognises the benefits of Recofloor



- Co-founder & funding member of Recofloor, the UK's industry leading vinyl flooring take-back scheme
- Successful recycling scheme partnering distributors as acting drop-off sites for flooring contractors
- No project too big or small - drop-off for free or arrange a collection & save around 60% on usual disposal costs

Product Stewardship

It is important that we are responsible in the chain of custody of our products. With landfill being both expensive and the least green of options for waste, recycling is a key element of Polyflor's closed loop operations.

Polyflor is fully committed to the recycling of its post production waste and its post consumer waste, supporting voluntary industry-wide commitments. We are active members of various initiatives including EPFLOOR, the European Flooring Manufacturers' Sector Group, which was formed to increase post consumer waste recycled in Western Europe and Recovinyl, a scheme which provides financial incentives to support the collection of PVC waste from the non-regulated PVC waste streams. Recovinyl is also an initiative of VinylPlus, another European initiative of which Polyflor is a member. VinylPlus is the new ten-year Voluntary Commitment of the European PVC industry, which looks to tackle all sustainability challenges for PVC. Each of the challenges is based on The Natural Step System, with step one focusing on Controlled-Loop Management. Key objectives for this stage include:

- Recycle 800,000 tonnes/year of PVC by 2020
- Exact definitions and reporting concept is available
- Develop and exploit innovative technology to recycle 100,000 tonnes/year of difficult-to-recycle PVC material (within the overall 800,000 tonnes/year recycling target) by 2020
- Address the issue of legacy additives and deliver a status report within each annual VinylPlus Progress Report

Specific to vinyl flooring, Polyflor is also a proud funding and founder member of Recofloor, the waste vinyl flooring recycling scheme which is available throughout the UK. By providing an accessible and efficient facility for waste vinyl to be reclaimed and recycled, Recofloor helps prevent post consumer waste from going to landfill. We also recycle glass which is post consumer waste, combined with the aggregates, into many of our Polysafe products.

In the Future

Polyflor will stay committed to recycling end of life vinyl through VinylPlus and the Recofloor scheme. We will also continue to invest significantly in the systems for collection, sorting, granulation and storage to ensure capacity and capability for dealing with the anticipated growth in the volumes of post consumer waste we recycle.



International Schemes

The majority of our collections currently come from within the UK where transport to our factory is straightforward, using the same delivery vehicles as they return to site. In international markets there is a varying progress in recycling, especially where distances are large and logistics of any recycling operation more complex. National legislation and local attitudes also play a major part in the implementation of recycling.

A long history of recycling in Scandinavia, assisted by legislation to ensure waste is segregated on site, means there is a higher volume of post installation waste from this market. In Norway and Sweden, Polyflor has established schemes to collect and recover vinyl waste from site. This material can be delivered to Polyflor on return transport for recycling, but typically (and more practically) the waste is sent to other local vinyl flooring manufacturers for them to recycle into new flooring. In Germany the AgPR vinyl recycling facility has been in use for a number of years, offering an outlet for post installation vinyl waste for many manufacturers and contractors. This waste is then supplied to various vinyl flooring manufacturers in Europe, including Polyflor.

Polyflor Australia and Polyflor New Zealand continue to operate the Recofloor collection scheme which is running very effectively, with 12 drop-off sites in Australia and 2 drop-off sites in New Zealand, enabling Polyflor to recycle an average 31 tonnes per year. Similarly in Ireland, the facility to recover waste from larger projects has been put in place and with the Recofloor scheme now up and running in Ireland, with various distributors on board and drop off sites available, logistically it is relatively simple for this waste to be delivered to Polyflor for recycling.

Polyflor South Africa has made great progress with recycling commitments. One of many members of the Southern African Vinyl Association (SAVA), a commitment to increase responsibility and sustainability within the PVC industry as a whole is very positive, but similar to the VinylPlus scheme in Europe, one of the key challenges outlined within this product stewardship programme is the commitment to increase recycling.



Recofloor

The flooring industry is not bound by law to recycle waste, but we are actively seeking to recover and recycle post consumer waste vinyl flooring to minimise our and the flooring industry's environmental impact and close the loop of our products' life cycles.

- We are a founder and funding member of Recofloor, the industry's vinyl take-back scheme for recycling end of life post consumer vinyl flooring
- We recycle installation off-cuts, uplifted flooring and old stock roll-ends and samples
- We recover and recycle into new flooring or other useful products such as traffic cones

In The Beginning

A major challenge with recycling post consumer waste has been the logistics of retrieving the material, rather than actually recycling it. To try and tackle this issue and actively encourage more waste vinyl flooring to be recycled a working group was formed in 2007 with all vinyl flooring manufacturers on board and managed and coordinated by a waste management company. Funding for this reclaim and recycle initiative came from WRAP (Waste & Resources Action Programme). Once the trial period and government funding had ceased, members had to decide upon the scheme's fate. Polyflor continued to run the scheme with another UK manufacturer and in 2009 Recofloor was formed. As a founder and funding member of Recofloor, Polyflor has helped develop the scheme into the success that it is today - supporting financially, driving the scheme through sales and marketing and logistically supporting with collections, sorting and ultimately recycling.

'Reclaimed enough waste to cover 76 football pitches'



Recofloor's Progress

Since 2009 Recofloor has achieved a great deal and is now the industry leading facilitator for efficiently reclaiming vinyl flooring. 2010 was a real turning point for the scheme, which saw Recofloor winning the CIWM (Chartered Institute of Wastes Management) Award for Environmental Excellence in the category of SME Innovative Practice. Another great initiative was Recofloor's 'Cost Calculator', which allows contractors to calculate how much it would cost to send their waste to landfill, so they can see the savings they will generate by using Recofloor instead.

Increasing the reclaimed volume of quality vinyl waste for recycling is continuously improving (a key challenge has been to educate members about the importance of the material they send back through the Recofloor scheme, avoiding contamination - not always easy on a busy building site). Volumes are up year on year, with 1,644 tonnes being collected since the scheme started (figure correct as at January 2014), saving 1,315,200 kg or 1,315 tonnes of CO₂. This equates to driving the average family petrol car 156 times round the equator or taking 324 cars off the road for a year. This volume equals nearly 548,000m² or enough vinyl flooring waste to cover 76 football pitches.

Many thanks go to our customers who have keenly taken advantage of this unique scheme, but getting distributors on board has certainly contributed to Recofloor's success. By acting as drop-off sites for their customers, distributors have increased the accessibility of Recofloor, making it even easier for contractors to dispose of their waste vinyl flooring and for Recofloor to collect and recycle it. Minimising needless drop-off and pick-up journeys also reduces CO₂.



In 2013, Recofloor won a Gold Green Apple Award in the Recycling category at the International Green Apple Award Ceremony, arguably the most prestigious environmental award to win.

◀ 2014 Recofloor Awards Event held at Aston Villa Football Club

1. Uplifted flooring or off-cuts



2. Placed in bags



3. Collected for recycling



4a. Recycled into new flooring



OR

4b. Recycled into useful products



Yes Please <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Post installation, clean vinyl off-cuts (smooth or safety vinyl)
Old stock vinyl roll-ends & samples (smooth or safety vinyl)
Smooth uplifted flooring - depending on condition and quality

No Thanks <input type="checkbox"/>
Cushion vinyl flooring
Non vinyl flooring including linoleum, laminate, carpet, or flooring with jute/fabric backing
General waste including asbestos, rubble, wood, blades, nails, screws etc
Liquids

Please ensure all material for collection is as clean as possible

Why Take Part?

- Using our drop-off sites is free of charge, for collections and timed collections there are nominal fees, but this could still save our members around 60% by recycling through Recofloor, rather than sending waste to landfill
- Recofloor ties in with site waste management requirements
- Certificates of commitment are awarded to impress and gain new contracts with their green credentials
- Recofloor Awards - Gold, Silver and Bronze awards are issued to members who have significantly recycled
- Customers are keen to see their flooring recycled at the end of its life
- Recofloor specified as an outlet for vinyl waste in tenders
- Could help achieve extra points on BREEAM & LEED assessments

Achievements for 2013

- 410 tonnes of waste vinyl flooring were collected and recycled, representing almost 136,666m² - that's enough to cover 19 football pitches
- 510 collectors
- 68 drop-off sites
- Successful marketing campaigns continued, helping build momentum and recruit more members, both contractors and distributors - including 'bacon butty days' at various drop-off sites
- Successful Recofloor Awards ceremony held for Recofloor members and Polyflor customers, for second year running
- Won gold award in the International Green Apple Environment Awards 2013, for Environmental Best Practice



Recofloor Gold Award Winners 2014.

Guest host and BBC Sport's football pundit Mark Lawrenson presented trophies and certificates to companies from across the flooring supply chain including contractors, distributors and companies working on construction projects.

6

Environmental Assessments



We chose Polyflor flooring because of the attractive designs available, its low maintenance & durability benefits. Environmental issues were also important to the decision making process & we were very impressed with Polyflor's credentials & the flooring's reduced environmental impact. The ranges are BRE A+ rated, which was an important factor as we are looking to achieve a BREEAM 'very good' status

*Gillian Hindle, Director of Business and HR
for North Chadderton college, Oldham, UK*



- Cut through green washing with transparent lifecycle analysis (LCA)
- Polyflor products perform well on an LCA, such as BRE global; GreenTag & EPD
- Polyflor products contribute significantly to BREEAM, Green Star & LEED assessments

About EPD

Environmental assessments or 'Green Labels' legitimately help specifiers make informed decisions on the environmental profiles of construction products. Environmental Product Declarations are the next step.

There are many different green labels to choose from worldwide. This proliferation can make it difficult to make a choice and also get the clearest and most up to date environmental information, confusing the global market. Specifiers are ever more discerning over green claims and want reliable, consistent data. With that in mind, the European working group CEN TC 350 created the new standard EN 15804 Sustainability of Construction Works - Environmental Product Declarations (EPD). With the aim of creating ONE pan European and Worldwide harmonised standard for reporting of environmental performance.

- They communicate verifiable, accurate, non-misleading environmental information for products and their applications, expressed in information modules, which allow easy organisation and expression of data throughout the life cycle of the product
- The standard provides a way to develop a Type III environmental declaration of construction products and is part of a collection of standards intended to assess the sustainability of construction works. It provides core product category rules (PCR) for the Type III declarations
- Harmonisation of schemes such as BREEAM (UK), DGNB (Germany), fDES (France) and Green Tag (Australia), for example = EN 15804
- Since July 2013, EPDs are now part of the Construction Products' Regulation (CPR)
- EPDs provide a system that is open to all of Europe without creating barriers to trade
- ERFMI generic profiling is available across all resilient flooring categories
- Products can be individually assessed or ERFMI generic profiling is available - either dataset is independently verified by Institut Bauen und Umwelt e.V. (IBU)
- Verified EPDs are listed on systems such as the IBU and DGNB navigator databases
- They could be adopted within 2 years across Europe
- The information is reported in the same way across all building products

EPD's provide completely transparent information about Polyflor products and their impact on the environment

There are 24 environmental indicators within the assessment process of the EPD, which are broken down into the following categories:

- 7** Environmental Impact Indicators
- 10** Resource Indicators
- 3** Waste Indicators
- 4** Output Flow Indicators

Critically the 7 Environmental Impact Indicators include:

- GWP** - Global Warming Potential
- ODP** - Ozone Depletion Potential
- AP** - Acidification Potential
- EP** - Eutrophication Potential
- POCP** - Formation of Potential of Tropospheric Ozone
- ADP** - Abiotic Depletion Potential of non-fossil fuels
- ADP** - Abiotic Depletion Potential of fossil resources

Polyflor EPDs

Polyflor EPDs

In 2012 Polyflor were part of the ERFMI EN 15804 generic data set for creation of industry EPDs which were successfully, independently verified by IBU. All generic and product specific EPDs are written to the rules and standards according to EN 15804 and ISO 14025.

The ERFMI's 'generic' data set for EPDs include the following - again independently verified by IBU:

- EN 10581 PVC Homogeneous
- EN 10582 PVC Heterogeneous (compact)
- EN 651 PVC Heterogeneous (foam backed)
- EN 13845 PVC Safety Flooring
- EN 649 Luxury Vinyl Tiles
- EN 1817 Rubber (smooth)

Using EPDs on BREEAM & LEED assessments

A benefit of specifying a product with an EPD is that extra points can be gained on BREEAM and LEED assessments:

- One bonus 'uplift' point can be awarded for the use of one of our ranges where a product specific BRE environmental profile or 3rd party verified EN 15804 compliant EPD is available
- Polyflor ranges can contribute to the LEED v4 score through specific environmental product declarations (EPD), which can provide 1 point; or generic EPDs which may contribute 0.5 points

SAFETY	EN 15804 EPD Specific	EN 15804 EPD Generic
Polysafe Astral PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Mosaic PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Corona PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Vogue Ultra PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Standard PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Wood fx PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Wood fx Acoustix PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Modena PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Arena PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Verona PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Hydro		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Hydro Evolve		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Strata		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Ultima		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Apex		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Polysafe Ecomax		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
HOMOGENEOUS		
Pearlazzo PUR		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
2000 PUR		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
Classic Mystique PUR		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
Mystique PUR		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
Prestige PUR		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
Standard XL		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
XL PU		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
Polyflex Plus PU		EPD-ERF-2013111-E
HETEROGENEOUS		
Harmony fx PUR		EPD-ERF-2013211-E
Forest fx PUR		EPD-ERF-2013211-E
Mineral fx PUR		EPD-ERF-2013211-E
Acoustix Harmony fx PUR		EPD-ERF-2013311-E
Acoustix Forest fx PUR		EPD-ERF-2013311-E
Acoustix Gallery fx PUR		EPD-ERF-2013311-E
LVS		
Secura		EPD-ERF-2013411-E
LVT		
Expona Design PUR	EPD-JHP-2013111-E	
Expona Commercial PUR	EPD-JHP-2013211-E	
Expona Control PUR		EPD-ERF-2013611-E
Bevel Line PUR		EPD-ERF-2013511-E
Camaro PUR		EPD-ERF-2013511-E
Colonia PUR		EPD-ERF-2013511-E
RUBBER		
Diamant		EPD-ERF-2013711-E

To view EPDs, please go to www.polyflor.com/environment or www.bau-umwelt.de. For more information, contact Polyflor on 0161 7671111 or info@polyflor.com.

About BRE Global

The BRE (Building Research Establishment) is an independent organisation which evaluates the environmental impact of a product from 'cradle to grave'. Using a Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) approach over a building life of 60 years, materials are assessed according to their impact on the following criteria:

Climate change - The planet's climate is changing through the increase of 'greenhouse gases', such as carbon dioxide and methane. These gases in the atmosphere are required to prevent our planet from freezing over by trapping heat from the sun's rays. Too much however, creates a greater barrier which absorbs more of the sun's rays and ultimately causes 'global warming'. This is happening at an unnaturally fast rate, largely due to human activity, predominantly caused by burning fossil fuels, deforestation and the vast increase of methane producing cattle.

Water extraction - In some areas water is becoming a scarce resource, so the use of 'new' water (not stored, recirculated or sea water) can cause damage and is therefore an environmental impact measured by the BRE.

Mineral resource extraction - This relates to the extraction of mineral materials, such as metal ores, aggregates and minerals. This is a resource issue caused by mining and quarrying which could prevent availability for future generations.

Stratospheric ozone depletion - Ozone depleting gases cause damage to stratospheric ozone or 'ozone layer', which enables harmful UVB light to penetrate through the filter, hitting the earth's surface.

Human toxicity - The emissions of some substances, such as heavy metals, can have impacts on human health. The BRE assesses levels of toxicity based on tolerable concentrations in air, water, air quality guidelines, tolerable daily intake and acceptable daily intake for human toxicity.

Ecotoxicity to freshwater & land - Environmental toxicity is measured as two separate impacts which examine land and freshwater eco systems. The emissions of some substances, such as heavy metals can have environmental impacts on the ecosystem.

Nuclear waste - Radioactivity can cause serious damage to human health, and as yet, no treatment or permanently secure storage solution exists for higher level radioactive wastes, such as that generated by the nuclear power industry and from decommissioning nuclear power stations.

Waste disposal - There are environmental issues associated with the loss of resource implied by the final disposal of waste. BRE uses an absolute measure based on the mass of any waste that is disposed of in landfill or incinerated.

Fossil fuel depletion - This impact category indicator is related to the use of fossil fuels. Fossil fuels provide a valuable source of energy and feedstock, but are a finite resource and their continued consumption will prevent use by future generations.

Eutrophication - Nitrates and phosphates are essential for life, but increased concentrations in water can encourage excessive growth of algae and reduce the oxygen within the water. Eutrophication can therefore be classified as the over-enrichment of water courses. Its occurrence can lead to damage of ecosystems, increasing mortality of aquatic fauna and flora and to loss of species dependent on low-nutrient environments. Emissions of ammonia, nitrates, nitrogen oxides and phosphorus to air or water all have an impact on eutrophication. Direct and indirect impacts of fertilisers are included in the method.

Photochemical ozone creation - In atmospheres containing nitrogen oxides (NOx, a common pollutant) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), ozone can be created in the presence of sunlight. Although ozone is critical in the high atmosphere to protect against ultraviolet (UV) light, low level ozone is implicated in impacts as diverse as crop damage and increased incidence of asthma and other respiratory complaints.

Acidification - Acidic gases such as sulphur dioxide (SO2) react with water in the atmosphere to form 'acid rain', a process known as acid deposition. When this rain falls, often a considerable distance from the original source of the gas, it causes ecosystem impairment of varying degree, depending upon the nature of the landscape ecosystems. Gases that cause acid deposition include ammonia, nitrogen oxides and sulphur oxides. It accounts only for acidification caused by SO2 and NOx. This includes acidification due to fertilizer.

Copy taken from www.bre.co.uk

The complex data derived from the given criteria is calculated into ecopoints, which are then represented by ratings from E to A+ with an A+ rating being the highest achievable environmental rating. Using these ratings sets a benchmark for environmental excellence and ensures that reliable and comparable information is available between competing products, eliminating the confusion of varying claims and counter claims, making specification much easier.

National Scheme Operators (NSOs) develop and own country specific local schemes but are affiliated to BREEAM. BRE Global is the national scheme operator for the UK and broader international and European schemes (BREEAM), the Dutch Green Building Council is the national Scheme Operator for the Netherlands (BREEAM NL), the Instituto Tecnológico de Galicia is the NSO for Spain (BREEAM ES) and the Norwegian Green Building Council is the NSO for Norway (BREEAM NOR). All of the schemes comply with the requirements established by the Code for a Sustainable Built Environment.



Polyflor's product ranges predominantly have BRE specific ratings & achieve **A+** in major use areas such as health & education

Where products have not been individually assessed, BRE generic ratings are available*, again achieving A+ in key areas

*This excludes the Polyflor Sport & Polyclad ranges.

BRE Individually Assessed Ratings

Independent, third-party certification is always important as its impartiality reassures customers that our products will perform as expected. This is why Polyflor has had the majority of its product ranges individually assessed and rated by BRE Global.

Each product which is certified by BRE Global has undergone an LCA - a 'cradle to grave' assessment - therefore looking at its environmental performance throughout every stage of its life. Generic ratings are a good guidance, but are based on European production averages, whereas individual certification ensures accuracy of LCA data specific to the product and manufacturer.

Polyflor's safety, homogeneous, heterogeneous and LVT ranges have been individually assessed by BRE Global to measure their environmental impact. The new rating scheme is based on A+ to E rankings, with A+ being the most desirable rating, having achieved the best ecopoints. A better rating helps to maximise a building's BREEAM score, which is achievable through our 27 A+ ratings.

The BRE Global rating scheme is categorised by end use areas, as the environmental impact in each can vary. The reason for this is that various products will be available in the different sectors, which are subject to a pre-determined spread of ratings across the categories A+ to E. Therefore more options may be available within the domestic sector, for example. Overall, Polyflor's certified ratings are impressive, particularly in the key areas of health and education, where BREEAM ratings are linked to government funding. For verification and more information on our certification and environmental profiles, visit www.greenbooklive.com and click on the 'search GBL' link. For quick reference to a specific product and certificate, just enter the digits of a BRE certificate number (do not include the ENP prefix) 472; 415 or 429 into the 'Cert No' search box (see certification numbers in the table below), or simply enter 'Polyflor' into the 'Company Name' search box.

SAFETY	Cert.	Health	Education	Retail (fashion)	Retail (Durability)	Office	Domestic
Polysafe Astral PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Mosaic PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Corona PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Vogue Ultra PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Standard PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Wood fx PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A	B	B
Polysafe Wood fx Acoustix PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A	B	B
Polysafe Hydro	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Polysafe Ultima	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
HOMOGENEOUS	Cert.	Health	Education	Retail (fashion)	Retail (Durability)	Office	Domestic
Pearlazzo PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
2000 PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Classic Mystique PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Mystique PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Prestige PUR	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Standard XL	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
XL PU	ENP472	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
HETEROGENEOUS	Cert.	Health	Education	Retail (fashion)	Retail (Durability)	Office	Domestic
Harmony fx PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Forest fx PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Mineral fx PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
Acoustix Harmony fx PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A	A	B
Acoustix Forest fx PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A	A	B
Acoustix Gallery fx PUR	ENP415	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	A
LVT	Cert.	Health	Education	Retail (fashion)	Retail (Durability)	Office	Domestic
Expona Design PUR	ENP429	A+	A+	A+	A	B	B
Expona Commercial PUR	ENP429	A+	A+	A+	A+	A	B
Bevel Line PUR	ENP429	A+	A+	A+	A	A	A
Camaro PUR	ENP429	*	*	A+	*	A	A
Colonia PUR	ENP429	*	*	*	*	*	A

* Product not suitable for use area and has therefore not been rated for the particular use area.

BRE Generic Ratings

Where Polyflor products have not been individually certificated by BRE Global, generic ratings are also available. These generic ratings apply to specific categories of flooring installed into defined use areas. For example, homogeneous flooring, to EN649 standard, rated 34/43 for use area and installed in a healthcare environment. Vinyl flooring achieves on average a generic BRE Global A+ rating for most vinyl varieties across the categories shown below:

Standard	Homogeneous EN 649 EN ISO 10581	Heterogeneous EN 649 EN ISO 10582	Acoustic EN 651	LVT EN 649	Safety EN 13845	Rubber (smooth) EN 1817	Rubber (profiled) EN 12199	LVS EN 653
Health	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	-
Element	821570038	821570039	821570053	821570054	821570055	821570056	821570057	-
Education	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	A+	-
Element	821570065	821570066	821570010	821570013	921570010	821570014	821570015	-
Commercial	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-
Element	821570038	821570039	821570041	821570042	821570043	821570044	821570045	-
Retail	A+/A+	A+/A+	A+/A	A+/A	A+/A	A+/A+	A+/A+	-
Element	821570038	821570039	821570053	821570054	821570055	821570056	821570057	-
Domestic	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	A
Element	821570065	821570066	821570010	821570013	921570010	821570014	821570015	821570002

For more detail about how these ratings are arrived at by BRE Global visit www.bre.co.uk/greenguide

Polyflor ranges not individually assessed by BRE Global can be included within the appropriate generic ratings, shown here:

Safety	Homogeneous	Rubber (smooth)	Rubber (profiled)	LVT	LVS
Modena PUR	Polyflor SD	Diamant	Noppe Stud Tile	SimpLay	Secura
Hydro Evolve	Finesse SD				
Ecomax	Finesse EC				
Arena PUR	Polyflor EC				
Expona Control PUR	Polyflor ROF				
Verona PUR	Polyflex Plus PU				
Apex					

Maximising BREEAM Credits

Polyflor's vast range of products, technical support and best value flooring, means you can maximise your BREEAM score without any compromise on performance, choice or budget.

Building Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) is the longest standing and most widely used environmental assessment method for buildings in the UK and increasing its brand recognition globally.

Credits are awarded according to performance in 10 different categories for measuring sustainability: Management; Health & Wellbeing; Energy; Transport; Water; Materials; Waste; Land Use & Ecology; Pollution; Innovation (extra). They are then added together to produce an overall score for the building on a scale of:

- 1. Outstanding:** Less than top 1% of UK new non-domestic buildings (innovator)
- 2. Excellent:** Top 10% of UK new non-domestic buildings (best practice)
- 3. Very Good:** Top 25% of UK new non-domestic buildings (advanced good practice)
- 4. Good:** Top 50% of UK new non-domestic buildings (intermediate good practice)
- 5. Pass:** Top 75% of UK new non-domestic buildings (standard good practice)

Polyflor products can contribute to the award of BREEAM credits within the following categories - **Materials, Waste and Health & Wellbeing.**

Materials

The Materials section makes up 12.5% of the overall scoring, offering 12 credits in total.

Materials – MAT 01: Life Cycle Impact

Aim:

To recognise and encourage the use of construction materials with a low environmental impact (including embodied carbon) over the full life cycle of the building.

3 points: Using BRE A+ rated product - Polyflor can contribute towards a maximum 3 points for floor finishes when one of our A+ rated products is used. Note: 2 points are available for A rated product and 1 point for B rated product.

1 point: Bonus 'uplift' point - This can be awarded for the use of one of our ranges where a product specific BRE environmental profile or 3rd party verified EN 15804 compliant EPD is available.

Points awarded for each material type are then added up and weighted to award credits for this section of the project.

Polyflor products can contribute to the maximum available material points in the MAT 01 section for floor coverings.

6 credits total for MAT 01 (depending on building type)

Materials – MAT 03: Responsible Sourcing for Materials

Aim:

To recognise and encourage the specification of responsibly sourced materials for key building elements. 80% by mass of materials that make up elements must be responsibly sourced.

3 points: BES 6001 'very good' - Polyflor can contribute 3 points for the use of ranges that are manufactured at sites which have been awarded BES 6001 'very good'.

1 point: EMS certified - Polyflor can also contribute 1 additional point for having ISO 14001 environmental management system certification.

Use of Polyflor ranges manufactured at sites which have been awarded BES 6001 'Very Good' and have ISO 14001, contribute 4 of a maximum of 5 points (80% of available points) towards the award of 3 credits in MAT 03. Floor finishes are considered with all other fittings such as windows and doors on a mass basis for the fittings part of the credit.

The data from the whole building is then weighted and buildings achieving greater than 54% of the available points are awarded a maximum of 3 credits.

Use of Polyflor ranges can significantly contribute to credits in MAT 03.

3 credits total for MAT 03

Waste

The Waste section makes up 7.5% of the overall scoring, offering 7 credits in total. Polyflor can contribute to the credits available to flooring for WST 01 and will contribute towards a maximum score for 'diversion of resources from landfill'.

Waste – WST 01: Construction Waste Management

Aim:

To promote resource efficiency via the effective management and reduction of construction waste.

1 credit: Diversion of Resources from Landfill - Use the Recofloor take-back scheme in conjunction with a site waste management plan (SWMP) to remove waste vinyl flooring from the construction project. This can contribute towards the available credit on a BREEAM assessment.

Exemplary Level Credit - Available where demolition and non demolition waste is kept to under challenging volumes/tonnages (85% by volume and 95% by weight) and diverted from landfill. Use of the Recofloor scheme can help achieve this for flooring demolition waste and non demolition waste, as the material is taken back and recycled.

Use of Polyflor materials and the Recofloor Scheme demonstrates diversion from landfill, potentially contributing towards 1 credit for diversion of resources from landfill and 1 exemplary level credit.

4 credits total for WST 01, plus 1 Exemplary Level credit

Health & Wellbeing

The Health & Wellbeing section makes up 15% of the overall scoring, offering 10 credits in total. Polyflor can contribute towards 1 credit for HEA02: Indoor Air Quality.

Health & Wellbeing - HEA 02: Indoor Air Quality

Aim:

To recognise and encourage a healthy environment through specification and installation of appropriate ventilation, equipment and finishes.

1 credit: Minimising sources of VOCs and formaldehyde - Polyflor can contribute towards this credit through demonstrating conformance to EN 14041:2004. Polyflor flooring does not contain any formaldehyde, conforming to the E1 declaration and confirmed within product CE marking. All Polyflor products have low VOC emissions.

The use of Polyflor materials can contribute towards 1 Health & Wellbeing credit for minimising sources of VOC and Formaldehyde.

6 credits total for HEA 02

Maximising BREEAM Credits with Polyflor

Here are some examples of how Polyflor has recently assisted in contributing to BREEAM credits:

Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen (Gateway to the Valleys), Bridgend, is a new college for 1,570 pupils from the ages of 11-18. This landmark complex will also be used as a multi-agency hub, offering support for young people and the wider community. An important aspect of this project is providing environmental and economical sustainability. Polyflor Pearlazzo PUR, Polysafe Hydro and Polysafe Vogue Ultra PUR were installed, helping with its BREEAM 'Outstanding' rating.

Part of Stoke-on-Trent's Building Schools for the Future, **Ormiston Sir Stanley Matthews Academy** is a new £19 million purpose built academy which can accommodate 1,050 pupils. OSSMA used 4,500m² of Polysafe Vogue Ultra PUR and Polyflor Classic Mystique PUR to help contribute to its BREEAM 'Very Good' rating.

As part of a fantastic £20 million new build and refurb project, **North Chadderton, Oldham,** had 5000m² of Polysafe and Forest fx PUR flooring installed throughout. This college for 11-18 year olds is an example of how Polyflor flooring provides a stunning aesthetic while contributing to a BREEAM 'Very Good' rating for sustainable construction.

The Welsh Assembly Government invested £38 million in **Bronglais Hospital, Aberystwyth.** 8000m² of Polyflor flooring, comprising 2000 PUR; Pearlazzo PUR and Polysafe ranges, Hydro Evolve; Standard PUR and Wood fx PUR were installed, helping the hospital to achieve a BREEAM 'Very Good' rating.

Sir Stanley Matthews Academy



Bronglais Hospital



BRE A+ in major use areas such as Health & Education



North Chadderton College





Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) is a sustainable building certification programme that rewards best-in-class building strategies and practices. Stringent criteria are set which a building project must meet in order to achieve LEED certification. In doing so, specifiers will seek to use the most sustainable options available for the project.

Certified	Silver	Gold	Platinum
40-49 points	50-59 points	60-79 points	80+ points

There are four levels of certification available. The number of points achieved establishes the level of LEED certification for that project (see above).

Currently LEED v2009 (valid until June 2015) and LEED v4 (which took effect in November 2013) co-exist. Polyflor floorcoverings have the potential to contribute to LEED® credits, with a detailed explanation of how our products fulfil the requirements outlined below:

LEED v2009

Materials & Resources

Building Reuse - MR Credit 1.1 (maintain 75% of existing floors). Polyflor SimpLay can be reused as it does not require adhesive to be installed. Smooth uplift can be recycled but SimpLay may also be reused elsewhere, given its potential lifespan of 20-25 years.

Construction Waste Management - MR Credit 2.1 (divert 50% from disposal) & MR Credit 2.2 (divert 75% from disposal). Polyflor is 100% recyclable and post consumer waste including off-cuts and smooth uplifted waste can be recycled through the Recofloor scheme (of which Polyflor is a founding and funding member), which complies with site waste management legislation and diverts vinyl flooring waste (off-cuts and uplifted) from going to landfill.

Recycled Content - MR Credit 4.1 (10% recycled content: ½ post-consumer; ½ pre-consumer) & MR Credit 4.2 (20% recycled content: ½ post-consumer; ½ pre-consumer). Polyflor flooring contains up to 40% recycled material, which typically includes post-consumer waste from the project site as well as pre-consumer (or post-production) waste, including process and sampling waste for instance.

Regional Materials - MR Credit 5.1 (10% extracted, processed & manufactured regionally) & MR Credit 5.2 Regional Materials (20% extracted, processed & manufactured regionally). As a global company, Polyflor flooring is manufactured in the UK, Central Europe and Asia. Materials used in Polyflor flooring are locally sourced, minimising environmental impact. Credit can be achieved for this depending on the particular product used and location of the project.

Indoor Environmental Quality

Low emitting materials (carpet systems) - IEQ Credit 4.3 This also refers to VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) emissions of resilient flooring and Polyflor can contribute to this credit through certification of its low emitting products. Particularly relevant to LEED assessments, all Polyflor floorcoverings have achieved FloorScore® certification (certificates are available online at www.polyflor.com and www.scscertified.com). VOC certification is also available via alternative test methods, including AgBB and Indoor Air Comfort Gold.

LEED v4

LEED V4 is the evolutionary next step from LEED v2009. LEED v4 focuses on increasing technical stringency and transparency from past versions and developing new requirements for project types such as data centres; warehouses & distribution centers; hotels/motels; existing schools; existing retail and mid-rise residential.

Materials & Resources

Building Product Disclosure and Optimization- Environmental Product Declarations. Polyflor can contribute to the LEED credit through its product-specific environmental product declaration (EPD), which can provide 1 point; or its generic EPD which may contribute 0.5 points.

Building Product Disclosure and Optimization-Sourcing of Raw Materials. Polyflor flooring contains up to 40% recycled material, which typically includes post-consumer waste from the project site as well as pre-consumer (or post-production) waste, including process and sampling waste for instance. Polyflor is 100% recyclable and post consumer waste, including off-cuts and smooth uplifted waste can be recycled. Alternatively, Polyflor SimpLay can be reused as it does not require adhesive to be installed and given its potential lifespan of 20-25 years.

Construction and Demolition Waste Management. The Recofloor scheme (of which Polyflor is a founder and funding member) complies with site waste management legislation and diverts vinyl flooring waste (off-cuts and uplifted) from going to landfill.

Indoor Environmental Quality

Low Emitting Materials Polyflor can contribute to this credit through certification of its low emitting products. Particularly relevant to LEED assessments, all Polyflor floorcoverings have achieved FloorScore® certification (certificates are available online at www.polyflor.com and www.scscertified.com). VOC certification is also available via alternative test methods, including AgBB and Indoor Air Comfort Gold.

Ecospecifier

The Ecospecifier scheme is described as a guide to eco and health preferable products, materials and technologies for the built environment. Polyflor is registered to the scheme in Australia and New Zealand, whereby Polyflor homogeneous PUR ranges are in the top 15% of resilient finishes based on their environmental impact.

Assessment of materials is based on a life cycle approach and measuring the impact of products, outlined in the following critical areas:

- Reduction of energy and greenhouse gases
- Habitat and land degradation
- Resource depletion and efficiency
- Occupant and contractor health
- Toxicity to land, air and water

Due to the strong performance in minimising the environmental impact in these categories, Polyflor products are listed on the Ecospecifier database (www.ecospecifier.com.au) of environmentally preferable building materials, providing architects, designers and specifiers an easier and effective way to select an environmentally sustainable floorcovering.

Furthermore, Polyflor was the first commercial vinyl flooring organisation to achieve Ecospecifier's GreenTag LCARate certification across all of its key ranges and achieves GreenRate level A, scoring maximum points in the Materials-Flooring Calculator IEQ-VOC sections of the Green Star rating tools.

Visit www.globalgreentag.com/certified-products-australianz to view certificates.

SAFETY	LCA Rate	Green Rate	Eco-Point
Polysafe Standard PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.47
Polysafe Astral PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.48
Polysafe Corona PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.47
Polysafe Mosaic PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.48
Polysafe Vogue Ultra PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.46
Polysafe Strata	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.48
Polysafe Hydro	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.56
Polysafe Ultima	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.52
Polysafe Wood fx PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.52
Polysafe Modena PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.52
Polysafe Arena PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.52
Polysafe Apex	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.57
Polysafe Wood fx Acoustix PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.39
HOMOGENEOUS	LCA Rate	Green Rate	Eco-Point
Pearlazzo PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.50
Prestige PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.48
Mystique PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.50
Classic Mystique PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.50
2000 PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.50
XL PU	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.45
Polyclad PU Plus	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.56
HETEROGENEOUS	LCA Rate	Green Rate	Eco-Point
Forest fx PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.52
Mineral fx PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.52
Harmony fx PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.52
Acoustix Forest fx PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.40
Acoustix Gallery fx PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.40
Acoustix Harmony fx PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.40
LVT	LCA Rate	Green Rate	Eco-Point
Expona Design PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.63
Expona Domestic PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.56
Expona Superplank	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.64
Camaro PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.57

Polyflor has achieved maximum rating points in the Green Building Council Australia (GBCA) and New Zealand Green Building Council (NZGBC) Green Star rating tools. Green Star rates the environmental and sustainable performance of a building as with LEED and BREEAM; using Polyflor products certified by Ecospecifier's GreenTag scheme can therefore help the specifier achieve maximum points. Potential for points on a Green Star assessment is further improved using Polyflor's Homogeneous flooring ranges for achieving 'PVC Best Practice', as audited by NCS International Pty Ltd to meet the GBCA best practice guidelines.

7

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)



Corporate social responsibility is the continuing commitment by business to contribute to economic development while improving the quality of life of the workforce & their families as well as of the community & society at large

World Business Council for Sustainable Development



- Polyflor has BES 6001 and SA 8000 certification for social responsibility & responsible sourcing
- Committed to our local communities & charitable organisations
- Economically sustainable with profitable growth year on year

Commitment to our Employees

As a major employer Polyflor has a responsibility to its employees, ensuring their health and wellbeing and preventing high labour turnover, which remains extremely low - in fact Polyflor has 25 and 40 year clubs for all employees who have been employed by Polyflor for the respective number of years, some of whom have worked for Polyflor for their entire careers, joining straight from school. Attaining an experienced and knowledgeable workforce is extremely important to Polyflor.

Polyflor recruits from local and surrounding areas and advertises through local media, job centres, agencies and online. We offer graduate training programmes, internships and apprenticeships, in support of younger people wishing to develop their employment skills. Polyflor's Human Resources Manager is also a volunteer for the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development's Steps Ahead Mentoring project, designed to help young people improve their employment skills in the local area.

As standard practice, Polyflor has numerous training and development programmes; total compliance to the Equality Act 2010; employment health & safety policies and procedures are in place and employee benefits, including pension schemes, free share schemes, enhanced maternity and paternity pay and Christmas vouchers are available to all staff.

Recruitment & Retention

- Exceptionally low turnover with 25 and 40 year clubs
- Employees are recruited from local and surrounding areas, through advertising in local media, job centres and online
- We employ graduate trainees and have internships
- Polyflor currently employs 2 apprentices - 1 in finance and 1 in engineering. Requirements are reviewed on an annual basis

Training & Development

- A 3 day induction programme is undertaken by new office employees, including an environmental induction
- Annual appraisals identify areas of strength and opportunities or targets
- Professional development is encouraged through courses and training where both employee and employer benefit, for example our finance team attend Association of Accounting Technicians Courses (AAT), MBAs and NVQs are frequently requested and attained
- We enable and provide time for employees to undertake voluntary work, upon request
- Promotion or opportunities in different departments are often distributed internally throughout the business, although obtaining the right skill set is important so positions also open up to external candidates
- Polyflor engages with all staff regarding environmental issues, directly through email, letter and booklet as well as indirectly through www.polyflor.com, regular newsletters and this annual report which is circulated throughout Polyflor
- Members of the Recofloor team frequently present to the sales, marketing and distribution departments, so they have a better understanding of achievements, goals and their part in its important process

- The Polyflor floor fitting school is opened up to employees, which improves their understanding of Polyflor flooring and provides transferable skills for their own homes

Equality

- Equal Opportunities & Diversity Policy
- Anti bullying policy
- Anti-discrimination policy
- Employees are typically local and represent the social demographic of the local area
- Maternity and paternity policy; flexible working hours and return to work

Employee Health & Safety

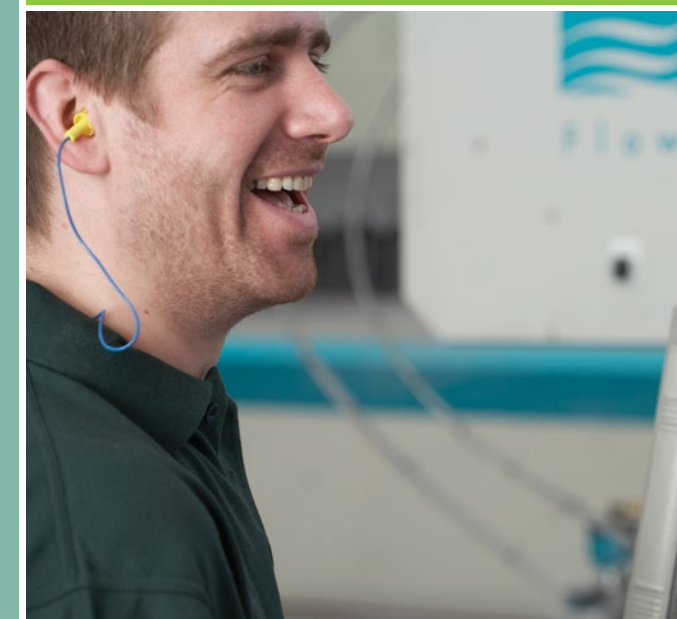
- We circulate a 'handling stress at work' policy
- A health & Safety Management procedure is in place - in accordance with HSG65, Health & Safety Executive Document Guidance
- Potential safety risks and incidents are reported so as to be actioned and avoided
- Accident reporting is in line with OHSAS 18001 guidance - all work related injuries are recorded and followed up with a risk assessment and remedial action
- No fatalities have ever been recorded in the company's history
- A Pedestrian Policy is in place including demarcated pedestrian pathways and crossings and high visibility vests are issued to employees or visitors who walk around our warehousing facilities
- Ear plugs are used in production, within hearing protection zones in various locations around the factory
- Occupational Health - medical and fitness checks for new employees as well as ongoing health checks for employees, particularly Polyflor fleet drivers
- Work zone assessments are conducted by Polyflor's occupational health nurse
- In 2013 all Polyflor production staff successfully completed the bi-annual online Health and Safety Refresher training programme

Employee Benefits & Wellbeing

- Pension Scheme for every employee after 3 months of employment with Polyflor
- Shares for every employee after 2 years of employment with Polyflor
- Company social club for all employees, enables group activities from hiking to theatre visits and encourages inter departmental bonding
- Break out zones, with seating and facilities to buy or prepare food are available on all sites
- Areas to sit outside are accessible at all Polyflor sites
- Bike sheds and shower facilities are obtainable at the Whitefield site



Improving the quality of life of the workforce & their families as well as of the community and society at large



Commitment to our Supply Chain

Polyflor is ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified. We also have a responsible sourcing policy and SA 8000 and BES 6001 certification for responsible sourcing. We use approved and trusted suppliers, who are ISO 9001 and 14001 certified or have robust environmental procedures and who are predominantly local to our manufacturing sites. We use Quality Assessment Questionnaires and follow up with regular meetings and audits.

Supply Chain & Procurement

- Responsible sourcing policy
- SA 8000 & BES 6001 certified
- ISO 9001 & ISO 14001 certified
- Polyflor has a database of approved and trusted suppliers, most of whom are local to our manufacturing sites
- We use Engagement Supplier Surveys and Quality Assessment Questionnaires and follow up with regular meetings and discussions with existing suppliers
- We use suppliers with ISO 9001 & ISO 14001 certification (or with robust environmental policies, procedures and objectives)
- Local printing companies with sound environmental credentials, using solvent free inks and FSC accredited paper sources

Commitment to our Communities

Polyflor's Whitefield site is located within a residential area. Duty of care is critical to ensuring that our neighbours live in a safe and pleasant environment. Reducing noise pollution and emissions were therefore pivotal, so half a million pounds were invested in acoustic engineering within the factory to minimise noise and emissions' checks are continuously monitored on site. HGVs must also keep their engines turned off during evening and early morning collections and deliveries at Whitefield.

We continue to provide charitable donations in the local areas and various countries we operate for worthy individuals and organisations. It is important to us as a responsible company to give something back to our local communities, although we do sometimes contribute to causes further a field and did so in 2013 with a number of charitable organisations.

In 2013 Polyflor supported individuals, groups and organisations, including:

- **Jump Space (Stockport, UK)** - Polyflor provided free flooring to Jump Space, a safe and inclusive play area incorporating trampolining, rebound therapy and active / sensory play for disabled children, young people and their families
- **Hartlepool Access Group (Hartlepool, UK)** - We donated flooring to this charity as it provided the first ever shopmobility located next to a train station platform, widening travel opportunities for those with mobility problems
- **E.Y.E (Bedford, UK)** - Established in 2011 with a view to help young people into learning everyday life skills and to encourage the regeneration of deprived areas they live in. E.Y.E engages with young people through sports, media, IT, construction, fashion and design based workshops. Polyflor donated flooring for the gym section (E.Y.E FIT) and E.Y.E radio within the facility

- **Ashurst Wood Community Pre-School (West Sussex, UK)** - is a volunteer committee run pre-school for up to 25 2-5 year olds. It relies on fundraising to remain open. Polyflor donated Polysafe flooring for the classroom floors in the new building
- **The Dame Hannah Rogers Trust (Devon, UK)** - This inspiring charity provides tailored short breaks for young adults with physical, sensory and learning disabilities and their families. Normally planning a day out, let alone holiday that will cater for more complex needs is extremely challenging. Polyflor donated a sum of money to this charity, which went towards a building conversion, consisting of 12 family units with accommodation
- **Macmillan cancer support (UK)** - We contributed financially to Martin Fletcher, a Polyflor Key Account Manager, who tandem skydived on behalf of Concept Flooring, for Macmillan cancer support
- **West Auckland Hospice (West Auckland, New Zealand)** - Polyflor New Zealand donated flooring to West Auckland Hospice to help improve aesthetics of the facility and create a comforting atmosphere
- **Canterbury Gliding Champions (Canterbury, New Zealand)** - Polyflor New Zealand financially supported and sponsored the Canterbury Gliding Champions, who encouraged more young people to get involved in the sport
- **St Therese Community Childcare Centre (Dover Heights, Australia)** - Polyflor Australia donated flooring to assist this organisation with mandatory refurbishments that needed doing on a very low budget



Oldham College Head Quarters Fashion Academy (Oldham, UK)

As a local college to Polyflor's sales and distribution centre, we were happy to supply a waterjet design of the OCHQ logo free of charge which was installed in the entrance of the academy

Oldham Athletic FC (Oldham, UK)

Polyflor has continued its support of local football club, Oldham Athletic and in particular its Junior Supporters' Club, Boundary Blues, which engages with youngsters from the local community in sport. Polyflor sponsors seasonal parties and an end of season event, as well as a designated area for children on match day - the Polyflor Tuck Shop



Home improvement programme (Bury, UK)

A deserving family, chosen by a well known home improvement TV programme, which enlists the help of local tradesmen, suppliers and the larger community to help, were in much need of some new flooring for their wet room. We provided some Polysafe flooring for this area

Economic Sustainability

Founded in 1915, James Halstead PLC, the parent company of Polyflor Ltd. was originally a northern textile company until the 1950s, when it pioneered the development of homogeneous vinyl floor coverings. Nearly one hundred years later and still a major manufacturer and employer in Manchester, England, the company continues to go from strength to strength. Polyflor is a global organisation with a dominant market share in the UK and is listed on the AIM stock exchange with a nine figure turnover. From 2000 to 2010 turnover doubled and Polyflor continues to increase dividends to shareholders year on year.

Polyflor's economic sustainability, growth and success are largely attributed to the depth of our customer focus. Polyflor's ongoing commitment to Research and Development through the use of advanced technology has resulted in the creation of innovative and market leading products, with New Product Development at the core of Polyflor's business philosophy.

Substantial investment has been made in long term projects to enable further growth and employment, notably an additional 165,000m² manufacturing site in Teesside, which continues to expand Polyflor's production and warehousing capability in the UK. Sales, marketing and distribution also relocated into a new 20,000m² facility in Oldham, several years ago, increasing and improving its warehouse facility and customer service. Cumulatively, these new sites allow us to produce and hold even more stock, as well as employing more people and boosting the local economies in which we operate.

In 2009 Polyflor made a significant investment with the establishment of Recofloor, the UK's pioneering and leading recycling scheme for waste vinyl flooring. As one of two founder and funding members, our continuing dedication and investment in this important and innovative initiative is implemented through financial and operational support across the scheme. This includes management and logistics, our onsite recycling facility and marketing communications to actively promote the scheme and engage with our customers. Recofloor's popularity has seen a continual increase in reclaimed post consumer waste vinyl year on year, while providing efficient and cost effective solutions for the flooring contractor. Where landfill costs are increasing, disposing vinyl flooring waste through Recofloor can be free if waste is taken to one of our distributors' drop-off sites. Alternatively, if the waste material is collected a cost is applied which offers a saving of up to 60% when compared to landfill, offering a considerable and positive impact on our customers.

Polyflor is a major employer in Manchester, employing 500 people - 478 of whom are full time, 18 are part-time with permanent contracts and 7 are temporary. Employment is provided within sales and marketing, graphic design, human resources, I.T, purchasing and finance, as well as production, engineering, technical, warehousing and distribution. Our uncompromised business ethics ensure that we minimise risk wherever possible, given the responsibility we have within the supply chain and to our employees. As a supplier we try to ensure timely deliveries and as a customer, timely payments, without imposing unrealistic payment terms. As a medium sized UK manufacturing company, we continue to pay tax in the UK, therefore fully supporting the UK economy.

continuing to go from strength to strength



Polyflor Credentials

We continue to be involved with the development of products that will be environmentally sustainable, easier to use and multi-functional.

ISO 14001 certification since 2000

BRE Global A+ rating certification on 27 individually assessed ranges within the homogeneous, safety, heterogeneous and LVT flooring categories (ENP427, ENP415 & ENP429)

EN 15804 EPDs (written to standard ISO 14025) independently verified by IBU

Registered approved products with Ecospecifier - Green Tag GreenRate Level A across homogeneous, safety, heterogeneous and LVT ranges (LCARate certification Gold and Silver)

Registered approved products on the BASTA database, EPDs also listed on the DGNB database and can also contribute to LEED points

Active member of UK RFA and ERFMI

Member of the UK Green Building Council, Green Building Council of Australia and New Zealand Green Building Council

Fully support VinylPlus

Active member of EPFLOOR & Recovinyl

A founder and funding member of Recofloor vinyl take-back scheme:
- Winner of BCE Premier Award 2011
- Winner of Gold International Green Apple Award 2013

Up to 40% recycled content

Up to 85% sustainable material

Plasticisers used by Polyflor are not classified substances and do not need authorisation under RECh (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation & restriction of Chemicals)

A range of ortho-phthalates and non-phthalate alternatives are used across Polyflor's vinyl collection

No harmful substances, such as formaldehyde; lead; cadmium; mercury or hexavalent chromium are included in our RECh compliant vinyl

SA 8000 and BES 6001 certification

Passed the most stringent international VOC tests, including AgBB, Indoor Air Comfort Gold, AFSSET and FloorScore®

Polyflor is working with the Carbon Trust's Energy Management programme, which provides commercially viable solutions to help UK businesses and the public sector cut carbon, energy and costs



Environmentally Preferable Flooring





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