



Sustainability, eco-friendliness and green star rating

Previous concerns:

The market has changed in respect to environmental issues. Previously, the major difficulty was concerning pvc as a material itself being a petroleum and chlorine derivative, along with all the issues surrounding plasticisers, stabilisers, pigments etc.

Greenpeace at one time had a programme dedicated to fighting pvc. The main concerns around pvc are the process to manufacture pvc itself, the gases produced in an accidental fire, mainly halogens and dioxins, and also what do you do with it post use. A lot of work has been done in these areas by the various manufacturers and also the various manufacturing associations and bodies.

Concerns for today:

Lately, the emphasis has changed with the onset of global warming and climate change. The major concern now is related to a product's carbon footprint from cradle to grave, through the full life cycle. In this regard pvc products are far better than you may imagine because they have relatively low embedded energy, are often lighter than their direct competitors and are more hard wearing than many of their direct competitors. Also with respect to LVT's they have a very high manufacturing utilisation (very low waste) as virtually all waste can be recycled and used in the backing plys.

Post life recycling programmes have started over here and many manufacturers' now have schemes where on site waste is returned to the manufacturer and re-used, further reducing the products carbon footprint.

Project Floors ensure that:

There is an avoidance of emissions to the surrounding ecosystems

The reduction of waste is kept to a minimum

An introduction of products where environmental factors are a major consideration

There is a conservation of resources by using recycled materials

We raise environmental awareness with suppliers, workers and customers

The selection of raw materials and processing techniques help reduce environmental impact.

We will individualise all product end life take back & recycle

Our Adhesives used with our products are low VOC

Our LVT products:

Offer extremely long life, (15 years plus in commercial situations)

Low energy in manufacture, therefore, low levels of embodied carbon are very simple and easy to clean without the need for harsh and so damaging chemicals, and contain a very high level of recycled material in the specially formulated backing ply

The Manufacturing process virtually works on a 100% recycle of all waste material

Our products often have a better environmental profile than some of the materials they imitate because they are often lighter, easier to clean and last longer, require less major maintenance and don't involve uprooting and moving something that when it is alive is a natural carbon sink.

Our manufacturer in Taiwan is in the process of receiving green star rating from the government. It is a lengthy process and samples have been sent in over the duration of the year. Meanwhile, they are undertaking to identify and control the environmental impact of its activities, products or services to improve its environmental performance continually implement a systematic approach to setting environmental objectives and targets.

Certification for ISO 14001 is in certification stage & due June 2009

PROJECT FLOORS

the up-to-date company

PROJECT FLOORS attaches great importance to the environmental safety of all its processes and products.

With the certification of our production facilities according to the worldwide and most significant environmental management system ISO 14001:2004 we pledged ourselves to consider environmental aspects and continuously improve the environmental situation with every corporate decision. This involves for example a diligent use of all resources in terms of sustainable value orientation, protection of water and air quality and reduction of waste during the entire production facility. Compliance with every requirement is guaranteed by regular audits by independent certification authorities.

The manufacture of our floor coverings consumes much less energy than many alternative products. Long life cycles and the low the low maintenance requirement for daily cleaning also contributes to the positive balance of energy used during production.

Even at the end of useful life the various possibilities for recycling reinforce the positive ecological picture. Due to the flooring's composition processed waste can be reused saving new raw materials. PROJECT FLOORS supports the professional recycling of our products and packaging with memberships of the relevant institutions.



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