



SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

**INDEPENDENTLY
VERIFIED ESG DATA**

for BES 6001 v4.0 Framework
Standard for Responsible Sourcing

Verification Statement

Over the years, certification to BES 6001, the framework standard for responsible sourcing, has become increasingly significant in the construction industry. BES 6001 requires construction product manufacturers to demonstrate levels of achievement against a series of clauses, some of which are compulsory and others being deemed as deserving of additional credit when the company goes above and beyond the compulsory level. Depending upon the score achieved by the organisation, it is possible to gain a Pass, Good, Very Good or Excellent rating. Higher levels of performance are achieved (in part) through external verification of particular clauses of the BES 6001 standard. This is particularly important for those organisations wishing to certify to an Excellent rating, as this rating cannot be achieved without this verification.

This is the external verification statement for BES 6001 environmental and social activities, based on data as reported by Polyflor in their annual Sustainability Report.

Nature and scope of verification

CM Environmental has carried out an independent verification of the Polyflor KPIs and can confirm that they have not, in any way, been involved in the preparation of this data, nor has any bias or conflict of interest. The verification study has included a number of environmental and social issues which relate to specific clauses of BES 6001.

The scope of the data verification included the company’s Whitefield Head Office and its Riverside, Teesside, facility.

The purpose of the verification exercise was to ensure that the information conveyed to stakeholder and other interested parties is accurate and supported by appropriate documented evidence.

The specific clauses of BES 6001 relevant to this verification exercise include the following:

- 4.4.1 Greenhouse gas emissions
- 4.4.2 Energy
- 4.4.3 Resource use and product circularity
- 4.4.4 Waste prevention and waste management
- 4.4.5 Water use and abstraction
- 4.4.12 Employment and skills
- 4.4.13 Local communities

Statements of the independence of the verifier

CM Environmental has been providing support to a large number of clients involved in the manufacture of construction products since 2013. Although a small company, the team has many years’ experience in supporting companies, both large and small, in a range of services including Environmental Management Systems (ISO 14001), Responsible Sourcing (BES 6001) and also a range of Quality Management issues (ISO 9001) and Health and Safety Management (ISO 45001).

The verification exercise was carried out by Christine Morris, who has experience of Responsible Sourcing in the construction products industry and is approved by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) as an independent KPI data verifier.

Conclusion

Based on the procedures followed by CM Environmental during this independent verification exercise, there has been no evidence that the data supplied to the Polyflor Sustainability Report, for the period 1st January to 31st December 2024, has not been obtained based on reliable basis, that the information is not adequately presented, or that significant deviations or omissions exist. Verified figures can be used in support of sustainability reporting.

C. Morris

Christine Morris
CM Environmental
(3rd April 2025)



Welcome

This is Polyflor’s 20th annual sustainability report, covering the company’s environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance for 2024. The data for this report has been independently verified by CM Environmental for BES 6001 v4.0 to provide our stakeholders with complete transparency.

As a responsible manufacturer, Polyflor endeavours to reduce and minimise the environmental impact across all operations. Whilst reporting this and highlighting our focused objectives and guiding policies, integrity is important: Reporting remains impartial, and indications are made regarding future improvements.



“We are proud to publish our 20th sustainability report that details our actions and ambitions in the areas of the environment, sustainability and social responsibility.

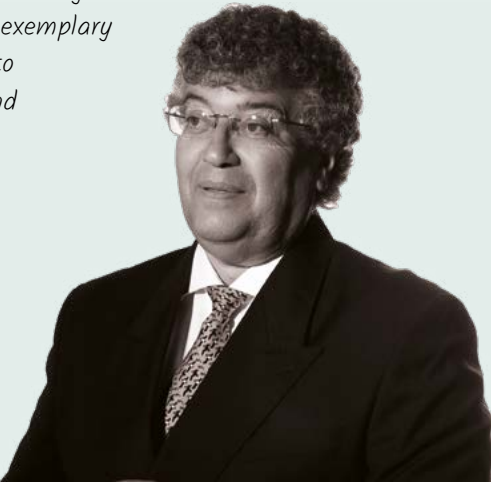
“Climate change has led to a greater focus on carbon dioxide levels but dealing with climate change is not, in our view, just a matter of trying to highlight any one single measure such as carbon emissions or setting net zero targets. There are many facets for any business when considering environmental impact to the fullest, including but not exclusive to its carbon footprint.

“As a manufacturer in the UK there are basic levels of environmental legislation that far exceed the standards of many countries and as users of energy, we rely on government policies to achieve the greater use of greener energy. However, as a market leader and sustainability champion, we look to go far beyond that in our ethical sourcing and we strive to have our claims independently audited to credible standards, for complete transparency and assurance - reinforcing our environmental responsibilities.

“Additionally, our investment in sustainability initiatives and circular economy principles has continued and will continue, particularly with ongoing commitments to recycling projects and our pioneering recycling scheme, Recofloor, which is widely regarded as an exemplary model. Co-founded by Polyflor in 2009, Recofloor continues to significantly reduce the environmental impact of Polyflor and the wider sector.

“The business remains focused on continual improvement with sustainability at the heart of our operations and we look forward to reporting further significant developments, actions and progress against climate change.”

Mark Halstead
Chairman, James Halstead PLC



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Our Sustainability Journey...






Over 100 years of minimising our footprint



Our Credentials Guide

Sustainability & CSR

Environmental and Corporate Social Responsibility management ensures continual development and progress, where it matters. The external audits and certification listed, assure that this is our priority and that we will continue to report transparently on key metrics regarding our culture, operations and stakeholder engagement.

ISO 14001		ISO 14001 sets out the criteria for an Environmental Management System (EMS) and maps out a framework for a company to follow in setting up an effective EMS.
ISO 9001		ISO 9001 is a certified quality management system (QMS) for organisations who want to prove their ability to consistently provide products and services that meet the needs of relevant stakeholders.
BES 6001		BES 6001 is a framework Standard from BRE Global, for Responsible Sourcing, along with an associated independent third-party certification scheme. BES 6001 will help organisations manage and reduce the impacts throughout the supply chain. The scheme is recognised by the BREEAM family of certification schemes and the Code for Sustainable Homes where credits can be awarded for construction products independently certified through BES 6001 .
SA 8000		SA 8000 is an international certification standard that requires organisations to develop, maintain and apply socially acceptable practices in the workplace.
ISO 45001		ISO 45001 is a framework for an occupational health and safety management system.

Modern Slavery Act Statement

This statement sets out the measures taken to prevent acts of modern slavery and human trafficking within its business and supply chains.









What this means for you...

Our certification gives you peace of mind on matters that matter to all of us as businesses and consumers. We all want to purchase best quality products and services from ethical, responsible and caring companies.

Environmental Life Cycle Analysis & Eco Labels

Environmental LCAs are important in understanding a product's environmental performance over its entire journey, from materials sourced and used to the end of life. Every product has an environmental impact. An LCA therefore, helps identify each critical step, associated impact and performance.

IBU EPD		Polyflor has product specific EPDs verified by IBU (Institut Bauen und Umwelt e.V.) - a leading independent, environmental organisation which works closely with construction and environmental authorities in Germany. Product specific EPDs available on on www.polyflor.com or www.ibu-epd.com/en/published-epds
ERFMI EPD		Generic EPDs are available via ERFMI (European Resilient Flooring Manufacturers' Institute), which provide transparency on environmental impacts.
INIES FDES		INIES provides environmental and health declarations of products for evaluating the performance of construction works. The INIES FDES is an independent third-party audit. To view FDES , visit www.inies.fr
Global GreenTag LCA		GreenTag is Ecospecifier's Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) and Polyflor's products are certificated to meet GreenTag requirements.
SGBP		The Singapore Green Building Product (SGBP) scheme is a certification for green building products and materials. It is based on scientific and engineering principles and built upon the collective knowledge and expertise of the building and construction industry.
Friendly Materials		Friendly Materials is an analytical assessment methodology that evaluates and objectively compares how building materials and building systems affect indoor areas: It promotes transparency within the building materials' industry.








What this means for you...

Our products' LCAs and Eco Labels give you a better understanding of all the associated environmental impacts and how they perform, helping you to compare products and make informed choices for specification.

Our Credentials Guide

Recycling

Recycling has always been important to us and continues to be a top priority. In operating our own recycling schemes as well as being part of external recycling initiatives, we are committed to minimising this sector's environmental impact and embracing Circular Economy principals.

Recofloor		Polyflor is co-founder and owner of Recofloor the UK's leading recycling scheme for smooth and safety offcuts and uplifted smooth vinyl flooring. This scheme is also used in Australia and New Zealand.
ResiLoop		Polyflor is a founding member of ResiLoop, Australia's first national product stewardship scheme for resilient flooring and is an industry driven initiative by the Australian Resilient Flooring Association (ARFA).
Polyflor RVF SA		The Polyflor Recycling Vinyl Flooring scheme is an independent recycling scheme in South Africa, collecting waste Polyflor vinyl flooring.
Valobat		Valobat is our eco-organisation partner in association with the French EPR - Extended Producer Responsibility (REP). As a manufacturer, we have a responsibility to contribute financially towards this programme to prevent waste and increase circularity.
Recovinyl		Recovinyl is a PVC recycling scheme, set up to encourage companies to recycle post-consumer PVC. The aim of the scheme is to increase the amount of PVC recycled by establishing sustainable collection and processing arrangements.







What this means for you...

Using one of our recycling schemes, or an affiliated scheme helps to avoid the concern of needlessly sending waste to landfill. You are improving your carbon footprint and could be saving money too. The Recofloor scheme, for instance, could **save up to 70% for arranged collections** (compared to landfill), or it is **FOC** when using one of our participating distributors. Recycling your Polyflor flooring helps with site waste management plans and may **contribute towards credits for 'waste' on a BREEAM assessment.**

Health

We want our floor coverings to be healthy for the environment and for our customers. Our ranges are non-shedding and do not harbour dust. They do not contain harmful substances; are UK REACH compliant and are certified to assure very low VOC emissions for best indoor air comfort and quality.

IAC		Indoor Air Comfort (IAC) product certification by Eurofins, provides compliance to low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) emissions requirements of European specifications. Indoor Air Comfort Gold certification shows a higher level of compliance, meeting criteria of many voluntary specifications issued by most relevant ecolabels and similar specifications in the EU. This is 'best in class' and good for indoor air quality, posing no risk to health.
FloorScore®		FloorScore® product certification by SCS Global, ensures that certified flooring meets strict indoor air quality (IAQ) emissions criteria of LEED; CHPS; The Green Guide for Health Care, and is recognised by a long list of healthy building programmes.
Afsset		Afsset (L'Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire de L'Environnement et du Travail) tests construction products compliance to the French Government's regulations regarding VOC and formaldehyde emissions.
M1		M1 is the short version name of the Finnish voluntary emission classification of building materials. M1 is the lowest VOC emission class of that system.
REACH	REACH	REACH is a European Union regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation & Restriction of Chemicals. No harmful substances added, such as formaldehyde; asbestos and heavy metals. Plasticisers used by Polyflor are not classified substances and do not need authorisation under REACH .






What this means for you...

You will also improve well-being and comfort with beautiful designs and clean indoor air quality, attainable through our low VOC products with further reduced VOC emissions from the maintenance regime.

Our Credentials Guide

Environmental Listings

Polyflor products are listed on various databases specifically for sustainable products, making specification options easier for green build projects.

mindful MATERIALS		Our products are listed on the mindful MATERIALS platform, a design industry initiative that enables manufacturers to clearly communicate transparency of products' sustainability and health via the product certification library.
DGNB		Our EPDs are listed on the DGNB database DGNB (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen e.V. / German Sustainable Building Council), which promotes sustainable and economically efficient buildings for the future.
BASTA		Polyflor has registered, approved products on the BASTA database, BASTA is a non-profit organisation owned by IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute and The Swedish Construction Federation.



What this means for you...

These environmental listings offer another 3rd party validation for peace of mind, also making it easier for you to specify environmentally sound products for your project.

Memberships & Associations

We like to be in the mix and keep abreast of current or potential issues and challenges, both within the industry and on wider environmental matters. This enables us to engage with stakeholders and react better to customer demands.

VinylPlus		VinylPlus is the voluntary sustainable development programme of the European PVC industry. It aims to create a long-term sustainability framework for the entire PVC value chain.
PVC Stewardship (Australia)		Polyflor Australia is a signatory to The Vinyl Council of Australia Product Stewardship Program. This program has voluntary commitments focused on Best Practice Manufacturing, Safe and Sustainable use of additives, Energy and Greenhouse Gas Management, Resource Efficiency and Transparency and Engagement. The commitments ensure that the entire process from raw materials through to end of life of vinyl products is reviewed and addressed to minimise environmental and safety issues within the vinyl industry, on a local and global scale. Visit www.vinyl.org.au/sustainability/stewardship
Kaléi		Our French subsidiary is a member of the Kaléi trade association, which works with government ministries and stakeholders to inform its members of forthcoming legislation. Kaléi is also involved in the development of building standards and national initiatives that include sustainable development in our sector.
New Zealand Green Building Council		The Green Building Council is a non-profit, non-government, membership organisation covering more than 90 countries. The body's main aim is to facilitate dialogue between industry and government to promote sustainability in the construction sector.
UKRFA		UKRFA (United Kingdom Resilient Flooring Association) – UK trade association for the resilient flooring sector.
ERFMI		ERFMI (European Resilient Flooring Manufacturers' Institute) – ensures the maintenance of high ethical standard within the industry.
SAVA		The Southern African Vinyls Association (SAVA) is a representative body for the local vinyl industry fulfilling an active role in the sustainability of the industry.



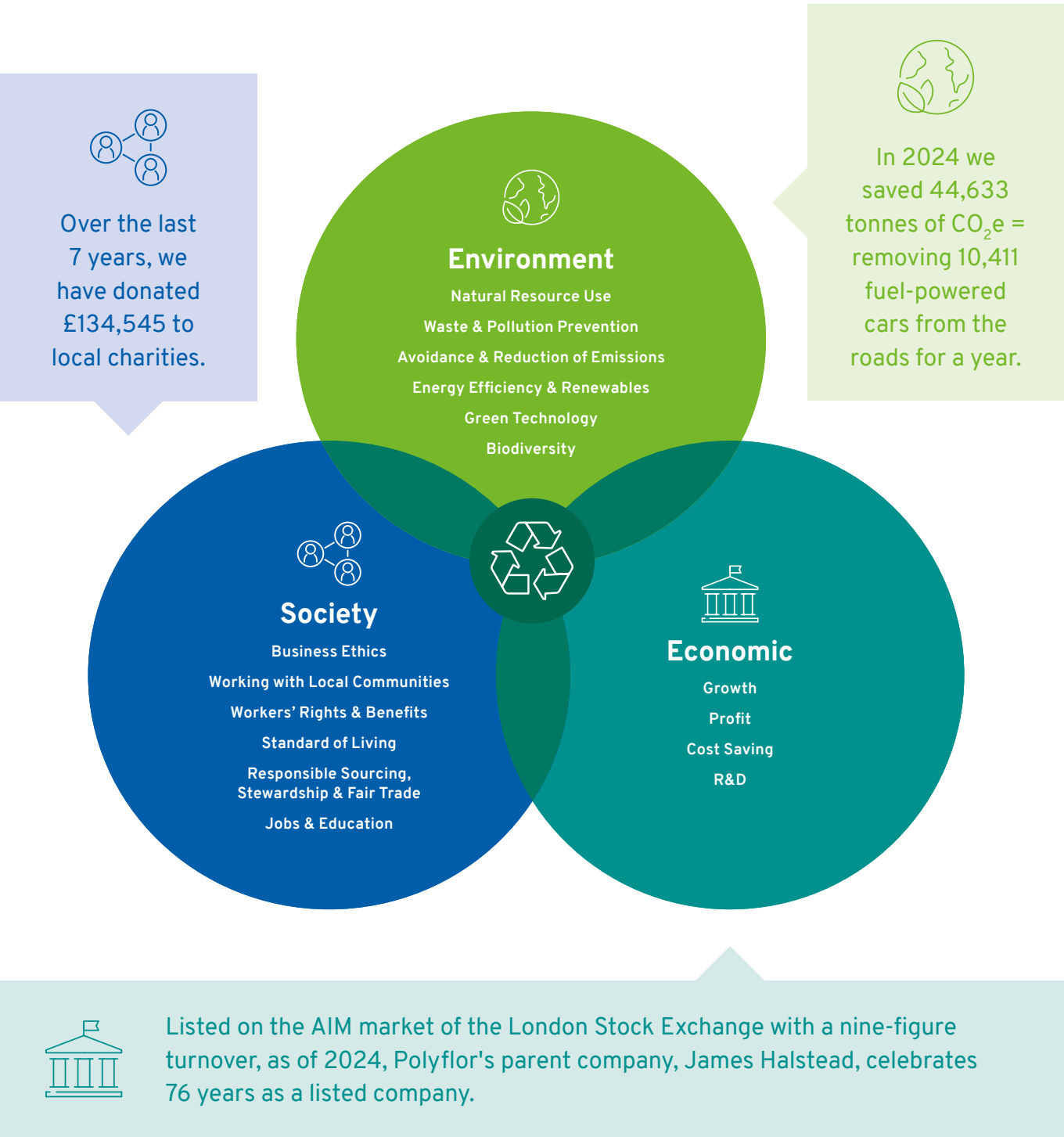
What this means for you...

By our involvement and networking with these key stakeholder organisations, we are part of these communities and can stay on top of issues that matter most to you and better meet your demands.


Our Vision

Polyflor’s vision is to minimise carbon emissions, 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 synergy between Environment, Society (people) and Economics.


The Three Pillars of Sustainability





Polyflor’s Steps to a Sustainable Future


- 

The avoidance of emissions to the ecosystem.


 - Evaluating, monitoring and improving scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions
- 


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 principles:

 - 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.

Reducing Our Carbon Footprint

Polyflor has a wealth of objectives and strategies to support sustainability development and continuous improvement. Polyflor will reduce its carbon footprint when and where possible.

Our Aim

- By 2030 we will significantly reduce our carbon footprint, relative to output, for scopes 1, 2 and 3 through improved efficiencies, renewables and recycling.
- Aligning with UK Government’s targets, we will work towards achieving net zero by 2050.

Performance & Achievements

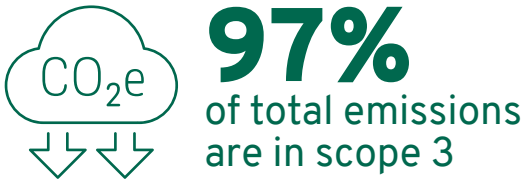


Sustainable Performance

For decades Polyflor has been recognised as a leading global manufacturer of high quality, high performance sustainable floor coverings. We will continue to do good as a responsible and ethical manufacturer, whilst looking to continually improve.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions*

In 2024, the company's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (tonnes) were as follows:



<h2>Scope 1</h2> <p>Direct emissions</p> <p>8,282</p> <p>Tonnes of CO₂e</p> <p>Polyflor's direct GHG emissions came from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural gas, decreased by 16% to 6,979 tonnes of CO₂e• HGV and forklift trucks' diesel decreased by 13% to 1,117 tonnes of CO₂e <p>Polyflor's GHG emissions intensity decreased by 9% per m².</p> <p>We saved 1,352 tonnes of CO₂e - a 14% reduction on 2023</p>	<h2>Scope 2</h2> <p>Indirect emissions</p> <p>0</p> <p>Tonnes of CO₂e</p> <p>Zero indirect emissions came from our electricity supplier, all of which comes from renewable sources.</p> <p>No change to tonnage or emissions intensity</p>	<h2>Scope 3</h2> <p>Indirect emissions</p> <p>236,291</p> <p>Tonnes of CO₂e</p> <p>As per GHG Protocol, indirect upstream and downstream emissions came from the areas shown.</p> <p>GHG emissions intensity decreased by 9% per m².</p> <table><tr><th>Upstream scope 3 emissions</th><th>CO₂e (tonnes)</th></tr><tr><td>Purchased goods and services</td><td>98,675</td></tr><tr><td>Capital goods</td><td>95</td></tr><tr><td>Fuel and energy related activities</td><td>456</td></tr><tr><td>Upstream transportation and distribution</td><td>6,665</td></tr><tr><td>Waste generated in operations</td><td>76</td></tr><tr><td>Business travel</td><td>295</td></tr><tr><td>Employee commuting</td><td>152</td></tr><tr><td>Upstream leased assets</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><th>Downstream scope 3 emissions</th><th>CO₂e (tonnes)</th></tr><tr><td>Downstream transportation and distribution</td><td>25,240</td></tr><tr><td>Processing of sold products</td><td>17,520</td></tr><tr><td>Use of sold products</td><td>16,508</td></tr><tr><td>End-of-life treatment of sold products</td><td>70,609</td></tr><tr><td>Downstream leased assets</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Franchises</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>Investments</td><td>0</td></tr></table> <p>44,633 tonnes of CO₂e were saved - a 16% reduction on 2023**</p>	Upstream scope 3 emissions	CO ₂ e (tonnes)	Purchased goods and services	98,675	Capital goods	95	Fuel and energy related activities	456	Upstream transportation and distribution	6,665	Waste generated in operations	76	Business travel	295	Employee commuting	152	Upstream leased assets	0	Downstream scope 3 emissions	CO ₂ e (tonnes)	Downstream transportation and distribution	25,240	Processing of sold products	17,520	Use of sold products	16,508	End-of-life treatment of sold products	70,609	Downstream leased assets	0	Franchises	0	Investments	0
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We saved 45,985 tonnes of CO₂e emissions in 2024. That's the same as taking 10,411 fuel-powered cars off the roads for 1 year!

**Due to improved data collection, as we learn more as a business.

Polyflor's Sustainability KPI's For 2024*

Suppliers & Responsible Sourcing

- Exceeded objective of >90% of suppliers' bulk deliveries above 23 tonnes load size with 93%
- 44% of suppliers within 50 mile radius - a 2% increase
- Maintained 100% of our suppliers with Modern Slavery Act Compliance certification
- Obtained BES 6001 'Excellent' rating for Responsible Sourcing
- 48 tonnes of recycled glass (96,022 wine bottles equivalent) incorporated into Polysafe

Production

- 100% renewable electricity used and 0 scope 2 emissions
- Energy use decreased by 5%
- 16% reduction in GHG emissions
- 63% decrease on net waste - as a percentage of total tonnes manufactured, this also reduced to 1.1%
- 11% increase on total site waste recycled or repurposed
- 95% recycled or repurposed waste as a percentage of total site waste
- Biodiversity actions implemented around the UK sites

Logistics

- Fleet reduced kilometers travelled by 12%
- Fuel use decreased by 14%
- CO₂e emissions decreased by 14%
- Polyflor's backhaul operations removed 409 HGV journeys from the road - a 5% increase - saving 25 tonnes of CO₂e

Closing the Loop

- 8,679 tonnes of post-production and post-consumer vinyl added to Polyflor products - up 6%
- Recycled vinyl as a percentage of flooring manufactured increased to 18%
- Recofloor collected 533 tonnes of post-consumer waste vinyl flooring - a 12% increase
- 625 tonnes of CO₂e savings made from Recofloor recycling

CSR

- 33% more apprentices in the business
- Labour turnover down by 31%
- Biggest growth area for employee age ranges in the business was the 26-35 group
- 17% of Polyflor's workforce are in the company's 25 and 40 year clubs
- Just 3 complaints relating to Polyflor operations from our neighbours
- Polyflor supported 11 charities - donating £31,265 - and employees raised £600 for additional charities

*Data increases or decreases are compared with 2023.

GOOD TO KNOW!



Over the last 7 years, Polyflor has saved 14,855 tonnes of scope 1 (direct) - CO₂e emissions. That's 3,096 homes' electricity use for 1 year!



Our 7 Step Life Cycle

20 SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

26 MATERIALS

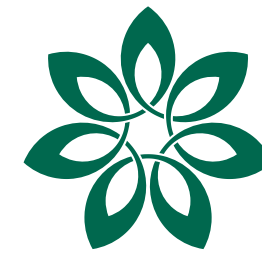
34 PRODUCTION

46 LOGISTICS

52 INSTALLATION

58 IN USE

66 CLOSING THE LOOP



Focus on LCA

Life Cycle Assessment or Analysis (LCA) is a comprehensive way to identify environmental impacts throughout a product or service's life.

When it comes to looking at a product's environmental performance, it is easy to be impressed with headline grabbing statements and emotional communications. Importantly, we must consider scientific fact and rational information when forming opinions, rather than making decisions based on perception. An LCA provides us with the measured and scientific approach we should take when considering environmental factors and places all flooring on a level playing field.

The benefits of using an LCA methodology enables the specifier to have a better understanding of all the environmental impacts and not just one aspect in isolation. Polyflor's approach considers circular economy principles throughout an LCA. Our 7 Step Life Cycle explains this journey.

"LCA is a method to measure and evaluate the environmental impacts associated with a product, system or activity, by assessing the energy and materials used and released to the environment over the life cycle."

UK Green Building Council



STEP 1 Sustainable Design

Future Proofing

Polyflor embraces technological enhancements whilst producing functional and aesthetic products which will perform for years to come. Embracing the circular economy from the outset, to minimise waste, is also crucial.



30 Years

Polyflor designs
for a long life



Committed
to design for a
circular economy



8

Adhesive free
options

=



Easier recycling,
reuse & CO₂e
savings



16%

Of our ranges
now looselay

Product Development & Design

We are continually reviewing alternatives and new ideas to improve our environments. Sustainability is always at the heart of our design process.

OUR GOAL

Contribution to the Built Environment:
To develop products that improve the quality and sustainability of the built environment.

OUR GOAL

Contribution to the Built Environment:
To develop “loose lay” (adhesive free) products with reduced environmental impact for ease of recycling.

Designing for the Circular Economy

Using Circular Economy principles, the design function must consider the following attributes of the floor covering to ensure ongoing best practice for sustainability.

Material sourcing and manufacturing

Healthier and local materials are sourced to improve the embedded carbon footprints of our ranges. To reduce our carbon footprint further, minimising waste begins here with the use of post-production and reclaimed post-consumer vinyl waste in our ranges. Recycled glass is also used in some of our Polysafe ranges. We also consider how our products can be packaged at design phase, to minimise packaging waste and use sustainable materials.

In a circular economy we stop waste being produced in the first place.

Installation

Adhesive free ranges play a big part within the circular economy, as loose lay or lock options minimise environmental impact through reduced embedded CO₂e and can be reused (loose lay) or more easily and efficiently recycled. Therefore, the product offering in our Fast Track collection has increased over recent years to reflect this. In fact, our loose lay ranges have increased by 700% over the last 10 years and account for 16% of all our vinyl flooring.

In Use

All new ranges are launched with market leading, low maintenance benefits built in to minimise use of water, chemicals and energy – helping to reduce our customers’ carbon footprint, natural resources and costs.

Reusing or Recycling

Polyflor ranges have always been recyclable and since the 1950’s post-production waste has been recycled. Post-consumer waste is also recycled, including offcuts and where feasible, uplifted waste, providing the amount of screed and adhesive remaining on the back of the uplifted product is less than the vinyl. Our easy-to-install loose lay ranges are straightforward to recycle once uplifted, and ranges which do not click together can also be reused.

longevity – style not fashion. This philosophy of minimising waste whilst maximising the life-cycle of the material is critical to our development process.

“A logical and correct understanding of each project provides the opportunity to both conserve resources and enhance the user experience, continuing to lead us on a more sustainable path.”

Craig Moorhouse
Group Design Manager, James Halstead PLC



CHECKLIST

- ✓ Reduce waste
- ✓ Easy cleaning
- ✓ Resist soiling & scuffing
- ✓ Low VOC emissions
- ✓ Easy to reuse or recycle

Design for Life

More recent product launches have PUR and low VOC certification as standard and include aesthetics and features with a ‘design for life’ approach. For instance, aesthetics can be a relevant consideration for sustainability, as some decorative patterns or plainer designs help minimise waste and future-proof interiors, improving longevity.

Optimise waste reductions with non-directional patterns or plain designs

Palettone PUR
Smooth homogeneous sheet flooring with elegant, tonal highlights. Designed to stand the test of time aesthetically and performance-wise, demonstrating outstanding durability and abrasion resistance, achieving the highest abrasion wear rating Group T (EN 660 Part 2), EN ISO 10581 Type I.

Polysafe Stone fx PUR
Virtually invisible aluminium oxide particles are integrated throughout the performance layer to provide a safety flooring which is both functional and timelessly beautiful. These carborundum-free safety particles ensure that Polysafe Stone fx PUR offers full HSE compliance and sustainable wet slip resistance, achieving 36+ on the pendulum wet tests.

Polysafe Verona PUR: Pure Colours
The tonal decoration of this safety flooring will not date with a uniform appearance and matt surface finish, the collection is perfectly suited for installation within a wide range of environments but has been optimised with dementia friendly design schemes in mind and is DSDC certified. Our Pure Colours collection provides enhanced sustainable slip resistance of 45+ (slider 96) to ensure the underfoot safety of occupants for many years to come.

Adhesive free for CO₂e reductions or reuse

Polysafe QuickLay PUR
This loose lay safety flooring is designed for adhesive free installation and can be laid over a variety of existing subfloors. Polysafe QuickLay features contemporary understated colours with a decoration of tonal hues, optimised for specification within dementia friendly design schemes. Other areas of sustainability and longevity include enhanced sustainable slip resistance of 45+ (slider 96) and exclusive Polysafe PUR reinforcement for optimum appearance retention and superior cleaning benefits. Simply lift to reuse, repurpose, or recycle.

Expona Simplay PUR
Expona Simplay PUR is a collection of loose lay tiles replicating the natural beauty of wood, designed to reduce installation time and provide easy access to under floor utilities – so there’s no need to pull up and replace. Featuring PUR to assist a low maintenance regime during in-use, at the end this product can be reused or recycled.

Camaro Rigid Core PUR
An interlocking vinyl tile range, this luxury flooring uses classic wood designs for use in heavy commercial and residential interiors. This recyclable range is adhesive free and can be laid over most existing floor coverings, significantly reducing installation time and waste.

DID YOU KNOW?



As well as quality product, proper installation and effective maintenance are key elements of the product’s lifecycle, maximising longevity. This is highlighted across Polyflor’s product specific EPDs with the Recommended Service Life ranging from 20 years for LVT and safety to 30 years for smooth homogeneous. These service life assumptions are based on years of market experience.





STEP 2 Materials

Responsible Sourcing

Polyflor floor coverings contain a combination of ingredients which are clean, REACH compliant, sustainable, and recycled. The materials we use in our flooring are responsibly sourced and audited for our BES 6001 certification.



48

Tonnes of recycled glass in Polysafe products

=



96,022

Wine bottles



Up to

85%

Natural material



Up to

40%

Recycled content



BES 6001

Responsible sourcing

Up to an additional
3.5 BREEAM points



44%

Suppliers in a
50 mile radius



100%

Modern slavery act
compliance

Benefits of Vinyl

Through modern manufacturing, vinyl has a low environmental impact and combined with its exceptional functionality and performance characteristics across many applications, no other material can perform as well or cost effectively as this multi-faceted champion.

Versatility

Chemically inert, safe, hygienic, and shatterproof, vinyl is necessary in everyday life and is vital in many industries, including healthcare: It is irreplaceable for most of its lifesaving applications such as surgical tubing, oxygen masks, containers for IV and dialysis fluids, IV sets, nasal cannulas, examination and surgical gloves, blood vessels for artificial kidneys, mattress covers and training manikins...

Vinyl, or PVC, is the most widely used polymer in building and construction applications with up to 70% of global annual PVC production used in this sector across many everyday building products, including pipes, cables, and windows for all construction projects. It is also present in facades, roofing and seating in stadiums all over the world.

Whether it is rigid or flexible, PVC is used in a range of long-life applications with lifespans ranging from 30 to 100 years in construction products such as cables, pipes and window profiles. PVC products are also low-maintenance and can remain in use for a long time before they reach end-of-life. Significantly, the unique composition of vinyl creates an extremely practical and durable flooring, which can have a lifespan of 30 years. In fact, we have known cases of our flooring lasting for over 50 years.

“PVC makes a major contribution to the quality, safety and 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

Environmental

Vinyl is an environmentally sound choice: Over its whole life cycle, vinyl floor covering performs comparably or better than alternative materials across a range of environmental impacts.

- Vinyl flooring is 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 significantly reduces energy intensive cleaning, plus the need for harsh chemical cleansers, polish, strippers and water usage is massively reduced, if needed at all.
- Vinyl 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 incinerated generating energy recovery.

Health & Safety

Modern, clean PVC is a safe choice and is the most thoroughly researched and tested plastic, meeting all international health and safety standards as per the intended application.

- Vinyl is inherently fire resistant and once removed from an ignition source will self-extinguish. The fire resistance of vinyl is typically higher than linoleum or rubber.
- It can provide the best slip resistance for underfoot safety.
- Vinyl has low VOC emissions.

“PVC incineration was previously considered a source of dioxins and furans. However, introduction of better incineration and flue gas cleaning requirements under the Industrial Emissions Directive has led to a 94% reduction in emissions since the early 1990s.

“According to ECHA, it is highly questionable whether PVC waste has any role to play today. According to ECHA, the formation of dioxins, furans and other unwanted emissions depends on the type of furnace, operating conditions and flue cleaning systems. There is also no proportional relationship between the amount of chlorine in the waste and the amount of dioxins and furans formed. The same conclusion has been reached in previous studies, including by the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.”

“In other words, the small amounts of chlorine found in salty food waste, for example, are sufficient for dioxins and furans to be formed through inappropriate incineration. Adding the amounts of PVC found in waste has little or no effect. Nor can a reduction in dioxins and furans be achieved by removing PVC from waste.”

VinylPlus

GOOD TO KNOW!

Vinyl products contribute to greater building energy efficiency, cost savings, construction safety, lower embodied carbon and design versatility.

1 European Chemicals Agency (2023). Investigation report on PVC and PVC additives. https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/17233/rest_pvc_investigation_report_en.pdf p.12

2 Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (1999). Life cycles assessments and solid waste - Guidelines for solid waste treatment and disposal in LCA (AFR-REPORT 279). AFN, Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. <https://p2infohouse.org/ref/37/36473.pdf> ; Themelis, N. J. (2010). Chlorine sources, sinks, and impacts in WTE power plants. Proceedings of the 18th Annual North American Waste-to-Energy Conference, Paper No: NAWTEC18-3577, pp. 77-84. <https://doi.org/10.1115/NAWTEC18-3577>

PVC Benefits in Construction

- ✓ Safe in use
- ✓ Best use of natural resources
- ✓ Low energy consumption
- ✓ Excellent energy efficient ratings
- ✓ Low carbon emissions
- ✓ Can be recycled into more construction products than any other polymer
- ✓ Best cost to performance ratio
- ✓ More variation in uses than any other plastic



COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A New Roadmap for 2030

“The VinylPlus programme to 2020 was developed through open dialogue with stakeholders, identifying key challenges for PVC on the basis of The Natural Step System Conditions for a Sustainable Society.

“For its next sustainability programme to 2030, in order to contribute proactively to addressing the global challenges and priorities, VinylPlus adopted an outside-in approach to goal setting. The next VinylPlus Commitment aims to contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a particular focus on sustainable consumption and production, climate change and partnerships. It also seeks to align with the most relevant EU policies, such as the Circular Economy Action Plan and the EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability under the European Green Deal. In line with VinylPlus’ active participation in the European Commission’s Circular Plastics Alliance (CPA), the new commitment also embraces the CPA’s targets on the use of recycled plastics in new products.”

VinylPlus

Polyflor Materials

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.

OUR GOAL

Resource Use:
To recognise the need to source & use raw materials in the most appropriate & sustainable manner.

1. PVC Polymer

Polymer 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, everyday items. For example, 85% of medicines contain chlorine or use it in the production process. Chlorine is not emitted during production and remains chemically bound within vinyl throughout its life-cycle. Ethylene comes mainly from gas or oil, but from biomass also. Ethylene is also natural, given off by ripening fruit. Just 4% of barrel oil is used for all plastic products globally and vinyl flooring uses only a tiny fraction of this. Most oil is used for heating and travel consumption.

2. Filler

The level of fillers used in Polyflor vinyl can account for as much as 72%. Fillers come from calcium carbonate, such as chalk and limestone, which is a natural and sustainable material due to the abundance of it in the earth’s crust.

3. Plasticisers

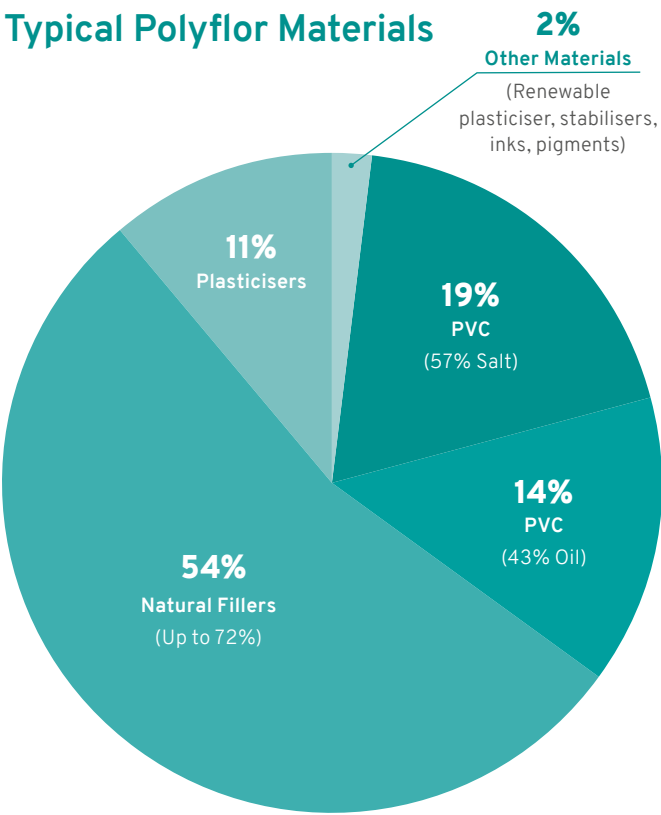
Plasticisers are added to enhance the product performance characteristics through a range of operational temperatures and softening the vinyl is important in making it flexible and versatile. Plasticisers are safe to use and not classified under REACH. (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation & Restriction of Chemicals)

4. Other Materials

A small percentage of other ingredients such as stabilisers, pigments and inks are also used. All raw materials used by Polyflor are REACH compliant. Polyflor follows the strictest industry regulations ensuring no harmful substances to human health or the environment are used.

Recycled Content

Vinyl flooring is easily recycled, which subsequently minimises the use of raw materials. Polyflor flooring is 100% recyclable and contains up to 40% recycled content, which can be a combination of post-production vinyl, post-consumer vinyl and recycled glass (used with aggregates in Polysafe flooring). In 2024 we used 7% more recycled vinyl - 8,465 tonnes - across our ranges, plus 48 tonnes of recycled glass in Polysafe products – that’s 96,022 wine bottles.



This is an average representation across our ranges, but raw material quantities vary: **The filler content is as much as 72% in homogeneous ranges.**

Our Sustainable Ingredients 2024

- Up to 40% recycled content included.
- 48 tonnes of recycled post-consumer vinyl used.
- 8,465 tonnes of recycled post-production vinyl used.
- 48 tonnes of recycled glass in Polysafe products = 96,022 wine bottles.
- Polyflor products contain up to 85% natural materials.

Responsible Sourcing

Responsible Sourcing includes social, ethical and environmental factors and how they are considered throughout the supply chain and design process. This is an important aspect of a product’s life cycle, involving strong organisation and leadership, compliance, and solid relationships.

How We Source Responsibly

Polyflor is certified to and rigorously audited on all aspects of responsible sourcing. Following on from our Quality Management System (QMS) ISO 9001, we achieved ISO 14001 in 2000. This sets out the criteria for an Environmental Management System (EMS) and maps out a framework for a company to follow in setting up an effective EMS. All environmental aspects, including the supply chain, are considered.

Most recently production achieved BES 6001 for responsible sourcing, and SA 8000 for decent and socially acceptable practices in the workplace.

What is BES 6001?

The BES 6001 standard, from BRE Global, is a means of securing certification to demonstrate through independent, third-party certification, that products certified against the scheme have been responsibly sourced. BES 6001 does not focus on a company’s site, but products or ranges manufactured at one or more sites.

BES 6001 is a framework standard for Responsible Sourcing which sets out requirements under three main headings: Organisational Management; Supply Chain Management and Environmental and Social Responsibility Management. To meet the standard, companies must satisfy certain compulsory elements. Additionally, there are higher levels of compliance that can result in a higher performance rating being awarded.

Depending on a company’s performance against the criteria, ratings are awarded on a Pass; Good; Very Good and Excellent basis. **Of all 36 companies to have BES 6001, Polyflor sets the bar high, having been the only certified floor covering manufacturer to achieve an Excellent rating for Version 4.0 of the standard.** By achieving Excellent, Polyflor has satisfied the compulsory sections and conforms to the highest levels of compliance, which has been a massive undertaking for the company - involving production, all other internal departments and its supply chain. Certification is available on www.greenbooklive.com.

Responsible Sourcing is defined in BS8902 – Responsible sourcing sector certification schemes for construction products – Specification as: ‘The management of sustainable development in the provision or procurement of a product.’ Sustainable development is further defined as: ‘An enduring, balanced approach to economic activity, environmental responsibility and social progress.’ **Source: www.greenbooklive.com**

The Importance of BES 6001

The UK Contractor’s Group (representing over 30 leading construction companies who together account for a third of the UK construction industry turnover) state that: ‘UKCG members support and give preference to procuring products which are able to demonstrate compliance with a recognised responsible sourcing scheme, certified by a third party.’


BES 6001 is just that. It is an increasingly important and valuable standard for customers who are looking to procure flooring with sound environmental credentials and traceability, from socially aware and ethical suppliers. Without doubt, the standard can help customers make better informed decisions when selecting suppliers.

The hard work and challenges set out by the BES 6001 framework has driven us to scrutinize our own supply chain more than ever before with greater commitment to using trusted, local suppliers who are ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 certified. Additionally, stringent and demanding environmental objectives have been set and managerial procedures and policies improved.

BES 6001 has also given Polyflor more direction with regards to social responsibility management – with a focus on internal procedures regarding employees, as well as how the company engages with our local communities and stakeholders in general.

Furthermore, the use of Polyflor products with BES 6001 certification contributes significantly to the available points in section MAT 03 of a BREEAM Assessment. Where many companies typically contribute 1 point through an environmental management system such as ISO 14001, Polyflor can provide an additional 3.5 points for its BES 6001 Excellent certification. BES 6001 also secures additional credits within the Code for Sustainable Homes.

DID YOU KNOW?



Polyflor is the only flooring manufacturer with BES 6001 ‘Excellent’

Our Supply Chain

OUR GOAL

To communicate and work constructively with the supply chain to deliver sustainable policies and practices.

ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 are recognised globally and are standard practice for many organisations. As such, Polyflor prefers approved and trusted suppliers who are ISO 9001 and 14001 certified or have robust environmental procedures and where possible are local to our manufacturing sites. Polyflor also uses Quality Assessment Questionnaires, following up with regular meetings and audits.

Additionally, we have a responsible sourcing policy, plus SA 8000, ISO 45001 and BES 6001 certification for responsible sourcing. SA 8000 is an international, auditable social certification standard for decent workplaces, across all industrial sectors. It is based on the UN Declaration of Human Rights, conventions of the ILO, UN and national law, and spans industry and corporate codes to create a common language to measure social performance. BES 6001, as already highlighted, helps us manage and reduce impacts throughout the supply chain.

As part of our ongoing BES 6001 objectives, we assess our suppliers on their business procedures and ethics as well as their commitment to the reduction of environmental impacts. With regards to the environmental impacts associated with suppliers’ transport operations to and from our business, we encourage the use of energy efficient vehicles and adequate driver training to improve vehicle fuel efficiencies. For main suppliers, Polyflor’s target score of more than 90% should be achieved on the following criteria: Supplier vehicles used to deliver raw materials to site have modern Euro V or Euro VI energy efficient engines and suppliers ensure that adequate driver training has been given to maximise fuel efficiency. In 2024, Polyflor’s suppliers achieved 89% for using modern engines and 91% for driver training.

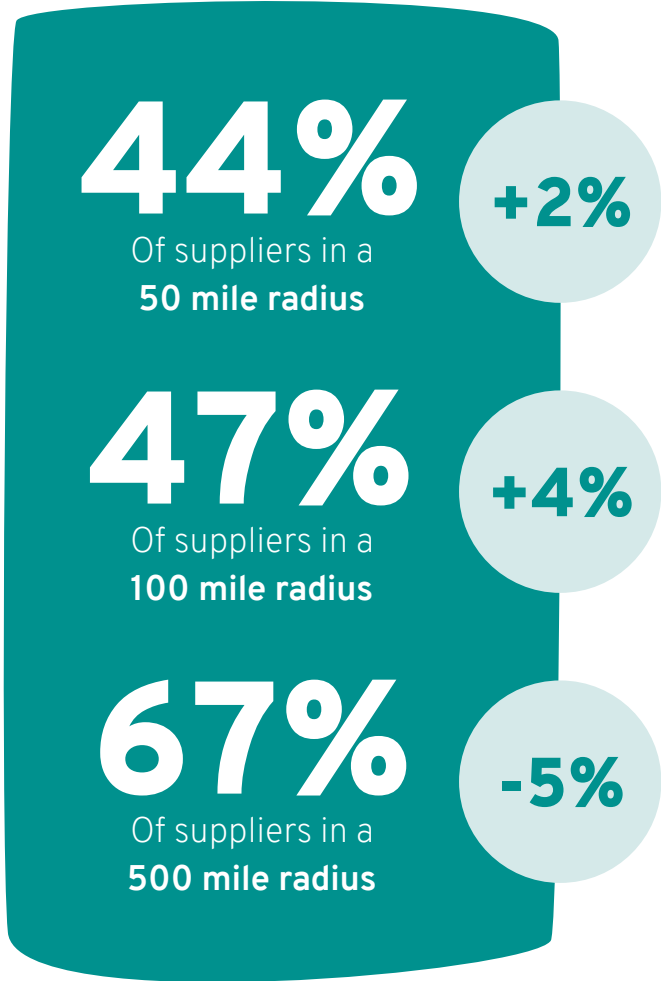
Another objective to reduce our scope 3 emissions is purchasing in bulk to minimise the transport impacts of our products, ensuring >90% of bulk deliveries are above the minimum load size of 23 tonnes. In 2024 we exceeded this again, with 93%.

Polyflor’s parent company, James Halstead PLC, has a Modern Slavery Act Statement, underlining the steps taken to prevent modern slavery and human trafficking in its business and supply chains. Go to www.polyflor.com or www.jameshalstead.com for more information.

Proximity of Suppliers

We also work with suppliers with the closest possible proximity to the Polyflor production sites. Our target is 85% of raw materials to be supplied within 500 miles of the factory. We did not achieve this in 2024, with 67% of raw material suppliers being within a 500-mile radius. However, suppliers within 50 mile and 100-mile radiuses also increased, which is a positive. Our objectives remain unchanged, and we continue to work towards increasing the percentage of our raw materials sourced within a 500-mile radius.

Compared to 2023, in 2024 100% of Polyflor’s raw material suppliers achieved ISO 9001 (no change), 93% for ISO 14001 (-3%), 87% achieved ISO 45001 (-6%) and achieving our target once more for 2024, 100% held Modern Slavery Act Compliance certification.



Polyflor Suppliers’ Code of Conduct Policy

Polyflor Limited is committed to the sustainable and responsible sourcing of raw materials, with all suppliers expected to cooperate with the Code of Conduct Policy and have business ethics which are aligned with our own. In return, Polyflor will deal fairly with all its suppliers, and will seek long lasting business relationships, conducting business in an ethical and socially responsible manner.

All suppliers to Polyflor are expected to treat their employees with dignity and provide a fair wage, complying with relevant employment legislation. Polyflor has set out a Modern Slavery Act Compliance Certification, which all suppliers are expected to adhere to.

- Suppliers are expected to have systems in place across their business to cover Quality, Environmental and Health and Safety matters. It is preferred that suppliers are accredited to the following international standards in these areas:
- Quality – ISO 9001
 - Environment – ISO 14001
 - Health and Safety – ISO 45001

Polyflor recognises its responsibilities within the supply chain and has identified a register of Interested Parties and Their Requirements. The Interested Parties identified include both our customers and our suppliers.

All suppliers to Polyflor will be regularly made aware of this policy. Regular reviews will be conducted to ensure continual improvement of its systems, and to ensure continued compliance with relevant legislation and standards.



STEP 3 Production

Protecting Resources

Our flooring is energy efficient to manufacture and minimises environmental impact and carbon emissions. We apply '4 Rs' as we look to continuously reduce, renew, recycle and reuse resources. Our use of renewable energy has also increased dramatically.



ISO 14001
Certified manufacturing



11%
Increase on total site waste recycled or repurposed



96%
Water supply from recycled water



100%
Renewable electricity used



5%
Less energy



16%
Less CO₂e



14,855
Tonnes of CO₂e saved
= 3,096 homes' electricity use for 1 year

=



55%
Reduction in CO₂e

Since 2018

Energy Use

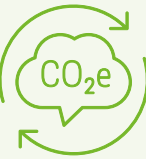
There is a direct connection between energy use and the environment. Energy consumed equals emissions being released into the atmosphere, which is why energy efficiency is crucial and why Polyflor sets out to minimise its energy consumption where possible and use renewable energy.

OUR GOAL


Polyflor Climate Change and Energy:
To use energy efficiently throughout the production process, reduce fossil fuel consumption and utilise renewable sources of energy to minimise greenhouse gas emissions.

Compared to other types of floor coverings, vinyl has a low carbon footprint, which can be observed in EPDs (environmental product declarations) – see Product Assessments section for more information.

Since 2018



14,855
Tonnes of CO₂e saved
= 3,096 homes' electricity use for 1 year



55%
reduction in carbon emissions has been made

2024 Performance

Due to the result of the company's hard work and compliance to its Climate Change and Energy Goal for 2024, Polyflor achieved many positives regarding its production's energy and emissions. Energy use decreased by 5% compared to 2023, but energy intensity increased by 7% to 3.93 KwHr per m2 from 3.67 (although it is worth noting that 2023's energy intensity figure was the lowest ever achieved: Energy intensity was 10% lower than 2022).

Total GHG emissions for Polyflor's production sites were 6,979 tonnes: **Scope 1 Emissions** - GHG emissions from natural gas decreased by 16% to 6,979 tonnes of CO₂e in 2024. **Scope 2 Emissions** - Emissions from electricity were zero as 100% of our electricity supply used on site comes from a renewable source and aligns with our goal to utilise renewable energy sources.

How we are Improving

In recent years we have complied with the Energy Saving Opportunities Scheme (ESOS) 1 and 2. We are now identifying opportunities to further improve both our shorter and longer-term carbon goals, as well as achieving compliance with ESOS Phase 3 in 2024. Polyflor's ongoing investment in energy-saving equipment and projects is highlighted below:

Recently

- Replaced old chillers on 2 production lines with energy efficient modern chillers with free cooling technology, which can reduce energy by up to 70%.
- Installed LEAP ESP (low energy abatement plant) on 1 of the production lines.
- More daylight ports were installed to maximise natural lighting.
- Existing lighting was replaced with new LED lighting, operated with sensors, throughout the production halls and warehousing.
- Weekend switch off schedules were issued for Whitefield plants.
- Energy incidents are raised and corrected.
- Installation of bespoke, fully encapsulating insulated jackets to blenders, which will improve energy efficiency by maintaining the blender temperature with reduced steam requirement
- Increased education and awareness of environmental and energy incidents are reported and corrected efficiently

New for 2024

- Energy Awareness Module was distributed to all employees for training and education purposes
- ESOS Report issued with regular review meetings to identify improvements
- A fixed time maintenance programme issued jobs to complete regular energy surveys. This included checking production areas for air leaks, thermographic surveys and steam traps
- A new, high pressure hot water system was installed on one of our production lines to reduce the amount of electricity used
- Whitefield production site also replaced an old transformer with a new 'ultra-low loss' one, providing estimated savings of 27,413 kWh per year
- Boiler efficiency was increased at Teesside's production site by modifying oxygen trims, which will result in savings of 37,517 kWh per year

Next Steps

- Solar panels will be installed at the Whitefield site in 2025 to reduce CO₂e

Summary 2024

- Total Scope 1 & 2 GHG emissions were 6,979 tonnes CO₂e
- CO₂e emissions reduced by 16%
- Energy decreased by 5%
- Energy intensity increased by 7% to 3.93 KwHr per m²

DON'T FORGET!



Typical 30-year service life means fewer replacements = less energy to produce flooring for the life of the building.

Water Use

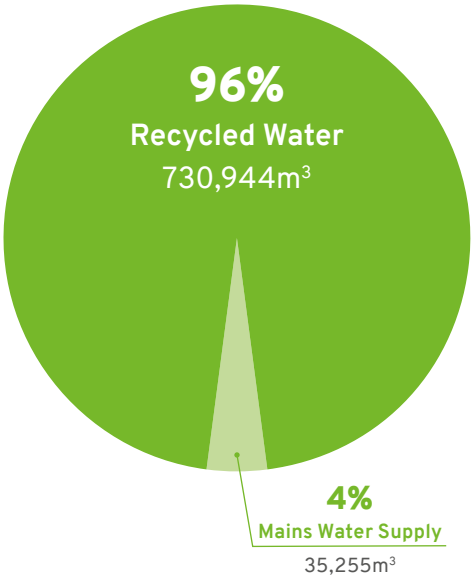
Water is a natural resource which must be protected. Water usage can be high in many manufacturing plants, but Polyflor has taken numerous steps to ensure that this is minimised and that we continue to adhere to our Trade Effluent License.

OUR GOAL

To use water efficiently to minimise demand on potable water supplies and treat process water and site run-off effectively to mitigate against pollution risks.

Water Source

At the Whitefield site, rainwater is collected and stored in a designated area known as 'lodge water' and is used for cooling. Following its use, it is returned into the lodge. Lodge water is used to substitute mains water supply, and in 2024 730,944m³ was used, accounting for 96% of production's water usage. Just 4% comes from the mains supply, which was 35,255m³.

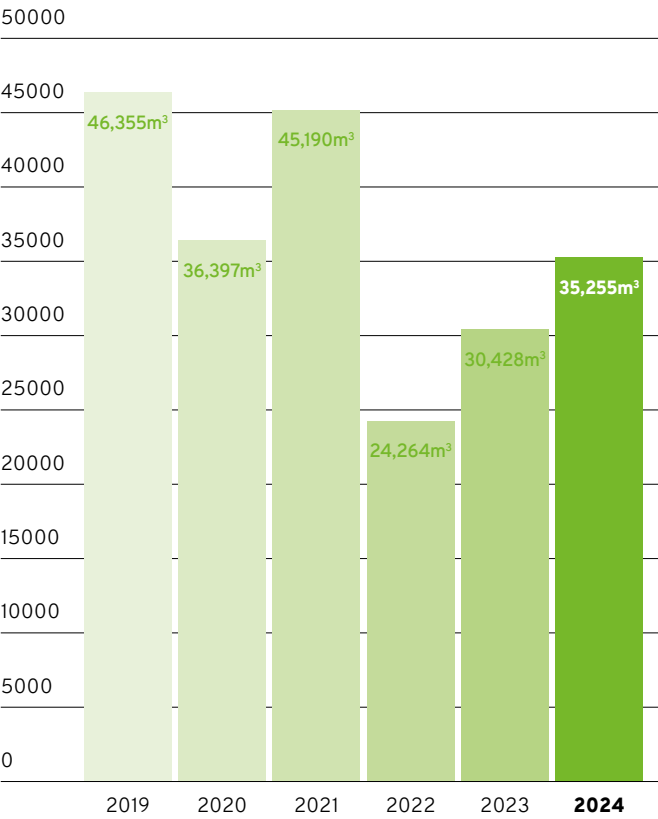


2024 Performance

In 2024 mains water use increased by 16% against 2023. Naturally we want to reduce year on year, where possible, but 2023 and 2022 were much lower than previous years as a result of variances to production schedules. However, looking at production's water usage trends over recent years, the 35,255m³ is much lower than 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Water used on site from the mains supply is largely for steam and cooling tower usage and is linked to overall production volumes. Water intensity figure for 2024 was 0.0022m³ water used per m² produced.

Total Mains Water Used



How we are Improving

Polyflor has a proactive approach to identifying and rapidly resolving water leaks across its production facilities. We also have many initiatives to reduce water usage throughout production, such as:

- A filtering system filters lodge water for one of the cooling towers, which substitutes mains water with lodge water for process cooling. This had reduced annual mains water usage.
- Part of Whitefield's factory's guttering is linked up to an underground water collection tank that has a 22,000-litre water collection. Our target to harvest 30% of the rainwater from the roof has been surpassed and we are now collecting 50%. This water is used on a jet washing facility, but may also be used elsewhere, such as the cooling towers and production line. Based on average rainfall, the system can harvest 1.3 million litres of water per year.
- Optimisation of steam pressure.
- Improvement of the efficiency of pumps and automatic controls.
- Regular steam trap surveys.
- Optimisation of cooling water temperature.



DID YOU KNOW?

Whitefield's factory guttering is linked up to an underground water collection tank, which harvests 1.3 million litres of water per year.

Biodiversity

Polyflor has always enjoyed green space around its three UK production and warehousing sites, with an abundance of trees, hedgerows, and other plants.

Whitefield’s manufacturing and warehousing site sits on grounds of 8.7 hectares (Ha) with 25% green space; the warehousing site at Royton comprises grounds of 20 Ha, of which 25% is green space with surrounding woodland; and Polyflor’s manufacturing and warehousing site at Teesside is situated on grounds of 19.56 Ha with 65% green space, including woodland.

We understand that maintaining and developing biodiverse spaces around our sites can have a positive impact on people’s lives as well as protecting the environment. This is particularly vital around our production site at Whitefield, which is in a residential area: Living amongst nature is good for physical and mental wellbeing and for creating healthy, happy communities. A survey by the Mental Health Foundation found that 65% of UK adults say that being close to nature improves their mood.*

Polyflor’s ambitions to understand and improve biodiversity across these three sites, greatly improved in 2023. A new biodiversity policy was introduced and included on our website to highlight where and how we can reduce our environmental footprint directly, and indirectly through our supply chain. Adding to the existing trees, shrubs and flowers on Polyflor’s three grounds, wildflower seeds were scattered around the sites, and some of the grass areas were also left to grow wild as meadows.

In 2024 Polyflor employees also made large bug houses, repurposing old pallets, which are dotted around the sites. Polyflor also purchased 12 new bird boxes and 3 ‘bee hotels’, to distribute around the sites and encourage wildlife with safe nesting environments and shelter for pollinators.

‘Biodiversity collectively describes the billions of unique living organisms that inhabit Earth, and the interactions among them.

‘They represent a vital element of our lives but are under continuous threat. The main pressures on biodiversity are changes in land use (e.g., deforestation, intensive mono-culture, urbanisation), direct exploitation such as hunting and over-fishing, climate change, pollution, and invasive alien species.

‘Preserving biodiversity is paramount, not only for its intrinsic value, but also because it provides us with e.g., clean air, fresh water, good quality soil and crop pollination. It helps us fight climate change and adapt to it, and helps reduce the impact of natural hazards. Thus, its decline has fundamental consequences for society, the economy and human health.’

European Environment Agency

*Mental Health Awareness Week Survey, Mental Health Foundation, April 2021



Biodiversity Policy

Polyflor Limited manufacture and distribute worldwide a vast range of floor coverings and accessories. This involves the purchase of raw materials, packaging materials and their storage, handling, and conversion via multi-stage processing to the final product. The Board of Directors of Polyflor Ltd recognize the impact our operations have on the environment and are committed to minimizing our ecological footprint and where possible contributing to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. To this end the Manufacturing Director has specific responsibility for biodiversity and to ensure we meet the requirements of BES 6001 v4.

Polyflor does not currently manufacture in areas of high biodiversity value such as natural protected areas. Our activities do not, therefore have a direct impact on sensitive biodiversity features. Nevertheless, our activities can have an indirect impact on biodiversity. Polyflor will address this in the following ways:

- Ethics – recognise the need to adopt and apply standards of ethical behaviour appropriate to the purpose and activities of the organisation.
- Comply with all applicable local, national, and international laws and regulations related to biodiversity and environmental conservation.
- Source raw materials and resources from suppliers who share our commitment to responsible and sustainable practices, with a focus on reducing negative impacts on biodiversity.
- Efficiently use resource by reducing waste, energy consumption, and emissions that could harm biodiversity.
- Implement measures to prevent pollution and minimize any adverse effects on ecosystems, water bodies, and local communities.
- Where relevant, actively work to protect and conserve biodiversity in areas where our facilities are located.

Progress will be achieved by continuously improving our biodiversity performance through regular review and updating of this policy and where relevant by setting objectives for biodiversity improvement, and by reviewing the objectives as necessary. The company objectives and targets are identified in the Environmental Manual Schedule 2 (ENVMANSCH 2) of the Polyflor Management System Manual. The policy, objectives and their progress are communicated through department notice boards.

DID YOU KNOW?



Of the 48.3 hectares making up Polyflor’s 3 sites, 20 hectares or 41% are green space = 29 football pitches

Waste Management

Waste Management continues to be an important part of Polyflor’s ongoing sustainability objectives within its BES 6001 and ISO 14001 management systems. Waste minimisation from the outset is pivotal with recycling and repurposing being integral to Polyflor’s waste management process.

OUR GOAL

Polyflor Waste Management:
To manage all waste streams effectively by adopting the waste reduction hierarchy and minimise waste incinerated and disposed of to landfill without energy or material recovery.

Polyflor Waste Hierarchy

↑ PREFERABLE	Prevention	Using less material in design and manufacture; keeping products for longer; re-use and using less hazardous materials.
	Preparing for Reuse	Checking, cleaning, repairing, refurbishing whole items or spare parts.
	Recycling	Turning waste into a new substance or product. Includes composting if it meets quality protocols.
	Other Uses	Includes anaerobic digestion; incineration with energy recovery; gasification and pyrolysis which produce energy and materials from waste.
↓ AVOID	Disposal	Landfill and incineration without energy recovery.

In accordance with BES 6001, Polyflor’s objectives to reduce waste to landfill in 2024 included recycling post-production waste and returned post-consumer waste; actively managing and promoting the Recofloor vinyl take-back scheme and applying a Waste Hierarchy to all Polyflor waste streams. Moving waste streams up the hierarchy is important but limiting the potential for waste at the outset will continue to be a priority, working to the ethos of ‘Reduce, Reuse, Recycle’.



DID YOU KNOW?

All post-production waste vinyl is recycled, either back into new Polyflor flooring or sent to a third-party recycler.

Polyflor Waste Facts 2024

Supporting our objective to reduce waste from the outset, 2024 was a positive year with decreases in both our gross and net waste.

Gross Waste

- Our total (or gross) waste figure decreased by 15 tonnes compared to 2023. The gross waste figure in 2024 was 16% less than 10 years earlier in 2014.
- Our gross waste as a percentage of tonnes manufactured was 20%. This was 2% higher than 2023.

Net Waste

- Our net waste tonnage figure (waste which has not been recycled or repurposed) decreased by 63% in 2024.
- A positive outcome of this reflected on the net waste as a percentage of manufactured vinyl flooring, which surpassed our objective of 1.5%. In 2024 we reached 1.1%, a decrease from 2.5% in 2023, or 3.1% in 2014.

GOOD TO KNOW!



The waste shown will be recycled into new Polyflor products.

Recycling

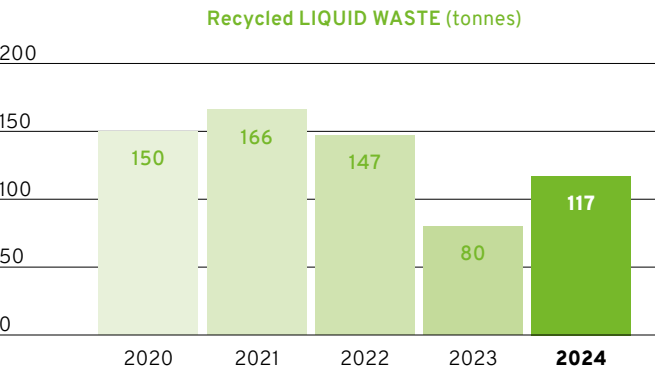
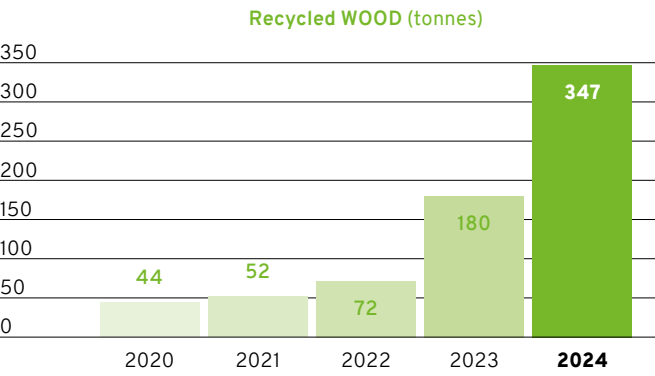
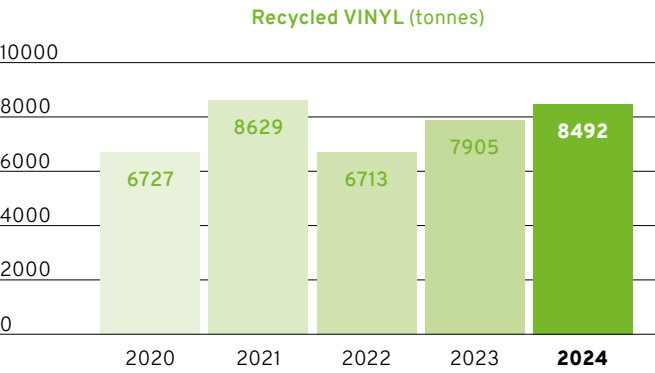
Polyflor has been recycling vinyl since the 1950s, when we pioneered the manufacture of homogeneous flooring. It has always been considered a natural part of the manufacturing process.

Post-production waste vinyl is generated on site from scrap material produced during and after production, this comprises vinyl chippings, clean trims and offcuts as well as recovered dust.

In 2024 we also recycled 48 tonnes of post-consumer waste glass combined with aggregates and used in the production of some of our Polysafe products. **That is the same as around 96,022 wine bottles.**

Post-consumer vinyl waste is returned to Polyflor via the Recofloor recycling scheme, which operates throughout the UK, Eire, Australia

Total Production Waste Recycled (Tonnes)



and New Zealand. Post-consumer waste that is recycled back into Polyflor flooring is fully controlled and UK REACH compliant.

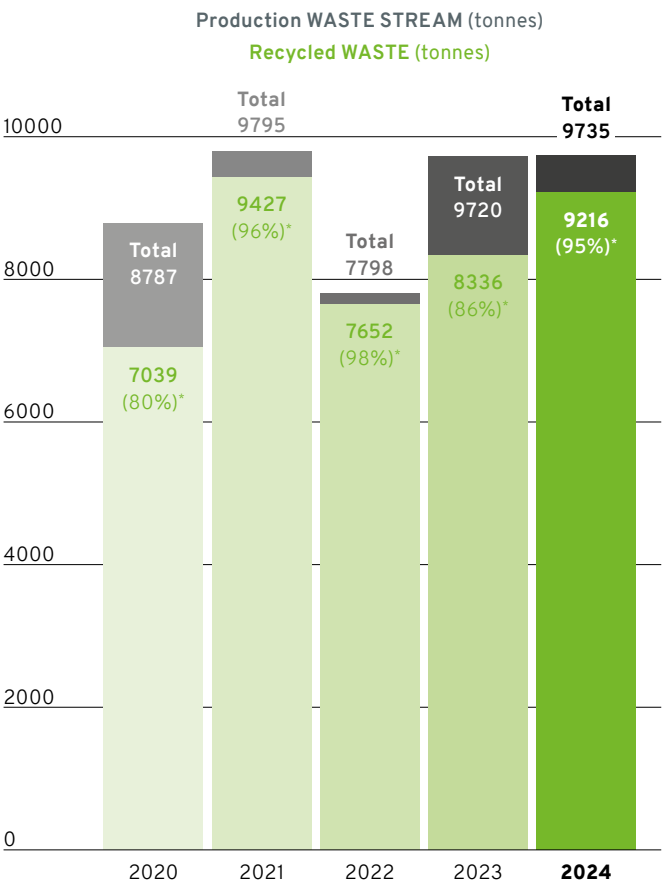
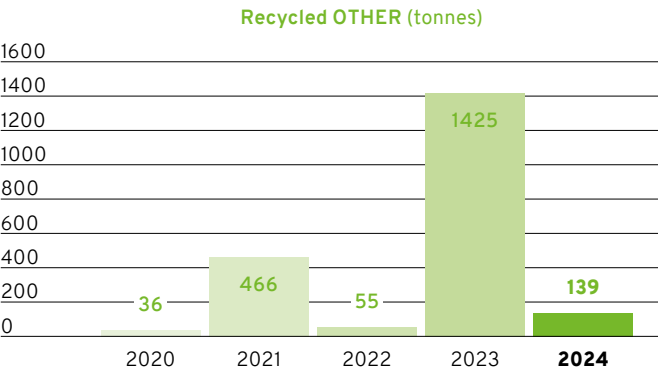
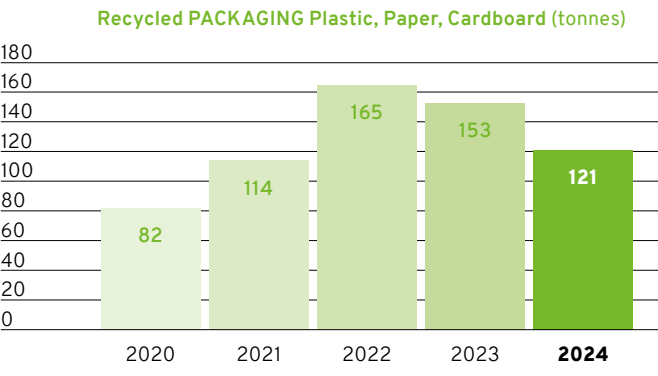
Few materials are better suited to recycling than vinyl flooring; vinyl is 100% recyclable and can be recycled several times over without losing performance properties. Furthermore, **recycled vinyl requires 85% less energy to manufacture than virgin PVC.**

It is important to note that 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.

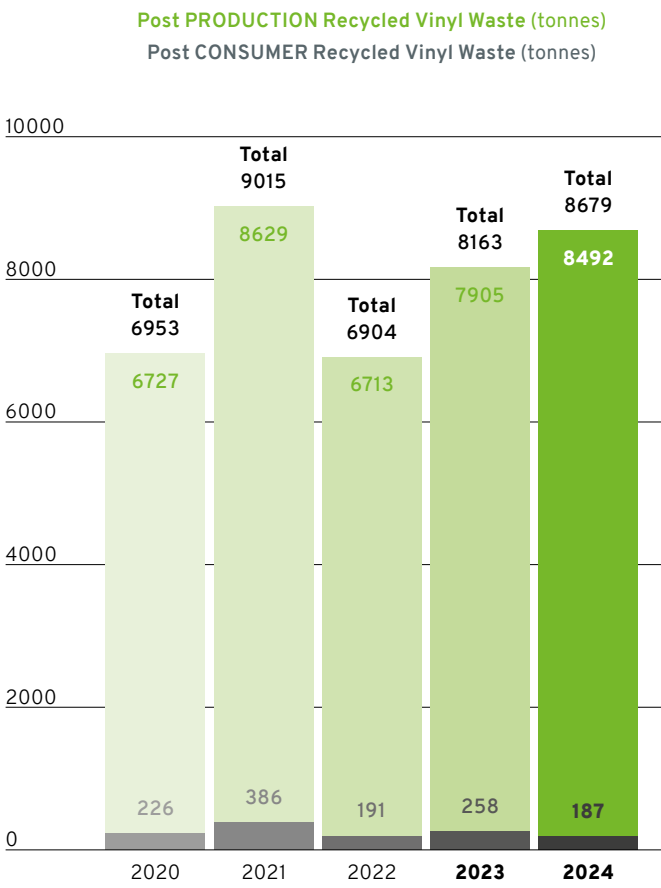
DID YOU KNOW?




Over the last 7 years, Polyflor has recycled 495 tonnes of glass into Polysafe - that's 990,022 wine bottles



*% = Waste Recycled as % of Total Waste Stream





DID YOU KNOW?

100% of our vinyl flooring is recyclable

40%* Recycled Content

5%* Post Consumer Recycled Content

*Up to

Summary 2024

2024 was a positive year for our waste management process, with a lot of improved performances compared with 2023.

Our total waste (gross waste) was slightly more than in 2023 - just 15 tonnes. Importantly, the net waste (waste we have not been able to recycle or reuse) was an impressive 63% lower than the previous year and as a percentage of total tonnes manufactured, this also reduced to 1.1% - exceeding our objective of 1.5%.

Total site waste Polyflor recycled or repurposed in 2024 was 11% more than 2023 and 20% more than 2022. Consequently, total waste recycled as a percentage of the total waste stream was much higher than 2023, at 95%.

We increased recycling volumes for wood, liquid waste and post-production vinyl, which is important, but significantly for a circular economy, we recycled 6% more waste vinyl (post-production and post-consumer) back into new Polyflor flooring. Reflecting this increase meant recycled vinyl as a percentage of flooring manufactured was 3% higher than 2023.

How We're Improving

Relative to the size of our operations and volumes produced, very little waste goes to landfill: safety flooring and returned uplifted flooring goes to a recycling specialist to convert into road safety items. Waste liquids are sent for treatment where the water fraction is separated, and the remainder is used for energy generation. General waste is sent to a sorting site which picks out valuable materials for recycling or reuse, with the rest being sent for energy recovery.

Investment is repeatedly made to improve storage and handling facilities for waste on site, with further sorting bays introduced onto the 'Waste Yard'. We have also organised visits to waste sites to help our production departments understand the importance of sorting waste.

This improvement will continue, and recycling will remain an important part of our waste management process, including the support provided to the Recofloor recycling scheme and other international vinyl recycling schemes. Finding alternative outlets, namely for recycling vinyl waste is a key focus.



STEP 4 Logistics

Reducing footprints

We are responsible within the supply chain, and our floor coverings are distributed efficiently through our own well managed fleet and distribution network. We recognise social and environmental impacts of all transportation, therefore adopting appropriate strategies to minimise our carbon footprint.



Efficient Fleet

HGVs with modern VI engines



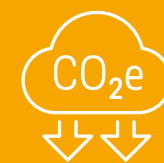
12%

Reduction in kilometers travelled



14%

Fuel decrease



14%

Reduction of CO₂e emissions



409

HGV journeys removed through backhauling



Product wrapped in recycled, reusable or recyclable

FSC Paper



Electric

Forklift trucks used

Warehousing & Packaging

The appropriate storage and packaging of Polyflor’s vast product portfolio is important to us and our customers. Minimising waste, CO₂e and using sustainable packaging, whilst ensuring that our product remains in the warehouse and arrives undamaged is critical.

Packaging

Ongoing objectives for BES 6001 include assessing current and new packaging to ensure it has the best fit in terms of recycled content and recyclability, as well as minimising double wrapping or potential for damage. Polyflor flooring is packed in the most effective manner to provide necessary protection, whilst minimising waste.

We use minimal packaging, but we have minimised the use of plastic, with most of our product packaging being a mix of FSC, recycled and recyclable paper and cardboard: this is for the primary packaging components, including roll inners, boxes, roll wrap, labelling and discs for the roll ends. Plastic shrink wrap is still used for palletisation, but recycling of various elements of our packaging waste is organised on site. Additionally, no packaging tape is used on Polyflor’s LVT boxes.

One area of our operations where single use plastic has been eliminated is within our Samples Department, where traditional plastic-based tape has been replaced with paper tape on all items despatched.

By the very nature of our product ranges, packaging waste is minimal in volume terms per m² of flooring delivered.

CE & UKCA Marks

As a manufacturer of high-quality vinyl flooring, it is Polyflor’s responsibility to clearly label its product with the CE & UKCA Marks and declare conformity with all the legal requirements to achieve the markings. Polyflor therefore ensures the validity for that product to be sold throughout the European Economic Area (EEA).

EN 14041, the European standard relevant to the CE mark for floor coverings, has been adopted and is now legally binding. Essential characteristics specified within EN 14041 include:

- Reaction to fire
- Content of dangerous substances
- Emission of dangerous substances into indoor air
- Water tightness
- Slip resistance (EN 13893)
- Electrical behaviour
- Thermal resistance (thermal conductivity)

Once the product is placed on the market with a CE mark the manufacturer must issue and sign a Declaration of Performance, made available in the official language(s) of the member state into which the product is intended to be sold.

As with the CE mark, the UKCA (UK Conformity Assessed) marking is a new UK product marking that is used for goods being placed on the market in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland). The UKCA mark, BS EN 14041, works in the same way as the CE mark and covers most goods which previously required the CE marking.

Warehousing

Polyflor has 3 warehouse units to optimise stock handling for greater supply chain efficiency. At these sites, energy efficient LED lighting has been installed to reduce environmental impact.

In 2019, Polyflor replaced all diesel forklift trucks at its warehouse operation in Royton, with electric ones. Each year an electric forklift truck saves 3 tonnes of CO₂e emissions compared to the diesel FLTs and additional benefits include being cleaner and quieter, for improved air quality and reduced noise pollution on and around the site. However, some of the FLTs at our Whitefield and Teesside sites are diesel and in 2024 96 tonnes of CO₂e were produced, an 8% reduction on 2023.



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.

OUR GOAL

Transport Impacts:
To recognise the social and environmental impacts of all transportation and the need to adopt appropriate strategies to reduce adverse impacts, including but not limited to i) Fuel usage / efficiency; ii) Normal emissions to air, land and water; iii) Accidental emissions to air, land and water; iv) Noise; v) Packaging.

Distribution Network

As a UK manufacturer, Polyflor distributes product from its central distribution centre in the North-West of England through a network of distributors throughout the UK and around the world – responsible for regional and local delivery. This model ensures efficiency through the transportation of full, bulk loads.

Transportation


Polyflor operates its own transport fleet in the UK which is frequently maintained and updated to ensure the most fuel-efficient vehicles are used. As such, all Polyflor HGVs have modern Euro VI engines. In addition to improving the HGV fleet, further reductions of the fleet’s environmental impact are achievable through driver efficiencies, using the shortest routes possible and increasing bulk loading and backhauling volumes. Alternative transport methodologies and technology are constantly reviewed.



90,000kgs

or 90 tonnes of CO₂e emissions saved over the last 3 years due to backhauling

GOOD TO KNOW!



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

2024 Overview

Polyflor continued to perform well in relation to logistical operations and will continue to do so in line with ongoing BES 6001 and ISO 14001 environmental objectives. These objectives are reinforced within UK Transport Planning – all personnel within the department are conversant with SEMP 3, Schedule of Requirements for Transport Procedures and the Reduction of Transport Impacts.

Monitoring our Fleet & Logistics

Changes to the telematics reporting criteria were implemented to improve miles per gallon. Additionally, all Polyflor fleet have Euro VI engines, increasing MPG figures and further reducing carbon emissions.

2024 was extremely positive with the 19 vehicles in Polyflor’s fleet reducing distance travelled, fuel consumed and carbon emissions.

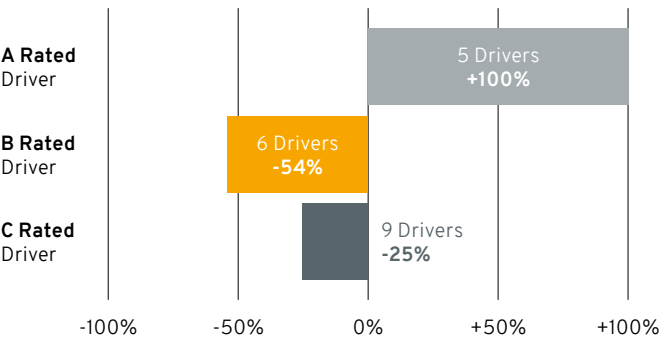
Our impressive fleet of HGVs collectively travelled 1,499,222 kilometers, a 12% decrease compared to 2023. In turn, fuel consumption reduced by 14% to 383,647 litres. This produced 1,021 tonnes of carbon emissions, which was a significant decrease of 14%.

In 2024, and in line with our objective ‘Maximise vehicle usage on return journeys’, Polyflor’s backhaul operations removed 409 unnecessary HGV journeys from the UK’s road network, which generated additional CO₂e savings of 25 tonnes.


Monitoring our Drivers

The telematics function within the Polyflor HGV fleet monitored and assessed vehicle and driver efficiencies. As part of this function, driver CPC Training and MAN Driver Training were used to facilitate Polyflor’s driver assessment process. In 2024 there were 23 permanent drivers: 3 of those were dedicated Driver Trainers, which was a 50% increase on 2023. Our Driver Trainers underwent additional RTITB training to help increase and facilitate efficient driving.

Despite a 100% increase on ‘A Rated’ drivers, an overall KPI average ‘C Rating’ on the MAN KPI system was achieved.



DID YOU KNOW?



Based on the new emissions levels, it would take over thirty Euro VI engines to create the same NOx levels as one Euro 0 engine from 1993.



STEP 5 Installation

Sustainable Fit

Polyflor is reducing environmental impacts associated with installation through healthier adhesives, adhesive-free installation and promoting correct installation for a long-lasting, well performing vinyl floor covering.



Training Academy

Ensuring best practice



137

Delegates trained



Polyflor has provided floor fitting training to

2,124

Industry associates



Over the last

14 Years



8

Adhesive free flooring ranges for easy recycling

CAMARO[™]
RIGID CORE
INTERLOCKING LVT COLLECTION

CAMARO[™]
LOC
INTERLOCKING LVT COLLECTION

EnCORE
RIGID LOC
ACOUSTIC LUXURY VINYL FLOORING

Adhesive Free

Polysafe
QuickLay

Designatex
Textile backed luxury vinyl sheet flooring

ARCHITEX
Textile backed luxury vinyl sheet flooring

Secura
luxury vinyl sheet flooring

EXPONA
SIMPLAY

Adhesive Free & Reuseable

Sustainable Planning & Installation

Polyflor continues to develop and improve ways to plan and install flooring ranges, with sustainability in mind.

Planning

Effective planning using Polyflor’s range of BIM objects enables cost efficiencies throughout the design process: It allows the specifier to review how different variables affect the function and performance of the product, facilitating a more-informed product selection, which can improve the installation and in-use phases, and economic sustainability. While accelerating project delivery timings and reducing order errors, it increases the accuracy of specifications and critically minimises wastage.

There are several factors which can contribute to higher waste levels, including irregular shaped rooms, features and complex installation. It is worth considering that feature floors, such as herringbone designs can incur more waste due to the pattern and precise cuts which are required. It is estimated that there is up to 10% wastage with straight plank flooring, compared to herringbone flooring which can be up to 20%. However, regardless of how much waste may be generated at the end of a project, Polyflor would always recommend using the Recofloor take-back scheme, so the waste can be recycled.

Installation

Polyflor has increased the use of sustainable adhesives and adhesive-free vinyl flooring. In fact, Polyflor launched a ‘Fast Track’ collection, comprising adhesive-free loose-lay or click ranges including Camaro Loc, Camaro Rigid Core, Expona EnCore Rigid Loc, Expona Simplay, Secura, Architex, Designatex and Polysafe QuickLay. The Fast Track collection does not require adhesives, providing additional environmental benefits, such as the embedded carbon footprint and further reductions in VOC emissions. Furthermore, with the omission of adhesives, the loose-lay ranges can be easily uplifted and recycled. With the exception of the click ranges (Camaro Loc, Camaro Rigid Core and EnCore Rigid Loc), our loose-lay products can potentially be reused as well as recycled.

With the use of solvent free adhesives across our collection of floor coverings, Polyflor is continually in collaboration with the recommended adhesive manufacturers which offer benefits on the health of the installer, the environment and life cycle of the product. Many of Polyflor’s approved adhesives meet the EC1, EC1 plus and/or Blue Angel certification, this ensures they meet the requirements of LEED and BREEAM.

OUR GOAL

Contribution to the Built Environment:
To develop loose lay products with reduced environmental impact for ease of recycling.

Training & Best Practice

Polyflor currently offers various training courses at our purpose-built Training Academy in Manchester. This is aimed at improving the skill and knowledge sets of installers – this in turn increases the longevity of the floor covering as a quality installation is imperative to ensuring a Polyflor product achieves its potential 30-year life. A correct installation facilitates a longer life for the product, reducing repair or renewal costs. More information is on the next page.

Additionally, the Polyflor Technical Information Manual is available on the Polyflor website which relates to BS8203, the installation of resilient floor coverings code of practice. This is a guide on how to install the floor covering to appropriate standards, aimed at enhancing the knowledge of installers, architects etc. Visit www.polyflor.com/technical for more information.



Polyflor Training Academy

Ensuring that we go one step further as a responsible company, it is important that we go beyond producing best quality product and add to our value chain by encouraging best practice throughout the flooring sector also.



Correct installation is crucial to the performance and longevity of Polyflor vinyl flooring. This has significant value economically and sustainably.

The established Training Academy, based at Polyflor Head Office, Manchester, contributes positively to the value chain. The Polyflor Training Academy continued to deliver high quality 1-4 day training courses throughout 2024 at its fantastic purpose-built facility.

“I gained valuable knowledge, which I will personally be practicing more and passing these skills on to other learners. Chris presented the course very well and was patient with us all and very helpful. Great Job! Thank you!”

Alex Rees, Gower College, Swansea

“Very well conducted by Chris - well experienced teacher.”

Shane Milner, Integra

The comprehensive training courses from Polyflor, are suited to most skill levels, whether a floor layer with previous experience of laying resilient flooring or an apprentice just starting out in the trade. The courses are intended to develop and refresh previous skills, and they prepare for everyday scenarios and offer a comprehensive insight into laying the perfect vinyl floor, preparing sub-floors, conditioning, using the correct adhesives to setting-out and fitting.

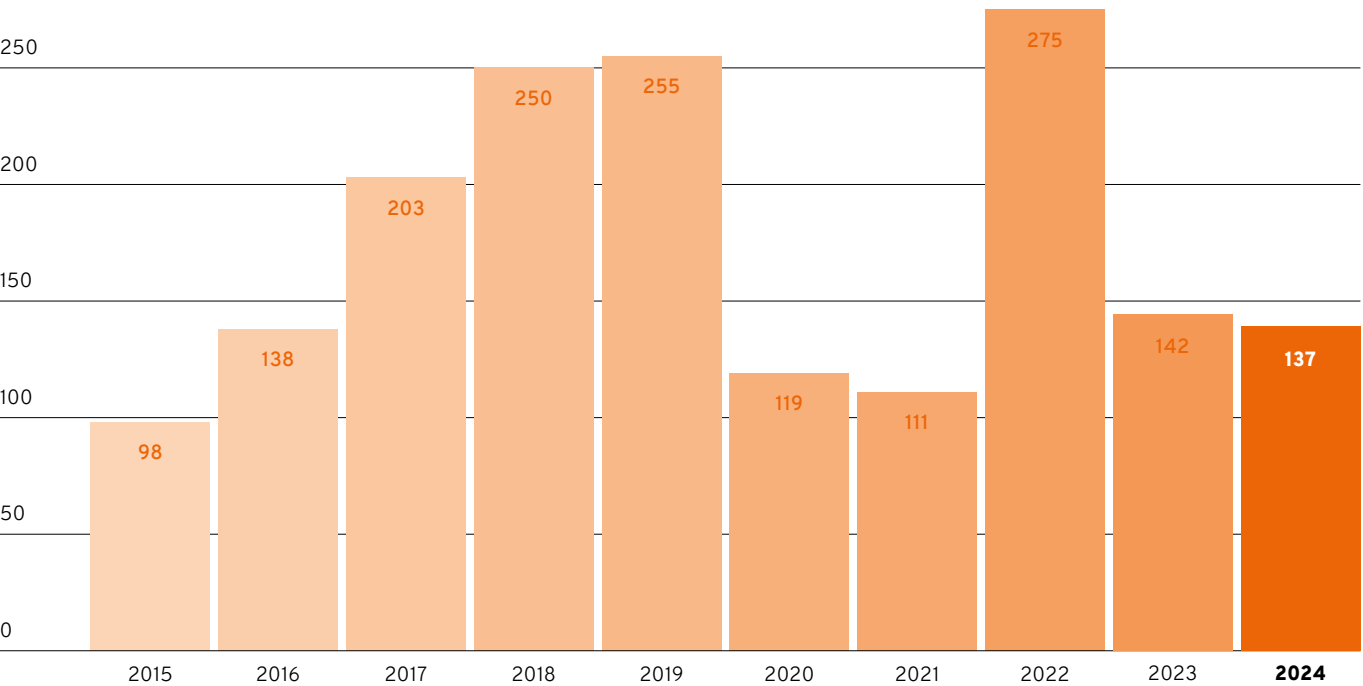
Summary 2024

Throughout 2024 Polyflor ran 22 courses – 5% more than 2023. Of which, 19 were on site courses and 3 were off site. In total, 137 delegates attended – 4% less than 2023. All 137 delegates trained were from the floor fitting community. To increase flexibility and accessibility, 23 delegates were trained off-site.

“Great experience! Taught me the correct way of doing things.”

Steve Foulston, Integra

Polyflor Training Academy Attendee Figures



DID YOU KNOW?



Over the last 14 years Polyflor has provided valuable floor fitting training to 2,124 industry associates.



STEP 6 In Use

Zero Compromise

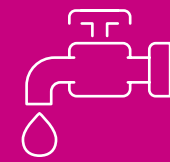
Accounting for a significant part of our flooring's environmental impact, the in use phase is an important element of the life cycle, given the 30-year lifespan of most of our products. Low maintenance and low VOC, our floor coverings are fit for purpose without compromising on the environment.



Polyflor
PUR

Requires less energy
and chemicals to clean

=



55%

Less water used



Lifetime

Polish free



30-Year

Life on many ranges.
Extremely durable with
fewer replacements



Up to
60%

Maintenance cost
savings



Low VOC

Indoor Air Comfort Gold
FloorScore®

AGB

Afsset

Finnish M1

Fit for Purpose

Choosing a quality, fully functional and beautiful floor covering which will stand the test of time is important. Polyflor delivers on this whilst also achieving zero compromise on the environment. A truly fit for purpose flooring, meeting all expectations.

Zero Compromise

Accounting for a significant proportion of a resilient floor covering’s environmental impact, the in-use phase is important within a product’s life cycle, given the potential 30-year lifespan for many of Polyflor’s products. This is featured within EPDs; under the ‘Recommended Service Life’, which are realistic assumptions based on years of market leadership and experience of the in-use phase.

- **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.**

Use Areas

The majority of Polyflor 2.0mm floor coverings 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 fused together and is inherently more flexible and easily self-coved. This flexibility also means that vinyl has much better recovery from indentation.

Longevity

As well as quality product, proper installation and effective maintenance are key elements of the product’s lifecycle, maximising longevity. This is highlighted across Polyflor’s product specific EPDs with the Recommended Service Life ranging from 20 years for LVT and safety to 30 years for smooth homogeneous. These service life assumptions are based on years of market leadership and experience: safety flooring and LVT are typically replaced sooner due to safety performance (where the aggregate loses performance after this time) and trends.

For that reason, Polyflor is keen to constantly develop and improve products’ durability where possible and therefore offers Installation and Floor Cleaning & Maintenance Courses to educate and promote correct processes, helping customers get the most out of their flooring for longer.



Safety Performance

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

Sustainable Slip Resistance

Polyflor safety flooring can be used in a variety of internal use areas and this also includes locations where hazards are potentially much higher, for instance in kitchens, stairwells and showers where slipping is likely if incorrect flooring is specified and where the consequences of doing so are the most dangerous.

Polysafe flooring is fully compliant with both Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and UK Slip Group Guidelines, offering sustainable wet slip resistance. Using the portable Pendulum Test machine which is advocated by the HSE to measure slip resistance, Polysafe ranges all meet a value in the wet of at least 36+, thereby achieving a low slip potential. The Pendulum is the accepted test to denote a floor’s classification as a safety floor rather than relying purely on the ex-factory R values offered by the Ramp Test. Meeting the European standard for particle-based safety flooring – EN 13845, all Polysafe ranges pass the 50,000 cycles abrasion test to the standard, ensuring longevity of slip resistant performance. Ranges are also independently assessed by the British Board of Agrément to provide an assurance of performance for the guaranteed life.

The use of Polysafe flooring helps to reduce the potential for accidents and injuries due to its slip resistance properties. The particles contained within the full performance layer of the product create foot to floor contact in wet conditions and are made up of a combination of aggregates including quartz, aluminium oxide, silicon carbide and recycled glass. Polysafe’s distinctive surface emboss also combines with these particles to provide the required roughness to ensure continual friction in wet areas. All recent additions to the Polysafe portfolio meet all the usual Polysafe credentials but include particles that are carborundum-free and virtually invisible once installed to ensure both a high clarity and safe surface.

Fire Performance

Vinyl is engineered to provide the best fire performance characteristics of all resilient flooring materials. Vinyl flooring is slow to ignite in a fire compared to other materials – 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).

Slips and Trips

An estimated 561,000 workers sustained a non-fatal injury at work in Great Britain, equivalent to a rate of 1,750 injuries per 100,000 workers (1.8%). Around a quarter of these injuries resulted in over-7-days absence from work.

Source: Labour Force Survey, 2022/23

- Slips, trips and falls are the most common cause of non-fatal injuries in the UK workplace, accounting for 32% of all accidents each year.
- Slips, trips and falls accounted for 24% of over-7-day absences, the second highest after handling, lifting and carrying.

Source: RIDDOR, 2022/23



GOOD TO KNOW!

There's no need to compromise on performance, choice or budget whilst using products with the lowest environmental impact.

Low Maintenance

Ease of maintenance is an important factor when selecting a floor covering. End users want to keep their flooring in excellent condition and enhance longevity, but also benefit from a cost-effective and simple cleaning regime.

Simply Market Leading Low Maintenance

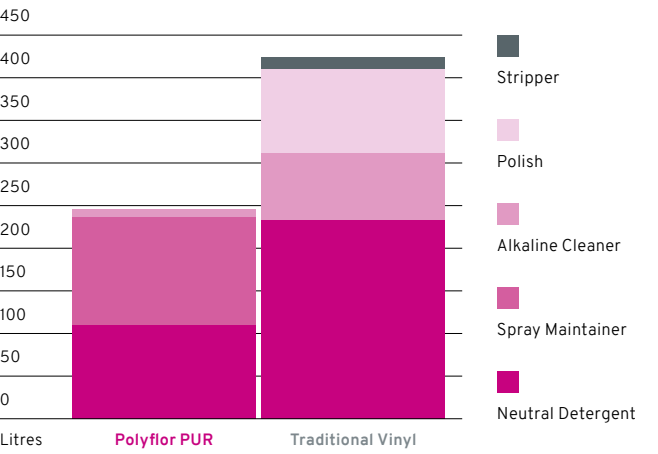
A poor maintenance regime damages aesthetics, impairs performance, shortens the durability and creates hygiene problems in critical areas. The in-use phase of the resilient flooring life cycle accounts for a significant proportion of its environmental impact, given Polyflor floor covering's potential 30-year life span. Therefore, this can be greatly affected.

In recognition of this, Polyflor provides low maintenance options throughout the product portfolio. We use a straightforward approach to avoid confusing our customers: Our easy to clean PU and PUR ranges ensure the use of polish, water, strippers and chemical cleansers are significantly reduced, thus contributing to significant maintenance cost savings for the life of the floor. Our PUR message is as simple as the maintenance regime.

All new ranges are launched with market leading maintenance benefits built in and existing ranges have had these benefits added, where not originally in place. Continuously improving technologies enables flooring to raise the standard in terms of durability, maintenance and performance, sought by the customer.

Polish Free for Life

CHEMICAL USAGE
1 year 1000m² Polyflor PUR vs Traditional Vinyl (Litres)

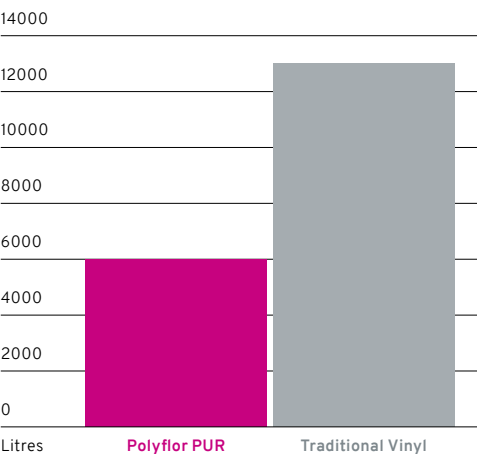


The non-PUR (open surface) product required a wearing surface, achieved by applying two or three coats of emulsion polish on the surface to enable the same cleaning regime as a PUR treated product. The polish, therefore, creates a smooth surface that doesn't collect dirt easily, akin to a PUR. Traditional polish application in a busy environment, such as a hospital, would require the polish to be stripped off and reapplied three to four times a year. In doing so, a polish stripper (chemical alkaline stripper) must be utilised with plenty of water for rinsing the ensuing residues off the surface ahead of applying new polish. PUR does not require polish and therefore uses over half the amount of water.

Daily and periodic maintenance also use less water and chemicals; if PUR floors are kept clean as we recommend, then daily cleaning is typically a damp (not wet) mop using a (chemically neutral) cleaning agent.

55% Less Water

WATER USAGE
1 year 1000m² Polyflor PUR vs Traditional Vinyl (Litres)



A Simple Approach to Market Leading Low Maintenance

- Our Low Maintenance Features**
- PUR reinforcement is cross-linked and UV cured for superior cleaning benefits, enhanced protection and optimum appearance retention.
 - Environmentally sustainable 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 up to 60% maintenance cost savings over a 30-year life when compared to untreated vinyl flooring.*

*48% cost saving for smooth PUR ranges and 60% for Polysafe PUR ranges. Calculations based on tests carried out by the BCC. Cleaning operations of PUR product against a non-coated product were costed.

Floor Cleaning & Maintenance Course

Adding to the Value Chain, Polyflor continued its free, Floor Cleaning & Maintenance Course, aimed at facilities management staff and others in the healthcare, education, housing, retail and commercial sectors. The day-long course aims to educate how to get the best from a Polyflor vinyl floor covering by using the correct cleaning methods and products. Correct maintenance facilitates a longer life, reducing costs and frequency of purchasing new flooring.

In 2024, Polyflor ran 2 training courses for NHS Trusts, Port Talbot and Wythenshawe. These were well received and helped educate staff on effective cleaning techniques to get the most out of their Polyflor flooring.

For more information on effective and sustainable maintenance, please discuss with our experienced Customer Technical Services Department (tech@polyflor.com).

GOOD TO KNOW!



Polyflor products are extremely durable, needing fewer replacements; surface scuffs and scratches can be removed, and the original appearance of the product restored without ergonomic strain or the use of any chemicals. They can be repaired easily and simply by cutting in and seam welding to achieve a seamless finish.

Indoor Air Quality

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

For all developed countries, we have become the ‘indoor generation’, given that we spend on average 90% of our time indoors, whether it’s home, school, work, leisure or travel. Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) is therefore an important consideration at specification. However, increased emphasis is now being made on major contributors such as poor ventilation, rather than building products such as flooring, which generally have insignificant VOC emissions. Furthermore, everyday products such as personal hygiene, DIY, cleaning, fly sprays and even air fresheners contribute to poor indoor air quality. ‘Every Breath We Take: the lifelong impact of air pollution’, a report by the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH), warns of the hidden dangers from such items.

Our flooring ranges have passed the most established and recognised 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: AGB; Swedish B.P.D (FLEC test); Finland M1 test; Afsset A+ and FloorScore®.

The most stringent test method for floor coverings is ‘Indoor Air Comfort’ by Eurofins, the world-leading authority on VOC testing. Indoor Air Comfort is the most comprehensive and stringent test within the industry, worldwide, and tests for all known emissions, specific to flooring (rather than general tests for building materials, paints etc. which would contain different chemicals). Significantly, Polyflor products achieve Indoor Air Comfort Gold, which is the highest level attainable.

The most important performance measure for IACG is the maximum permitted total VOC, which is an incredibly low 160 micrograms per cubic metre, compared with 500 micrograms per cubic metre for GreenGuard certified or 220 for GreenGuard Gold.

Additionally, Polyflor products conform to health and safety standard EN 14041:2004 via an E1 Declaration, which confirms that formaldehyde is not used in any Polyflor vinyl products.

Polyflor vinyl is favoured for its superior ‘cleanability’ over other flooring products and is used in the strictest of hygiene zones throughout hospitals. An additional benefit of Polyflor’s low maintenance PUR products is the minimised VOC emissions from reduced cleaning chemicals.

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. It is non-shedding, where most allergies are caused by airborne dust (clean room test certification for non-shedding is available on most ranges).

IAQ should be considered when selecting building products and for the reasons provided, Polyflor vinyl flooring makes a significant contribution towards creating indoor environments with very low VOC emissions: Low VOC emissions is a prerequisite of the WELL Building Standard™. Our certified products will also contribute towards the Health & Wellbeing (HEA 02) Credit on a BREEAM® project, the EQ Credit: Low Emitting Materials on a LEED® project and points on the IEQ-VOC section of a Green Star® project.

Polyflor IAQ Benefits

- ✓ No negative contribution to indoor air quality.
- ✓ Passed all the most stringent international VOC emissions tests, including Indoor Air Comfort Gold, FloorScore®, M1 and Afsset.
- ✓ Less than 160 micrograms per cubic metre.
- ✓ E1 Declaration conformance to EN 14041:2004.
- ✓ Meets WELL Building Standard®.
- ✓ Contributes to BREEAM®, LEED®, and Green Star® projects.
- ✓ Reduced VOC emissions by low maintenance routine (less cleaning chemicals).
- ✓ Adhesive free ranges reduce emissions further.



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

On average we spend
90% of our time indoors.



STEP 7 Closing the Loop

Recycling

We have been recycling our post-production waste vinyl since the 1950s and now collect and recycle post-consumer waste vinyl too. Many of our floor coverings can be reused, but if not, they are all 100% recyclable through the Recofloor take back scheme or other initiatives and outlets.



100%
Recyclable



Polyflor is a cofounder of
Recofloor



8,679
Tonnes of post-production
& post-consumer vinyl
recycled back into Polyflor



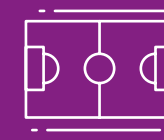
533
Tonnes of post-consumer
waste vinyl collected

Since 2009

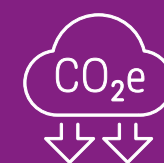


7,453
Tonnes collected

=



348
Football pitches



Saving
8,743
Tonnes of CO₂e

=



2,282
Cars off the road

Stewardship Commitment

A concern we all have is that plastic (and any other waste) should not be in our seas and oceans, this has a massive ecological impact and the UK, along with other developed nations, must set an example of best practice. Polyflor is committed to being part of the solution, not the problem.

European Commitments

Since 2000, the European PVC industry has recycled 9.5million tonnes of PVC, thus preventing the release of over 19 million tonnes of CO₂e into the atmosphere.

The Circular Economy Package

The Circular Economy Package has introduced new European regulation to recycle 70% of waste and to decrease landfill by targets of 30% and 50% in 2020 and 2025 respectively. It is expected that landfill bans for recyclable waste will be binding by 2025.

The resilient flooring industry in Europe is represented by the European Resilient Flooring Manufacturers' Institute (ERFMI), of which Polyflor is a member. For PVC alone, ERFMI members recycled more than 117,284 tonnes in 2024.

ERFMI is currently involved with several projects aligned with Circular Plastics Alliance principles, which are seeking solutions for legacy additives in vinyl flooring that present challenges for recycling post-consumer material. ERFMI's involvement includes contributing expertise to the EU project Circular Flooring, which is researching recycling end-of-life PVC floor coverings using the Fraunhofer CreaSolv® Process. The project aims to assess the technical and commercial feasibility of this recycling process for PVC floor coverings at an industrial scale.

Additionally, Revinylfloor is the circular economy platform for PVC flooring managed under the umbrella of ERFMI, which is working towards post-consumer technologies to tackle vinyl flooring waste. Revinylfloor has received co-funding from VinylPlus® to help develop a more circular economy for PVC flooring and pursue research in the identification, sorting and recycling of PVC floor coverings.

“We and our members are very committed to working towards achieving a circular economy for our industry and that’s one of the cornerstones of our roadmap. We are working with the other signatories from across the plastics value chain to reach the goals laid down in the Circular Plastics Alliance.”

Jane Gardner
Managing Director, ERFMI

Polyflor’s Commitment

Polyflor is fully committed to the recycling of its post-production and its post-consumer waste, supporting voluntary industry-wide commitments. Polyflor is an active member of 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 recycling 900,000 tonnes per year of PVC by 2025 and 1 million tonnes by 2030.

In a bid to address and tackle the waste problem within the construction industry, Polyflor tackled this head on by becoming a proud co-owner of Recofloor, the waste vinyl flooring recycling scheme which is available throughout the UK with operations in Australia, New Zealand and Iceland. 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 and contributes to Polyflor’s value chain.

Recycling for Polyflor is easy and something we have been doing since day one, back in the 1950s.

Polyflor also uses recycled glass, which is post-consumer waste combined with the aggregates into many of the Polysafe ranges. In 2024 48 tonnes of recycled glass went into some Polysafe products, (38% less than 2023) - that’s 96,022 wine bottles.

Polyflor will stay committed to recycling end of life vinyl through VinylPlus® and the Recofloor scheme, as well as other international schemes. We are doing more to increase loose-lay ranges, to facilitate easier recycling if not reuse, and we will 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. Naturally we will continue to recycle our own post-production waste vinyl, as we have done since the 1950s.

DID YOU KNOW?

48 tonnes of recycled glass went into Polysafe in 2024 = 96,022 wine bottles



Recofloor

In line with Circular Economy principles, Polyflor has a take-back scheme which uses reverse logistics to recover and recycle its post-consumer waste vinyl flooring.

The Recofloor scheme significantly helps minimise the environmental impact of our products' life cycles and the industry's as a whole, not only through closing the loop and preventing landfill but also reducing CO₂e emissions.

Over the last 15 years, Recofloor has been playing a valuable role in assisting floor fitters with efficiently recycling their waste vinyl flooring. Opportunities have been created for distributors to add value to their service by becoming drop-off sites for Recofloor. It has helped specifiers reach their sustainability objectives towards achieving zero avoidable waste, whilst also helping them work towards their carbon net zero goals.

About Recofloor

- Polyflor is a cofounding and funding member of Recofloor, the industry's leading vinyl take-back scheme for recycling end of life post-consumer vinyl flooring in the UK.
- Polyflor invests a great deal into Recofloor and helps drive its success by continually promoting it and engaging with customers.
- Through Recofloor, Polyflor can recycle smooth (homogeneous, heterogeneous, LVT, loose lay) and safety installation offcuts, smooth uplifted flooring and old stock roll-ends and samples.
- This material is recovered and recycled into new flooring or other useful products such as traffic cones.
- Customers must register with the scheme and then request branded collection containers for their waste vinyl.
- Regardless of waste material volumes, there is an outlet accessible for everyone:
- **Small volumes** - Drop-off sites at distributors are available FOC.
- **Large volumes** - Collected on pallets directly from live projects on timed collections or collected from contractors' sites. There are collection fees but compared to the standard landfill cost of £126.15 per tonne, these nominal fees can save over 60%.

For more information go to www.polyflor.com/sustainability

Typically there can be around 10% wastage with flooring; more depending on room shape, how the floor is laid and type of pattern... So we need to recycle!

"It's surprising how much waste can be generated. Sorting our installation waste is an important daily task at the warehouse; 12 fitters striving to make a difference to our environment. The Recofloor brand is a huge part of our business, which carries a lot of weight with larger building companies. For example, Skanska recognises our commitment to recycling as we can show them our Recofloor certificate as evidence that we are 100% committed to recycling our vinyl flooring waste."

Mark Purnell
Managing Director, Fantasy Flooring

Recofloor's Awards



2010 WINNER
CIWM (Chartered Institute of Wastes Management)
Environmental Excellence in the category of SME Innovative Practice, 2010



2011 WINNER
BCE (Business Commitment to the Environment)
Premier Award 2011



2013 WINNER
GOLD INTERNATIONAL GREEN APPLE ENVIRONMENT AWARDS
Environmental Best Practice 2013



2014 WINNER
MEN (Manchester Evening News)
Environmental Business of the Year Award 2014



2016 WINNER
LET'S RECYCLE AWARD
Excellence in Recycling & Waste Management 2016



2024 WINNER
GREEN APPLE NATIONAL GOLD AWARD
Waste Management 2024



2024 WINNER
BETTER SOCIETY AWARDS
Circular Economy 2024

Recofloor's Journey

Since 2009 Recofloor has achieved a great deal and is now the industry leading facilitator for efficiently reclaiming vinyl flooring, with 478 members on board and 66 registered distributors nationwide, acting as drop-off sites for the scheme.

2010 was significant for the scheme and saw Recofloor winning the CIWM (Chartered Institute of Wastes Management) Award for Environmental Excellence in the category of SME Innovative Practice. Since then, Recofloor has won numerous awards including 2 prestigious Gold Green Apple Awards. Recofloor's 'Cost Calculator', was a great initiative and continues to help contractors calculate how much it would cost to send their waste to landfill and the savings they will generate by using Recofloor instead.

Volumes are consistently strong, with 7,453 tonnes having been collected since the scheme started in 2009. This volume equals 2,484,375m² or 62,109 x 20m rolls of Polyflor Palettone PUR floor covering - that's enough vinyl waste flooring to cover 348 football pitches. This has had a positive impact on carbon emissions too, saving 8,743 tonnes of CO₂e - the same as taking 2,282 cars off the road.

Our customers are the true stars, who have embraced and supported this unique scheme. Distributors' involvement has 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 today, there are 66 drop-off sites nationwide. The drop-off sites have also facilitated Recofloor's collection and recycling process. Furthermore, CO₂e emissions have been reduced by minimising needless drop-off and pick-up journeys.



7,453
Tonnes of post-consumer waste vinyl collected since 2009 =



348
Football pitches



Saving
8,743
Tonnes of CO₂e =



2,282
Cars off the road

What We Take Back

- ✓ **Post Installation**
Clean vinyl offcuts (safety & all smooth including LVT)
- ✓ **Old Stock Vinyl**
Roll-ends & samples (smooth or safety vinyl)
- ✓ **Smooth Uplifted Flooring**
ideally loose lay, but glued flooring can be recycled depending on condition & quality

Please Ensure material for collection is as **clean as possible**

Recofloor Timeline 2009 - 2024

- 2009** Recofloor is co-founded by Polyflor
- 2010** Winners of the CIWM Award for Innovative Practice (SME)
- 2011** First year that more than 450 tonnes are collected in a year
- 2012** First annual Recofloor Awards Event
BCE Award winner for Environmental Leadership
- 2013** Green Apple, Gold Award winner for Environmental Best Practice
- 2014** Recofloor reaches the milestone of 2000 tonnes collected
Winners of M.E.N Environmental Awards
- 2015** Over 100 new members join Recofloor
- 2016** letsrecycle.com winners for Excellence in Recycling & Waste Management Awards
- 2017** Recofloor reaches the milestone of 3,000 tonnes collected
- 2018** Recofloor recycles record 570 tonnes in a year
- 2020** Recofloor reaches the milestone of 5,000 tonnes collected
- 2021** The 10th Recofloor Awards honour its dedicated members
- 2022** Recofloor reaches the milestone of 6,000 tonnes collected
- 2023** Saved over 8,100 tonnes of CO₂e
- 2024** Recofloor wins 2 major industry awards, including a 2nd Green Apple as well as a Highly Commended achievement

What Happens to the Collected Material?

Returning clean offcuts via Recofloor is the best and most sustainable way of ensuring that they can be recycled, and the material gets another life.

The scrap material is either collected from distributors in the large bins, or we collect from a live site or contractor's premises in the bulk bags we provide. This material comes back to Polyflor for sorting and gets categorised accordingly.

The returned installation offcuts, loose lay uplift and roll ends or sample waste can be reprocessed and recycled back into new flooring, ensuring a 'circular' flow of materials. Generally, this contributes to around 25% of our floor coverings' content.

Uplifted smooth and any post-consumer vinyl flooring not suitable for recycling into new flooring can also be reprocessed and used again. This waste vinyl is recycled into downgraded products such as traffic

cones, traffic management products, fencing blocks and advertising sign bases where it is given a long and useful 'second life', stopping it going into landfill.

The uplifted waste goes to third parties, such as Oldham-based Heyside Plastics Ltd, where its two factories recycle 300 tonnes of waste vinyl and produce 300 tonnes of new products from that material per week - thousands of traffic management products, including traffic cone bases, speed bumps and fencing blocks are manufactured on a weekly basis.

8mm chips are extruded to form a 'dough' at a temperature of 200°C. This hot ball of black plastic is then weighed and compression-moulded on the tool to form one of the mentioned products.



"The material arrives at our back door in Recofloor bulk bags and is shredded or granulated into 8mm chips. These are extruded, compression-moulded and formed into new products that leave through the front door. It's an end-to-end recycling and manufacturing process."

Matt Pryce
MD, Heyside Plastics Ltd.

Recofloor in 2024

2024 Key Targets

- A collection forecast of 501 tonnes
- Capture higher volumes of Polyflor flooring especially from project sites
- Improve segregation of materials at point of collection to facilitate closed loop recycling
- Continue with delivery

“The Recofloor service is very convenient for us, especially for contractors who want to drop off small amounts of flooring and it all helps to save money.”

Nathan Campling
Director, Eden Flooring and Interiors

“The reduced disposal cost and the positive effect on the environment proved very appealing to the main contractor.

“We had 4 days to uplift and screed which was achievable with the prompt collection by Recofloor.”

Tony Brown
Managing Director, FMI Contracts

2024 Actual

533 tonnes in total were collected, exceeding our target by 32 tonnes, or 6% and 58 tonnes greater than the previous year.

Of the 533 tonnes collected through the Recofloor scheme, Polyflor Recycled 35% of this, with 187 tonnes of the reclaimed vinyl waste going back into new Polyflor ranges.

New in 2024

In 2024, 1,073 bulk bags were dispatched. However, Recofloor launched a new bulk bag specifically for the collection of LVT, to enable better segregation of material, helping us achieve another of our targets.

2024 was also a great year for awards. Recofloor scooped a Green Apple National Gold Award for Waste Management in the Building and Construction category and the Circular Economy award at the Better Society Awards. It was also Highly Commended in the Contribution to Achieving Net Zero category for the Awards for Excellence in Recycling and shortlisted in three MRW National Recycling Awards categories.

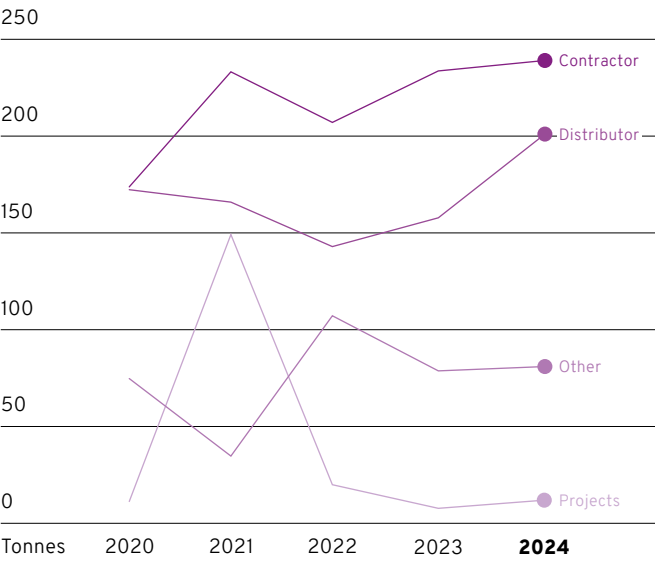
Volume by Type of Site 2020-2024

Contractors – Volumes (239 tonnes) increased by 3% when compared to 2023. This makes up the largest infeed for Recofloor with 45% of the total volume, plus an additional 2% for volumes coming from projects. 79 contractors participated in 2024 vs 74 in 2023.

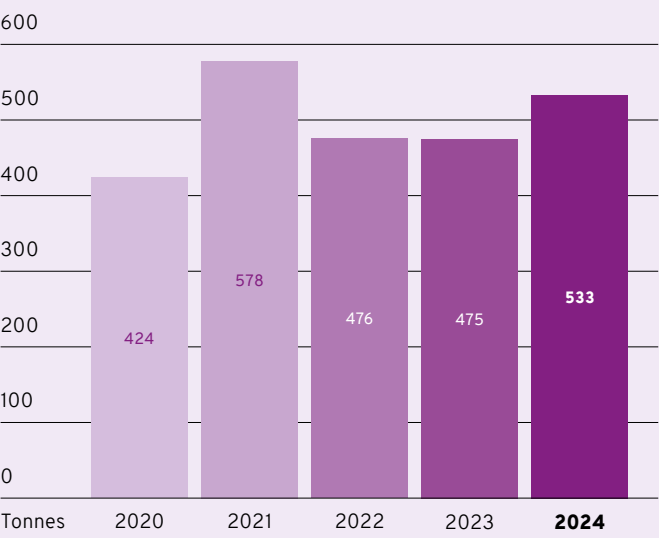
Distributors – Volumes (201 tonnes) increased by 27% against 2023. Tonnages returned from distributors represent 38% of the volumes collected. 54 distributors participated in 2023 vs 47 in 2023.

Projects – Achieving our target, volumes from project sites (12 tonnes) increased by 31% compared to 2023, we would like to see this continue.

Other - Volumes (81 tonnes) increased by 6%, with this coming mainly from modular manufacturers.

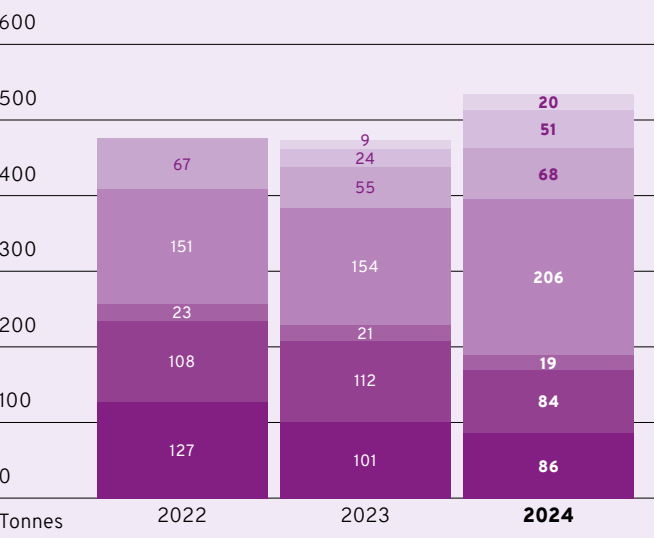


Tonnes Collected 2020-2024



We were pleased to see growth in 2024 and vinyl waste volumes collected through Recofloor increased by 12% compared to 2023, or 26% higher than 2020.

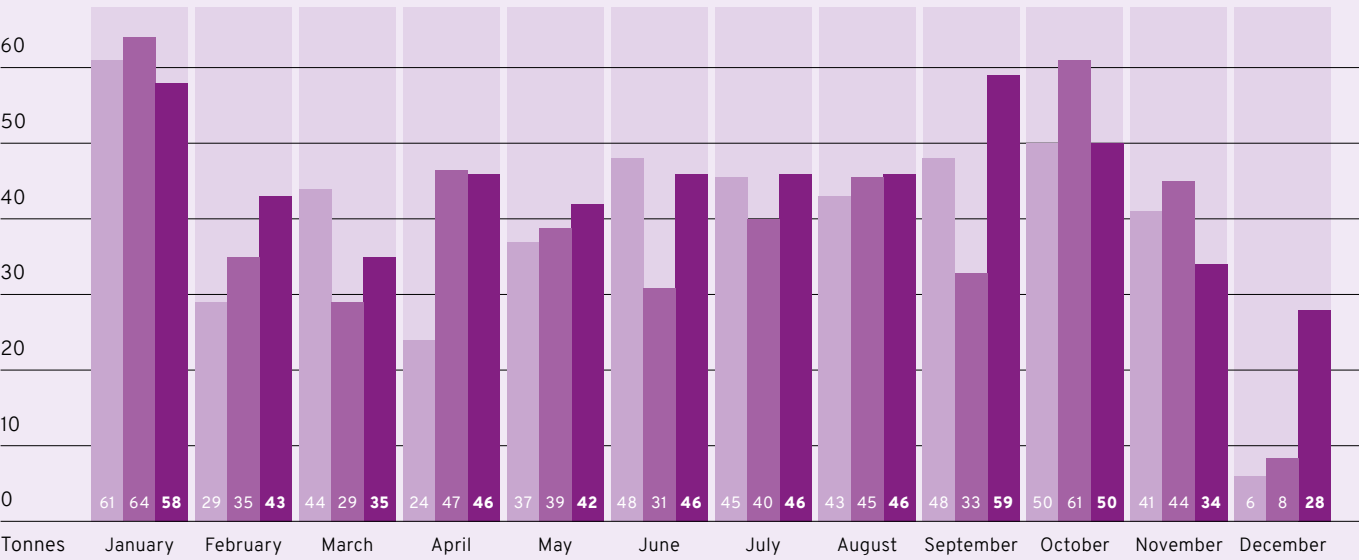
Type of Material Collected 2022-2024



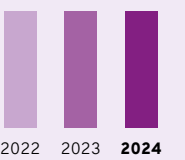
Post-installation offcuts remain the main type of material collected, representing 96% of the total volumes collected in 2024 with mixed offcuts representing 39% of the total tonnage collected in the year. Volumes increased by more than double for LVT and Loose Lay flooring.



Tonnes Collected by Month 2022-2024



This shows the monthly volumes collected over the last three years. The best month in 2024 was September, followed by January, which is typically a good month for volumes, year on year.



2024 KPI roundup

Logistics & Operations

-  **533** tonnes were collected, **6%** more than forecasted.
-  **96%** of material collected was post-installation offcuts and roll-ends.
-  **83%** of volumes collected came from contractors and distributors.
-  **19%** increase on collections and/or deliveries.
-  **1,073** bulk bags despatched, **1,048** bulk bags collected.

Members

-  **47** companies/fitters joined the scheme, a **17%** increase.
-  **478** members registered, a **7%** increase.

Marketing

-  **33%** open rate on **34** e-news issued.
-  Presence on LinkedIn and Facebook increased significantly for a consecutive year.
-  Recofloor Awards event across social media.
-  Won **2** major industry awards for continued environmental progress and achievements.

Why Take Part?

Recycling PVC flooring through Recofloor is estimated to save 1.17 tonnes of CO₂e for every tonne of flooring recycled.

- The drop-off sites are free of charge. For non-timed collections and timed collections from live projects there are nominal fees of around **£30** and **£60** per tonne respectively, which could save our members around **60%** by recycling through Recofloor, rather than landfilling (costing **£98.60** per tonne or **£126.15** from April 2024).
- Recofloor ties in with site waste management requirements
- Certificates of commitment are awarded to impress and gain new contracts.
- Recofloor Awards – Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates are issued to members who have significantly recycled, as well as awards for numerous categories such as ‘Distributor of the Year’, ‘Contractor of the Year’ and ‘Construction Project of the Year’.
- Customers are keen to see their waste flooring recycled.
- Recofloor can be specified as an outlet for vinyl waste in tenders.
- Could help achieve extra points on BREEAM & LEED assessments.
- Recycling PVC flooring through Recofloor is estimated to save **1.17 tonnes of CO₂e** for every tonne of flooring recycled.

“Recofloor has definitely had a direct influence on my company securing a lot of contracts with local authorities and NHS Trusts who are also looking to further their green credentials with their sustainability targets.

“Recofloor is an extension of our team, helping us to deliver a quality service to our clients. All our employees are fully briefed on Recofloor, what it means to both them and us and what we’re trying to achieve. We have regular Toolbox Talks to discuss different issues, one of which being the Recofloor scheme. All new starters on their induction are fully briefed on what it is, how we do it and how we recycle.

“In this industry, it’s important to have integrity and you can’t demonstrate that much more than in helping to save the planet.”

Anthony Francis
Managing Director, Mayfield Floors.


2024 Recofloor Awards

For the 13th year running, the annual awards rewarded members for their hard work and efforts in recycling vinyl waste flooring throughout 2023.



CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR: County Contract Flooring

Highly Commended:
Basecamp Flooring



“Recofloor has been brilliant for County Contract Flooring providing both an effective waste disposal solution and a positive environmental impact. The scheme aligns perfectly with our sustainability goals, and it’s been instrumental in securing new projects, showcasing our dedication to sustainability and often tipping the scales in our favour. We’re proud to be part of such an initiative.”

Ben Hopewell, Contracts Manager, County Contract Flooring

DISTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR: 3D Flooring Supplies Ltd, Bristol

Highly Commended:
Signature Me Ltd



“We’re honoured to be Recofloor’s Distributor of the year. Highlighting the large volumes of vinyl we have collected for recycling; the award recognises our responsible waste management practices and our efforts to minimise environmental impact while promoting a circular economy.”

Paul Roberts, Trade Counter Manager, 3D Flooring Supplies Ltd, Bristol

PROJECT OF THE YEAR: Lees Heginbotham & Sons Ltd

Highly Commended:
Weldon Village Academy, Hillside Contracts Ltd



“The project for which we won this award – refurbishment work at Wythenshawe Hospital – was our first test of Recofloor on a large project. We were pleased to find the service both convenient and cost-effective. It also helped our clients reach their own zero waste objectives. We will be using Recofloor regularly in future, and our quotes now include the fact that waste offcuts will be recycled.”

Andrew Wright, Sales, Lees Heginbotham & Sons Ltd

DROP-OFF SITE USER OF THE YEAR: Darren Davies Flooring Contractors Ltd

Highly Commended:
Rome Flooring Ltd



“At Darren Davies Flooring Contractors, Recofloor has become an integral part of our daily workflow. We specialise in hospitality, social housing, and disabled adaptations, with the majority of our work being small scale projects. Recofloor fits in seamlessly, enabling us to drop off waste at SASGO at the same time as collecting new flooring.”

Darren Davies, Director, Darren Davies Flooring Contractors Ltd

GREATEST IMPROVER



1ST PLACE

“Recofloor’s vinyl take-back scheme has become an invaluable service for us and our customers. It’s a brilliant example of how collaborative efforts can make a positive impact on sustainability.”

Darren Jolley, Depot Manager, STS Flooring Distributors Ltd, Cambridge



2ND PLACE

“We take great pride in our ongoing progress with Recofloor. Taking part in the scheme is a simple way to help us meet our sustainability goals, and this award will motivate us to further expand our involvement.”

Graham Garnham, Director, Anglia Commercial Flooring Ltd



3RD PLACE

“We are thrilled that Pennine Flooring Supplies has been recognised as Recofloor’s 3rd place greatest improver. As a business, we are keen to contribute positively to our community and to the planet. This award will boost our recycling efforts and drive further improvement.”

Stuart Winn, Operations & Logistics Manager, Pennine Flooring Supplies Ltd, Heywood

RECOFLOOR CHAMPION: Andrew Jones, Cornwall Carpets & Flooring Ltd

Highly Commended:
Commercial Flooring Bristol Ltd



“This award is a great acknowledgement of my commitment to Recofloor. Minimising waste is an important goal for Cornwall Carpets & Flooring. By educating our fitters about Recofloor by incorporating scheme guidelines into Toolbox Talks and inductions, I know I’m helping maximise recycling volumes.”

Andrew Jones, Warehouse Manager, Cornwall Carpets & Flooring Ltd

LONGSTANDING SERVICE AWARD: Nutland Carpet Accessories Ltd, Chandlers Ford



“At Nutland Carpets, we’re proud to be playing a role in reducing waste in the flooring industry. This award is a testament to our continuing commitment to sustainability and the circular economy. Winning will motivate our teams to keep going with their recycling efforts and so continue to make a positive impact on the environment.”

James Smith, Managing Director, Nutland Carpet Accessories Ltd, Chandlers Ford

BEST NEWCOMER: Anglia Commercial Flooring Ltd

Highly Commended:
Lees Heginbotham & Sons Ltd



“Providing regular collections from our premises, Recofloor has proved a fantastic way for ACF to improve sustainability. The business benefits have been significant too, most notably a marked reduction in our waste disposal bill. We’ve extended the scheme across our projects county-wide, integrating best recycling practice into staff training, and improving storage.”

Graham Garnham, Director, Anglia Commercial Flooring Ltd

CASE STUDY

Wythenshawe Hospital

Faced with the logistical challenges of waste disposal for a flooring project at the heart of a busy hospital, contractors Lees Heginbotham found Recofloor bins to be the perfect solution.

Location: Manchester, England
Product(s): Classic Mystique, Polysafe Hydro
SQM: Removal and installation of 700m²
Sector: Health & Care

Lees Heginbotham is an Oldham-based family-run business selling and fitting flooring nationwide. Keen to boost their sustainability efforts, the team were already routinely taking waste from project sites back to their warehouse for Recofloor collection and recycling. This was working well for smaller quantities of waste. But when they were asked to take up and re-lay like-for-like Polyflor at Wythenshawe Hospital’s ward F4, they realised they would not have space at the warehouse to store the quantity of waste expected.

The initial plan therefore was to take the material to a waste contractor in multiple van loads. On talking to Recofloor, however, they discovered that Recofloor’s on-site collection service could be a much greener and easier option.

The flooring work was part of a refurbishment project led by main contractor ALM Construction. When Lees Heginbotham suggested using Recofloor to ALM, with Recofloor wheelie bins to be located on the ward itself, ALM was supportive. ALM’s site agent then quickly gained approval from the hospital, which is committed to working with suppliers to embed circular economy principles.

“This was our first time using the Recofloor onsite collection service. As existing Recofloor members, we already knew that using Recofloor helps the environment and saves us money. We’ve now discovered that it’s also the easiest way to manage waste disposal on large projects! In fact, the whole process worked so well that we won new work as a result.”

Andrew Wright
Lees Heginbotham

Recofloor saves time and provides clean waste disposal for hospital ward refurbishment.

Project Challenges

The project presented three key logistical challenges. First, the ward is located within a maze of corridors and wards, with no direct external access. Second, the surrounding areas of the hospital were still in use, making cleanliness and tidiness a priority. And third, the project time frame was extremely tight.

Recofloor Solutions

Two 1000ml capacity Recofloor wheelie bins were deployed on the ward. The team filled these directly with the uplifted smooth vinyl. Two further bins were then used for offcuts, with installers using smaller Recofloor clear sacks to collect the waste from the various rooms. When each stage of the work was complete, the bins were simply rolled along the corridors to external doors and out to the agreed collection point.

The on-site bins immediately proved invaluable. With no need to take waste material up and down hospital corridors, the team were able to complete the job faster and didn’t have to worry about spreading dirt and dust. On the ward itself, the bins ensured the space stayed clean and tidy, ready for the hospital’s regular inspection visits. And on top of this, the fitters were extremely pleased to get rid of the waste easily on site, rather than having to fill up vans and transport it.

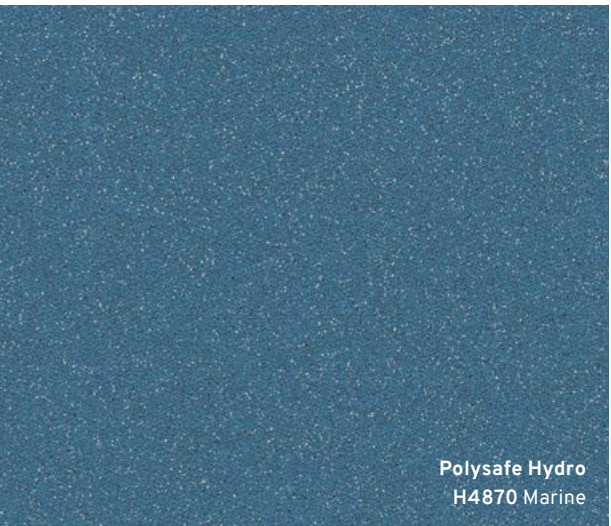
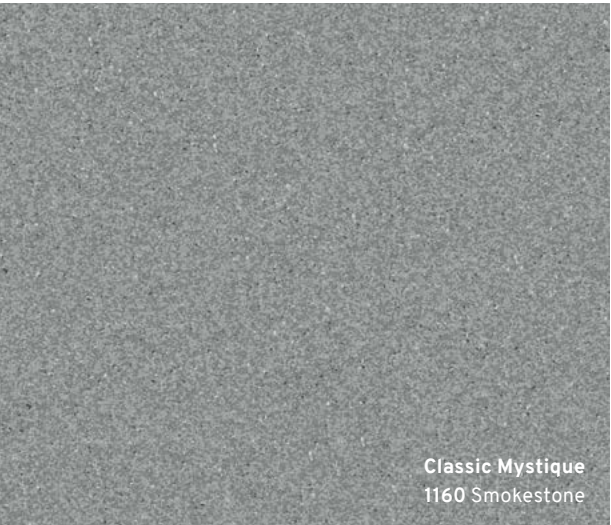
In total, the team collected almost 3 tonnes of material for recycling – 3 tonnes that would otherwise have gone to landfill or incineration. There were no issues with other trades trying to use the bins, because they were kept within Lees Heginbotham’s designated storage area on the ward.

As a final bonus, the Recofloor bins worked out cheaper than other waste disposal methods – which enabled Lees Heginbotham to reduce their price to the main contractor.

Benefits of using the scheme

- ✓ Significant savings on disposal costs.
- ✓ Enhance your green credentials by gaining BREEAM points, in turn helping you to win more business.
- ✓ Demonstrate your commitment to sustainability within the flooring sector.
- ✓ Waste vinyl flooring offcuts can be recycled into new flooring.
- ✓ Benefit from displaying your Certificate of Commitment.
- ✓ Entry into the annual Recofloor Awards to be recognised for green excellence.
- ✓ Benefit from Recofloor’s publicity and PR.

Products Used



International Schemes

At present, our collections predominantly 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 progress in recycling, even where distances are large, and logistics of any recycling operation are more complex. National legislation and local attitudes also play a major part in the implementation and success of recycling.

France

The French EPR - Extended Producer Responsibility (REP) commenced in May 2023, thus replacing the PVC Next initiative for organising collections and recycling.

As stated in L541-10 article of the French Environment Code: ‘Producers shall fulfil their obligation by collectively setting up approved Producers Responsibility Organisation (PRO), whose governance they shall ensure and to which they shall transfer their obligation and pay a financial contribution in return.’

Therefore, as a manufacturer, we have a responsibility to contribute financially towards this programme to prevent waste and increase circularity. We chose Valobat as our eco-organisation partner, which is one of three to have been certified. The eco-contribution cost is 29.76€ per tonne from May 2024.

From July 2025, new eco-modulations (bonus or malus applicable to the eco-tax scale) will be added to the PMCB eco-tax scale. The criteria are outlined below.

Criteria	Goals
The incorporation of recycled material	Encouraging the use of recycled materials in products
Re-usability	Encourage the design of products that can be easily reused and communicate best practices to consumers and craftsmen.
Sustainability, reparability and traceability	Create products with a longer lifespan (increased performance or the ability to repair the product)
Recyclability	Avoid recycling disruptors and complex products
Dangerous substances	Reduce the use of hazardous substances and products, to recycled raw materials Ove their recyclability and re-usability at the end of their lives
Sustainably managed renewable resources	Encouraging the use of traced wood, in order to manage the forest stock in a sustainable way

Scandinavia

A long history in Scandinavia of recycling, assisted by legislation to ensure waste is segregated on site, means there is a higher volume of post installation waste. In Norway and Sweden, Polyflor uses 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. This waste is then supplied to various vinyl flooring manufacturers in Europe, including Polyflor.

North America

There are over 100 vinyl recyclers in the U.S. and Canada. The Vinyl Institute’s website provides a recycling directory that identifies recyclers by state and province. Polyflor vinyl can be recycled through many of these channels. Go to www.vinylinfo.org/recycling-directory for more information.

South Africa

Polyflor South Africa’s initiative, the Polyflor Recycling Vinyl Flooring scheme, continued to promote and offer recycling outlets for Polyflor waste vinyl.

Polyflor SA will look to develop its scheme, particularly with new collaborations and provide contractors with specially branded bags for them to place their offcuts in and return to the company’s head office, where the waste will be weighed and recorded before it is collected by recyclers.

“We have made a firm commitment to increase responsibility and sustainability within the PVC industry as a whole. However, one of the key challenges outlined within this product stewardship programme has been the commitment to increase recycling. We are proud of Polyflor for taking the lead in such an important industry action.”

Adri Spangenberg
CEO, SAVA

New Zealand

New Zealand continues to use Recofloor, where waste vinyl flooring can be taken to one of the 9 drop-off sites in New Zealand.

Australia

ResiLoop, is Australia’s first national product stewardship scheme for resilient flooring and is an industry driven initiative by the Australian Resilient Flooring Association (ARFA). With the help of Australian Government funding and industry investment (including that of Polyflor), ResiLoop has been established to tackle installation waste, which includes offcuts and unused resilient flooring.

As a leading manufacturer with sustainability at the heart of its operations, Polyflor is proud to be a founding member of ResiLoop and committed to sustainability and circularity. By supporting this nation-wide scheme and bringing it to realisation, Polyflor is taking action against the flooring industry’s waste. Find out more about the scheme www.arfa.org.au/our-aim



DID YOU KNOW?

In 2024, 2,007 tonnes of PVC flooring was recycled in France*

*Data from French industry trade association, KALEI

Environmental Assessments



86 PRODUCT ASSESSMENTS

92 GREEN BUILDINGS

Product Assessments



GOOD TO KNOW!



LCAs and EPDs are important for greater transparency, reduced carbon footprint and achieving client sustainability targets. Polyflor has used LCA on its products since 2005.

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, creating ONE worldwide harmonised standard for reporting of environmental performance.

About EPD

EPD stands for Environmental Product Declaration. An EPD is a Type III environmental label which transparently communicates the environmental performance of products and services throughout their entire life cycles. It quantifies the environmental impact, such as embodied carbon, ozone depletion, and acidification.

NEW FOR 2024!



Polyflor's ranges now have third-party verified Product Specific EPDs.

Understanding EN 15804 & ISO 14025

Both ISO 14025 and EN 15804 are vital tools for promoting sustainability, reducing environmental impact, and meeting certification requirements. While ISO 14025 offers a broad framework for all industries, EN 15804 ensures detailed, sector-specific guidance for construction materials.

EN 15804 is considered the most popular global standard for producing environmental product declarations (EPD) for construction products. It provides core product category rules (PCR) for assessing construction products directly or may be used for developing even more detailed PCR for specific product categories.

An EPD that is compliant with ISO 14025 is a certified report that provides quantifiable environmental data to compare products that serve the same function. It's a Type III environmental declaration, meaning it's a standardised way to communicate a product's environmental impact. EPDs are based on Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) that follow ISO series 14040.

Importance of EPDs

EPDs communicate verifiable, accurate, 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.

In modern low-energy buildings, energy consumption during operation is significantly lower – and thus also the total greenhouse gas emissions – so that the use phase is responsible for only about 60 percent of greenhouse gases, while the construction phase accounts for 40 percent. The influence of the construction phase on the building's (overall lower) environmental impact has thus doubled. In a truly zero-energy building, the construction phase would even account for 100 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions.

As energy efficiency increases, the relative influence of the construction phase also increases – and with it the importance of EPDs, as only these enable a scientific and reliable assessment of the construction phase and the associated environmental impacts.

EPD benefits

A benefit of specifying a product with an EPD is that it supports the environmental goals of the stakeholders from design to use, and transparently reports environmental impact data across the product's life cycle.

Importantly, EN 15804 EPDs create harmonisation of schemes such as BREEAM, LEED, SKA, WELL, DGNB, FDES / HQE and GreenTag, which levels the playing field and is easier to compare.

Specifically, extra points can be gained on BREEAM and LEED assessments, for instance:


- One bonus 'uplift' point can be awarded for the use of one of our ranges where a 3rd party verified EN 15804 (ISO 14025) compliant EPD is available.
- Polyflor ranges can contribute to the LEED v4 score through specific environmental product declarations (EPD), which can provide 1 point.

Total carbon figure

It's important to review all the data on an EPD, but the total carbon or GWP (Global Warming Potential) figure is the most relevant piece of data on an EPD. However, it is important to note that some EPDs include the assumption of vinyl being recycled at the end of life, which lowers the GWP figure. Polyflor does not automatically include the recycling data to reduce the GWP figure, as we believe this to be misleading – sadly, not all vinyl is recycled at the end of its life – this figure can be deducted if the vinyl waste is recycled via our recycling scheme, Recofloor, or other take-back options which are available globally.

Furthermore, the Recommended Service Life of a product should also be considered – albeit it is not an exact science and is based on the manufacturer's understanding of installation, use and maintenance – longevity is as important, for fewer replacements, as the GWP figure.

GOOD TO KNOW!



Polyflor's EPDs have been independently verified by leading establishment, IBU (Institut Bauen und Umwelt e.V.), for complete assurance.

What is the difference between the Reference Service Life (RSL) and the Recommended Service Life on an EPD?

The Reference Service Life is the standardised period used on an EPD, which is typically 1 year. However, EPDs also disclose a 'Recommended Service Life' which reflects an assumed, practical and user-oriented time frame. This may be anything from 2 years to 50, and takes in to account the type of flooring, use area, foot traffic volume and nature, as well as frequency and type of maintenance to optimise longevity (as regards to flooring).

The Recommended Service Life of a Polyflor range can be 30 years for smooth homogeneous (including ESD), 20 years for safety (Polysafe), 25 years for heterogeneous smooth and 20 years for LVT. These realistic assumptions are based on years of market experience.

DON'T FORGET!



Service life is as important as a low CO₂ figure.

Product Type	Ranges	IBU Product Specific EPD	INIES FDES
Homogeneous	Palettone PUR	✓	✓
	Pearlazzo PUR	✓	✓
	Prestige PUR	✓	✓
	Classic Mystique PUR	✓	✓
	2000 PUR	✓	✓
	XL PU	✓	✓
	Standard XL	✓	✓
	Polyflex Plus PU	✓	✓
	Palettone SD	✓	✓
	Finesse SD	✓	✓
Heterogeneous	Polyflor SD	✓	✓
	Polyflor EC		✓
	Polyflor ROF		✓
	Expona Flow PUR	✓	✓
	Forest fx PUR	✓	✓
	Bloc PUR	✓	✓
	Silentflor PUR	✓	✓
	Acoustix Forest fx PUR	✓	✓
Safety	Architex PUR	✓	✓
	Secura PUR	✓	
	Designatex PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Quattro	✓	
	Polysafe QuickLay PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Astral PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Mosaic PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Vogue Ultra PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Standard PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Wood fx PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Wood fx Acoustix PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Stone fx PUR	✓	
	Polysafe Verona PUR Original	✓	
	Polysafe Verona PUR Pure Colours	✓	
	Polysafe Hydro	✓	
	Polysafe Hydro Evolve	✓	
	Polysafe Ultima	✓	
	Polysafe Apex 55		
	Polysafe Apex	✓	
	Expona Control PUR	✓	
LVT	Expona Simplay PUR	✓	✓
	Expona Simplay 19dB PUR	✓	✓
	Expona Design PUR	✓	✓
	Expona Commercial PUR	✓	✓
	Expona Bevel Line PUR	✓	✓
	Affinity 255 PUR	✓	✓
	Camaro PUR	✓	✓
	Colonia PUR	✓	✓
	Camaro Loc PUR		✓
	Camaro Rigid Core PUR	✓	✓
	Expona EnCore Rigid Loc PUR	✓	✓
	Expona Superplank*		
	Genero Design Plus*		

*Available only in Australia

The Global GreenTag^{Cert™} scheme operated by Global GreenTag P/L is a third-party ecolabel programme that rates sustainable products for the built environment.

The assessment of products is based on a life cycle approach and measuring the impact of products and their ingredients, outlined in the following critical areas:

- Reduction of energy & greenhouse gases
- Habitat & land degradation
- Toxicity to land, air & water
- Resource depletion & efficiency
- Human health & ethical employment

Polyflor was the first commercial vinyl floor covering organisation to achieve Global GreenTag LCARate™ certification across its key ranges. GreenTag's LCARate™ is an EPD and is a sustainability rating system

based on life cycle analysis (LCA) and EcoPOINT score. The LCA ratings are split into four categories for easy product selection: Bronze (Good); Silver (Very Good); Gold (Excellent) and Platinum (World Leading). Polyflor's ranges perform very well, achieving LCARate™ Silver PLUS and Gold PLUS (the 'PLUS' denotes the link to additional certification via the GreenRate™ system).

In addition to the Global GreenTag LCARate™, Polyflor achieves GreenRate™ level A across these certified ranges. Maximum points are scored in the Materials 'Responsible Finishes' and IEQ-VOC sections of the Green Star® rating tools. For example, a GreenRate™ Level A, with an EPD, achieves 100% of available credit points in sustainable products and refurbishment products.

Product Type	Product Range	LCARate™	GreenRate™	EcoPOINT
Homogeneous	Palettone PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.55
	Classic Mystique PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.48
	XL PU	-	Level A	-
Heterogeneous	Expona Flow PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.49
	Bloc PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.51
	Forest fx PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.49
	Silentflor PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.56
Safety	Polysafe Verona PUR	-	Level A	-
	Polysafe Standard PUR	-	Level A	-
	Polysafe Stone fx PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.51
	Polysafe Wood fx PUR	Silver PLUS	Level A	0.51
	Polysafe Quattro PUR	-	Level A	-
	Polysafe Apex	-	Level A	-
LVT	Expona Commercial PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.38
	Expona Design PUR	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.39
	Affinity PUR*	-	Level A	-
	Camaro PUR	-	Level A	-
	Expona Superplank*	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.38
	The Native Collection*	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.38
	Genero Design Plus*	Gold PLUS	Level A	0.38

To view certificates visit www.globalgreentag.com/products

*Available only in Australia.



Green Buildings

Barbara Hepworth Building, University of Huddersfield achieved "BREEAM Excellent".



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, with 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 shown below:

BREEAM Rating	% Score
Outstanding	Less than top 1% of UK new non-domestic buildings (innovator).
Excellent	Top 10% of UK new non-domestic buildings (best practice).
Very Good	Top 25% of UK new non-domestic buildings (advanced good practice).
Good	Top 50% of UK new non-domestic buildings (intermediate good practice).
Pass	Top 75% of UK new non-domestic buildings (standard good practice).

How Polyflor can contribute on a BREEAM® project

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. Polyflor contributes to MAT 01 and MAT 03.

MAT 01: Life Cycle Impact

1 BREEAM Credit (depending on building type)

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.

1 BREEAM Point:

Awarded for the use of one of our ranges where 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 1 material point in the MAT 01 section for floor coverings.

MAT 03: Responsible Sourcing for Materials

3 BREEAM Credits

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.

3.5 BREEAM Points:

BES 6001 ‘Excellent’ – Polyflor can contribute 3.5 points for the use of ranges which are certified to BES 6001, achieving ‘Excellent’.

1 BREEAM Point:

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

Use of Polyflor ranges with BES 6001 ‘Excellent’ and ISO 14001 certification, contribute 4.5 out of a maximum of 5 points (90% 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.

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’.

WST 01: Construction Waste Management

4 BREEAM Credits plus 1 Exemplary Level credit

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

1 BREEAM 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.

BREEAM 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.

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 HEA 02: Indoor Air Quality.

HEA 02: Indoor Air Quality

6 BREEAM Credits

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

1 BREEAM Credit

Minimising sources of VOCs and formaldehyde – Polyflor can contribute towards this credit through demonstrating conformance to EN 14041:2004. Polyflor floor coverings are UK REACH compliant and do not contain formaldehyde, conforming to the E1 declaration. 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.



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 to achieve LEED® certification. In doing so, specifiers will seek to use the most sustainable options available for the project.

Four levels of certification

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

Polyflor can contribute to points on a LEED® project. The number of points achieved throughout the entire build establishes the level of LEED® certification for that project.

In 2017, the top 10% of LEED® certified companies achieved a Platinum rating, with 44% certified companies achieving a Gold rating; 30% achieved Silver and 14% obtained a Certified rating. Today there are more than 96,000 LEED projects in 167 countries and territories.



How Polyflor can contribute on a LEED® project

Materials & Resources

MR Credit:
Construction and Demolition Waste Management
Polyflor is 100% recyclable and post-consumer waste, including offcuts and smooth uplifted waste can be recycled. Alternatively, our Expona Simplay, Secura and Designatex can be reused as they do not require adhesive for installation.

The Recofloor scheme (of which Polyflor is a founding and funding member) complies with site waste management legislation and diverts vinyl flooring waste (offcuts and uplifted) from going to landfill. Recycle or salvage 50% of the waste for 1 point, or 75% for 2 points.

MR Credit:
Building Product Disclosure and Optimisation
Sourcing of Raw Materials (Bio-based Content)
Polyflor flooring contains up to 85% sustainable materials and uses bio-based ingredients. **1 point available.**

MR Credit:
Building Product Disclosure and Optimisation
Environmental Product Declarations.
Polyflor can contribute to the LEED® credit through its product-specific environmental product declaration (EPD), which can provide **1 point**; or **0.5 points** for a generic EPD.

MR Credit:
Building Product Disclosure and Optimisation
Sourcing of Raw Materials (Recycled Content).
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. **1 point available.**

Indoor Environmental Quality

EQ Credit:
Low Emitting Materials
Option 1, Product Calculation CDPH Compliant
Option 2, Budget Calculation CDPH Compliant
Polyflor can contribute to both options of this credit through certification of its low emitting products. VOC certification is available via Indoor Air Comfort, Indoor Air Comfort Gold and FloorScore® certification (Polyflor's certificates are available online at www.polyflor.com, www.eurofins.com and www.scs-certified.com). Along with other materials used on the project, Polyflor products can contribute towards **1-3 points**.

For quick referencing and ease of specification, Polyflor has LEED® Points PDFs available digitally, across all product ranges. Request via info@polyflor.com or speak to our Customer Technical Services Department on **+44 (0)161 767 1912**.

The WELL Building Standard™ (WELL) is a performance-based system for measuring, certifying and monitoring aspects of a building that impacts human health and wellbeing.

Well Building Standard v2™ is assessed on 10 key concepts:



How Polyflor can contribute on a Well Building Standard v2™ project

There are 10 core areas on a WELL Building Standard, which accrue points and lead to Bronze, Silver, Gold or Platinum certification. Even though Polyflor can contribute positively to Light (LRV), Sound (Acoustifoam and acoustic ranges) and Thermal Comfort (warmer than ceramic), Polyflor specifically helps achieve WELL project goals with 3 aspects relating to floor coverings. These include Air, Materials and Mind.

Air

Air Quality A01 & A05:
The WELL Building Standard™ (WELL) determines requirements in buildings that reduce or minimise the sources of indoor air pollution (VOC).

Polyflor meets these conditions and can supply confirmation letters and VOC certification including Indoor Air Comfort Gold, and FloorScore®, which meet CDHP, as well as Afsset, M1 and AGB.

Materials

Restricted Materials X01, VOC Restrictions X06 & Materials Transparency X07

The WELL Materials concept aims to reduce human exposure to chemicals that may impact health during building works or operationally. Polyflor complies through REACH, HPDs and VOC certification.

Mind

Restorative Spaces M07
The WELL Building Standard™ identifies policies that can be implemented to positively impact mood, sleep and stress levels, in order to improve occupant health and well-being.

Polyflor offers ranges which enable the project to incorporate a calming and comfortable environment using 'subdued colours, textures and forms'.

For more information on the WELL Building Standard™ please visit www.wellcertified.com

SKA Rating®

Formerly operated by RICS (Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) until February 2024; now operated by SKA Rating Ltd, SKA Rating is an environmental assessment method, benchmark and standard for sustainable fit-outs. Where BREEAM® and LEED® focus on the environmental impact of the whole building, SKA is a benchmark and standard for non-domestic fit-outs, including Retail, Office and Higher Education.

Around 11% of the UK construction sector is involved in fit-outs and many buildings, particularly for retail and office, can have up to 40 fit-outs during their life-cycle.

SKA Rating helps landlords and tenants assess fit-out projects against a set of sustainability good practice criteria, comprising of over a hundred measures, incorporating energy, CO₂e emissions, materials, waste, water, wellbeing, pollution and transport. The percentage score for the assessment across the given criteria, provides the fit-out project with a Bronze; Silver or Gold label. These ratings are reached by achieving 25%; 50% and 75% respectively, of the measures in scope.

Along with Polyflor's many credentials including ISO 14001, BES 6001, as well as low maintenance and low VOC emissions, Polyflor products can contribute to SKA assessments within the Soft Flooring category and can potentially meet all or at the very least (and the minimum requirement), one of the following criteria:

Responsible Sourcing

- ✓ Responsible Sourcing - Product has been assessed and certified under BES 6001 or manufactured under a scheme that complies with the requirements of BS 8902.

Soft Flooring

- ✓ Are reused; Some Polyflor ranges can be reused, including loose-lay products, Expona Simplay PUR and Polysafe QuickLay PUR.
- ✓ If new, are manufactured with at least 50% recycled content (measured by mass) and 100% recyclable content (designed for deconstruction with components that can be recycled; Some Polyflor products may contain around 50% recycled material and are all 100% recyclable.
- ✓ Are manufactured from 50% renewable and natural products; Some Polyflor products contain up to 85% natural material, which includes renewables. This can include fillers used, for example.
- ✓ Are supplied with an environmental product declaration, written in accordance with ISO 14025 standards; The vast majority of Polyflor ranges have EN 15804 EPDs written to standard ISO 14025.

Designing Out Waste – Reduce Floor Finishes Waste

- ✓ At least 80% of all the removed carpet and soft floor finishes are:
 - reused either on or off site; or recycled through a closed loop scheme (e.g. manufacturer's take back scheme).
 - At least 50% of all the removed vinyl based finishes are recycled through a closed loop scheme (e.g. manufacturers take back scheme).

For more information about SKA Ratings, please contact us at info@polyflor.com or visit www.skarating.org



HQE™ is the French and international certification awarded to building construction and management, as well as urban planning projects. It promotes best practice and sustainable quality in building projects.

HQE™ certification aims to verify and approve the performance of a building and the four critical areas considered by the certification scheme, which include energy, environment, health and comfort. The performance levels attained are stated and endorsed in a certificate issued upon completion of the project. Within this overall building assessment, product and material lifecycles are considered.

Certification for the entire life-cycle of a building (applicable for non-residential buildings; residential buildings and detached houses as well as urban planning and development) covers the entire process, from planning and construction, through use. Throughout the life-cycle, sustainability is considered over four key aspects:

- ✓

Quality of Life
- ✓

Economic Performance
- ✓

Respect for the Environment
- ✓

Responsible Management

How Polyflor complies with HQE™

Many of Polyflor floor coverings comply with and contribute to HQE™ projects, by using the INIES FDES, a life-cycle assessment tool much the same as an EPD.

Many Polyflor ranges also have Afsset certification for low VOC emissions and some ranges are adhesive free for even better reduced emissions.

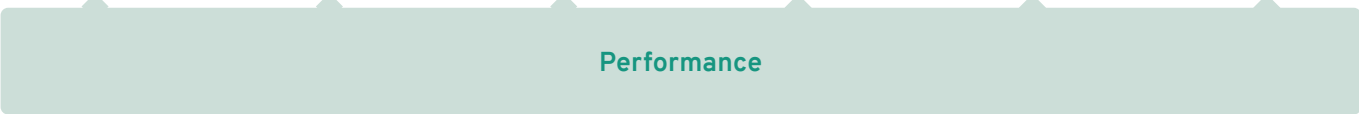


In our Australian and New Zealand markets, Green Star® rating tools reward sustainability outcomes and encourage moving beyond standard practice. Green Star® is a registered Trade Mark of the Green Building Council of Australia. It provides a framework of best practice benchmarks and rates the environmental and sustainable performance of a building.

A Green Star® rating provides independent verification that a building or community project is sustainable and demonstrates leadership, innovation, environmental stewardship and social responsibility. Projects are assessed against a range of environmental impacts, which include Management; Indoor Environment Quality; Energy; Transport; Water; Materials; Land Use & Ecology; Emissions and Innovation.

All types of buildings, new and old, can achieve Green Star® ratings. The rating tools to enable this are as follows:

Green Star® projects (Design, As Built, Interiors and Communities) can achieve a Green Star® certification of 4 to 6 Star Green Star®. Buildings assessed using the Green Star® Performance rating tool can achieve a Green Star® rating from 1 to 6 Star Green Star®.



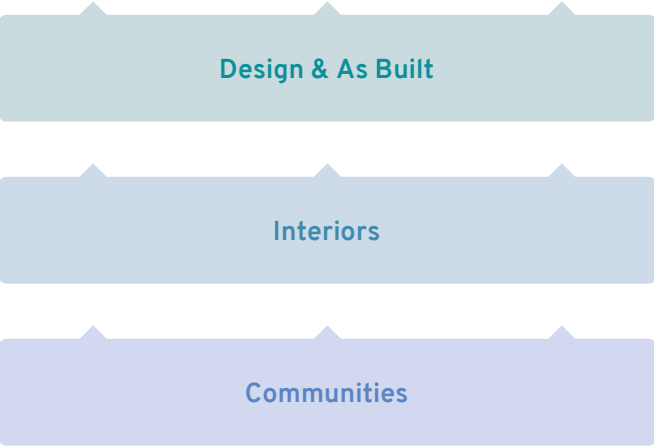
- Green Star – Performance:

Increasing levels of operational efficiency within existing buildings.
- Green Star – Design & As Built:

Sustainable design and construction of public and private buildings, including hospitals, retail and industrial centres, offices, plus schools and colleges.
- Green Star – Interiors:

Transforming interior fit outs of all buildings from shops to hotels.
- Green Star – Communities:

Improving the sustainability of projects within the neighbourhood and community.



How Polyflor can contribute on a Green Star® project

Polyflor has achieved maximum rating points in the Green Building Council Australia (GBCA) and New Zealand Green Building Council (NZGBC) Green Star® rating tools. Using Polyflor products certified by the Global GreenTag^{Cert™} third-party certification scheme can help the

specifier achieve maximum points in the Materials ‘Responsible Finishes’ and IEQ-VOC sections of the Green Star® rating tools. By combining the GreenRate Level A and product specific EPD, maximum points can be achieved.

Corporate Social Responsibility



Governance

Polyflor Ltd. is part of James Halstead PLC, with UK headquarters based in Manchester. The James Halstead Group employs around 850 people, has 2 UK production sites and 21 sales distribution sites worldwide.

Polyflor Ltd. has a board of 8 directors who report to Mark Halstead, Chairman and the executive board of James Halstead PLC. Mark Halstead is the fourth generation of the family to head up the business.

Polyflor’s directors are responsible and accountable for the compliance of policies which form the basis of our Code of Conduct. This promotes equality, trust and integrity and ensures legal, regulatory and ethical compliance.

Standards of Conduct

Employees
We will treat employees fairly and use employment practices based on equal opportunity for all employees. Recruiting, employing and promoting employees on the basis of objective criteria and the qualifications and abilities needed for the job to be performed in line with the Equal Opportunities Policy.

Customers
We will provide high quality and value, competitive prices, and honest transactions to those who use our products. We will deal lawfully and ethically with our customers.

All employees are expected to behave respectfully and honestly in all their dealings with customers and the general public in accordance with the principles set out in this Policy.

Suppliers
We will deal fairly with our suppliers. We will seek long lasting business relationships, without discrimination or deception. In those dealings, we expect those with whom we do business to adhere to business principles consistent with our own.

Communities
We are committed to fostering good relationships with the communities in which we work. We will abide by all national and local laws, and we will strive to improve the wellbeing of communities through the protection of natural resources, through the encouragement of employee participation in charitable affairs.

National and International Trade
We will seek to compete fairly and ethically within the framework of applicable competition. We will comply with all applicable export control laws and sanctions when conducting business around the world.



Economic Sustainability

Over the last 100+ years the expansion of Polyflor’s parent company, James Halstead PLC, has been managed by four generations of Halstead’s. Established by James Halstead himself in 1915, the company’s original trade was the waxing and showerproofing of cloth for raincoats, before expanding into flooring in 1934. Today, Polyflor is an increasingly successful company, providing economic and environmental sustainability.

Polyflor is a major employer in Greater Manchester and Teesside, providing jobs within sales, marketing, graphic design, human resources, I.T, purchasing and finance, as well as production, engineering, technical, warehousing and distribution. Our 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 fair salaries to our employees as well as paying tax in the UK, thus fully supporting the UK economy.

The company’s strategic focus remains on flooring, although the strategy evolves over time, focus on sustainable growth is undiminished. This, therefore, underpins job security for Polyflor employees and benefits all stakeholders in the business.

Investment & Growth

Polyflor is a successful, global organisation with a dominant market share in the UK. As of 2024, Polyflor's parent company, James Halstead, has been listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange with a nine-figure turnover, celebrating 76 years as a listed company.

Polyflor’s economic sustainability, growth and success are largely attributed to the depth of its customer focus. Polyflor has strong relationships throughout the entire supply chain and does not price-fix or undermine pricing structures, ensuring economic sustainability for all our customers globally.

In Malaysia, we incorporated a new company and took on the trade of our former long-term distributor in November 2020. This now acts as our base for the South Asia markets of Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam.

Polyflor’s ongoing commitment to Research and Development through 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, ensuring product is always meeting demands and on trend.

Significant investment was - and continues to be - made to develop and improve recycling initiatives. This includes financial and operational support across Recofloor, the UK’s leading recycling scheme for waste vinyl flooring. We are also an official partner of VinylPlus, and support Recovynil, ResiLoop and ERFMI, in finding new, exciting and innovative ways to recycle.

Polyflor’s Value Chain

It is important to Polyflor that we go beyond what is expected as a manufacturer, encouraging best practice throughout the flooring sector and adding value in pivotal ways to support our customers.

For our valued design community, Polyflor offers RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) approved CPD (Continuing Professional Development) courses, helping professionals keep their knowledge and skills up to date.

Our established Training Academy contributes to the value chain and continued to deliver high quality training courses throughout 2024 at its purpose-built facility as well as off-site locations. Further to this, Polyflor also offered its Floor Cleaning & Maintenance Course free of charge to our NHS and Education clients, aimed at educating how to get the best out of flooring by using the correct cleaning methods and products to facilitate a longer life and reduce ongoing costs.

In addition to providing training and education in getting the best out of our flooring, we believe that product stewardship is key, which is why we fully engage with all our customers to manage their waste Polyflor material and recycle, with Recofloor being a cornerstone of this principal. Recofloor is a cost-effective solution for managing waste. It is free if waste is taken to a distributors’ drop-off site, or a nominal cost is applied if waste material is collected from a specified site - this offers a saving of up to 70% when compared to landfill, which is financially beneficial for our customers, as well as promoting circular economy principals.

Polyflor flooring is extremely durable, and can last 30 years if properly installed and maintained. Further benefit to both environment and cost is its low maintenance requirements. Numerous ranges are available for all interior applications for an easy to manage one-stop-shop, and we pride ourselves on our stock availability.

Achievements

In the UK, Polyflor was officially listed as an approved supplier for NHS ProCure23, as well as being specified on a number of fascinating projects throughout 2024, including Bentley Motors, Crewe; The Heinz “57” factory at Kitt Green, Wigan; the Co-Op Live Arena in Manchester and the Football Association HQ at St George’s Park in Burton-on-Trent.

In 2024, Polyflor ranges were specified into many exceptional and prestigious international projects, including the 41,200m² project, Hospital El Salvador in Chile; Gansu Provincial Maternity and Childcare Hospital Lanzhou, China; the Katima Mulilo campus of University of Namibia; the corporate headquarters of Lidl, Danone and Mitsubishi, France, and HARIBO in Bonn, Germany; Hotel Croatia, Cavtat, a five-star resort and conference centre in the South Adriatic and Jose de San Martin (JSM) international airport in the capital of Costa Rica. All of which underline the reach and deep history of our global sales.

In 2023 Polyflor supplied flooring to the Svalbard Folkehøgskole project, which was a Regional Winner in the Society of British & International Interior Design Awards (SBID) 2024, in the Public Space category.

Polyflor’s recycling scheme, Recofloor, also won gold at the prestigious Green Apple Environment Awards 2024, picking up the top prize for the ‘Waste Management National Gold Award’ category. Established in 1994, The Green Apple Environment Awards annually recognise, reward and promote environmental best practices worldwide.



Commitment to our Employees

As a major employer, Polyflor has a responsibility to its employees, ensuring their health and wellbeing as well as reducing labour turnover, which remains 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 (40+ years in some cases), joining straight from school. We have always been proud of our low labour turnover and colleagues’ length of service - retaining an experienced and knowledgeable workforce is extremely important to Polyflor.

Polyflor recruits internally and from the local, surrounding areas, advertising through local media, job centres, recruitment agencies and online. We offer graduate training programmes, internships and apprenticeships, in support of younger people wishing to develop their employment skills.

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, along with employee benefits available to all staff including a pension scheme, as well as enhanced maternity and paternity pay. Polyflor engages with all its staff through forums, annual Performance and Development Reviews, emails, Polyflor News and circulated letters.

Polyflor Workforce 2024

There were important positives for 2024 across the business, despite many of our KPIs being down compared to 2023. The most significant KPI improved with labour turnover at the lowest it has been since 2020. Further to ongoing success with employee retention, there was a 100% increase in both of our 25 and 40-Year Club new memberships.

Our Employees	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-
Full Time Employees	456	460	480	508	489	↓ 4%
Part Time Employees	15	3	9	14	11	↓ 21%
Temporary Employees	9	25	36	30	20	↓ 33%
Permanent Employees	462	438	453	492	480	↓ 2%
Apprenticeships	0	1	3	3	4	↑ 33%
Total Employees	471	463	489	522	500	↓ 4%

Recruitment	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-
Female New Recruits	8	11	15	11	6	↓ 45%
Male New Recruits	14	43	39	37	28	↓ 24%
Total New Recruits	22	54	54	48	34	↓ 29%

WHAT WE DO: RECRUITMENT

- ✓ Positions are advertised internally and externally.
- ✓ Improved recruitment process includes the DISC profiling tool to understand ‘fit’ as well as ability.
- ✓ Employees are typically local and represent the social demographic of the local area.
- ✓ We employ graduate trainees, interns and apprentices with requirements reviewed on an annual basis.

Looking After our Workforce

Retention	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-
Labour Turnover	6%	13%	10%	9.6%	6.6%	↓ 31%
Total Employees in 25-Year Club	80	87	94	94	78	↓ 17%
New Members in 25-Year Club	7	7	7	0	8	↑ 100%
Total Employees in 40-Year Club	11	11	11	11	6	↓ 45%
New Members in 40-Year Club	0	0	0	0	1	↑ 100%

Polyflor’s 25 & 40 Year Clubs

In recognition of our long-standing and loyal workforce, we have 25 and 40-Year Clubs, which is something Polyflor is extremely proud of. As testament to Polyflor’s success in retaining valued and experienced employees, we had 78 members in the 25-Year Club and 6 members in the 40-Year Club. Cumulatively, the 25 and 40-Year Clubs made up an amazing 17% of Polyflor’s workforce, with 84 employees.

WHAT WE DO: RETENTION

- ✓ Low staff turnover with 25 and 40-year clubs.
- ✓ Understanding staff turnover through exit interviews and feedback forms.

DID YOU KNOW?



In 2024, our 25 and 40 Year Clubs made up an amazing 17% of Polyflor’s workforce.

WHAT WE DO: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS & WELLBEING

- ✓ Pension Scheme for every employee after 3 months of employment with Polyflor.
- ✓ Rewards for outstanding performance.
- ✓ Company social club for all employees.
- ✓ Breakout 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.
- ✓ Employees able to undertake voluntary work.
- ✓ Bike sheds and shower facilities are obtainable at the Whitefield site.

Equal Opportunities & Diversity

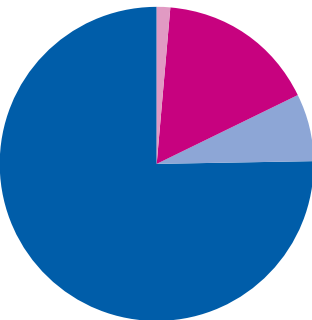
Both construction and manufacturing sectors are typically male dominated. Polyflor’s ratio of women to men reflects this with 18% to 82%. However, Polyflor has made inroads to increase females employed across the business and in 2024 there were 89 female employees – the highest amount with exception to 2023 and 2022, but male employees were also less.

There were 9 female managers, which was 18% lower than 2023, but this was relative to total decrease in female employees and compared to the higher decrease of male managers and total male employees. The ratio of females to males in management positions was 2 to 8. Interestingly, of all female employees, 10% were managers with just 9% of all our male staff holding management positions.

Of the 34 new recruits in 2024, 18% were female employees and of the total 89 female employees, 19% have been with Polyflor for 20+ years.

The ages of Polyflor’s employees are diverse, with the biggest growth in the 26-35 year age group. However, almost two-thirds of the personnel in 2024 were aged 46 and over - this is largely due to the company’s retention of its staff.

Employees by Gender



Gender Equality	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-
Male Employees	390	376	396	425	411	↓ 19%
Male Managers	57	40	40	35	38	↓ 13%
Female Employees	81	87	93	97	89	↓ 4%
Female Managers	7	10	12	11	9	↓ 8%

Employees by Age



Age Equality	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-
16-25	13	22	24	32	27	↓ 16%
26-35	58	54	63	70	73	↑ 4%
36-45	93	93	91	97	92	↓ 5%
46-55	156	139	140	139	125	↓ 10%
56+	151	155	164	184	183	↓ 1%

WHAT WE DO: EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

- ✓ Equal opportunities & diversity policy.
 - ✓ Modern Slavery Act Statement.
 - ✓ Anti-bullying and Anti-discrimination policies.
 - ✓ Anti-ageist, with 37% of employees aged 56+ and 25% being 46-55.
 - ✓ Ratio of women to men is 18% to 82%.
- ✓ Ratio of females to males in management positions is 2 to 8, respectively. Interestingly, 10% of female employees are managers with 9% of male staff also holding management and supervisory positions (this was 9% and 15% in 2020).
 - ✓ Maternity and paternity policy with flexible return to work.
 - ✓ Targeted action to support colleagues’ return to work.

Health & Safety

Again in 2024, there were no serious accidents and injuries reported. However, total accidents across our UK sites increased by 14% resulting in a 52% increase on Actual Days Lost through LTA, compared to 2023.

For the fourth year running we offered free flu jabs to our employees to help prevent or limit this illness and support welfare.



WHAT WE DO: HEALTH & SAFETY

- ✓ SA 8000 and ISO 45001.
- ✓ 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 for action and avoidance.
- ✓ Accident reporting is in line with ISO 45001 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 H&S Manager and occupational health nurse.
- ✓ Free flu jabs made available to employees to support welfare.
- ✓ Dedicated and trained First Aiders and Fire Marshalls are located in all departments of the business.

Loss Time Accident

Health & Safety	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-
Loss Time Accident (LTA)	4	11	9	7	8	↑ 14%
Actual Days Lost through LTA	27	79	70	105	160	↑ 52%

Training & Development

Training and development of employees remained high throughout 2024. There was a large focus on Environmental and Health & Safety training, and our 4 apprentices were supported with their vocational courses.

We invested significantly in supporting career and professional development through various programmes, including CIMA and ACCA for several of our finance team, Apprenticeships in Engineering, Business Administration and HR, and Masters in Business Administration.

Once more, colleagues were rewarded for outstanding performances by the business, with recognition leading to 5 internal promotions.

What Our Employees Say

"It's great that the company are investing in my future, I joined straight from school and am really enjoying learning new skills every day and working towards a technical qualification which is essential for my long-term career."

Thomas Bateman, Engineering Apprentice

"Having completed CIPD Level 3 as an apprentice, which resulted in my promotion, I've now stepped up to Level 5 which has really enabled me to take on more challenging tasks and responsibilities and gain confidence in dealing with stakeholders."

Victoria Birtwistle, Senior HR Administrator

"I'm hugely grateful to the company for supporting me in my MBA at Manchester Metropolitan University. Being back at university has broadened my perspective - giving me a range of new skills and ideas to apply in my current role, as well as a platform for future development."

Anthony Kendrick, Management Systems Coordinator

WHAT WE DO: TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

- ✓ Polyflor's training is audited to ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001.
- ✓ An enhanced induction programme is undertaken by new 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.
- ✓ Promotion or opportunities in different departments are often distributed internally throughout the business, although obtaining the right skill set is important so positions are advertised to external candidates.
- ✓ Polyflor engages with all staff regarding environmental issues, directly through email or letter as well as indirectly through www.polyflor.com, social media and this annual report which is circulated throughout Polyflor.
- ✓ Polyflor's Training Academy for floor fitting skills is accessible to employees, which improves their understanding of Polyflor flooring and provides transferable skills for their own homes.



Reward & Development	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	+/-
Internal Promotions	6	5	10	10	5	↓ 50%
Employees Undergone Training Programmes	471	463	462	379	364	↓ 4%



Meet the Team

Q & A with Dominic McAughey: New Apprentice



Dominic McAughey
Trainee Customer
Technical Advisor

Start Date: 19th August 2024

Q. What do you like about working for Polyflor?

"The best thing is the people I work with – particularly my immediate team."

Q. What do you enjoy about your role?

"I enjoy that it is always something different and not just the same thing every day. It's never boring and I always have something to do whether it's emailing and other such work on the computer, or it's helping out in the Training Academy and I'm screeding or doing some floor fitting, which is helping me learn and advance more on the practical side."

Q. What new skill sets have you learnt or developed?

"I'm definitely learning a lot about using the computer more and communicating effectively on the phones and emails. I am also advancing more on fitting flooring."

Q. What do you hope to achieve in the next 12 months and beyond?

"Just to keep on learning and be even more advanced within my role so I can do more than I am at present."

Q & A with Clare Mungins: 20 Years at Polyflor



Clare Mungins
Shipping Administrator

Start Date: July 2004

Q. What was your first role when you joined Polyflor?

"When I first started at Polyflor I was a UK Sales Co-ordinator."

Q. How has your role changed over the years?

"Since I joined in 2004, the company has changed so much. In that time, I have moved from UK Sales, dealing with all UK orders, to the Export Shipping Department, dealing with all shipments going out of the UK."

Q. What do you enjoy about your role?

"Every day is completely different and challenging, but I thoroughly enjoy what I do. I especially like doing the customs entry."

Q. What do you like about working for Polyflor?

"Everyone here is so friendly, which makes working at Polyflor so enjoyable. I'm also the Chairperson for Polyflor's Social Club, where we organise loads of social events for employees to mix outside the workplace, from theatre trips and afternoon tea to sporting events such as cricket at Old Trafford."

Q & A with Steve Mulholland: 25 Years at Polyflor



Steve Mulholland
Manufacturing Director

Start Date: April 1999

Q. What was your first role when you joined Polyflor?

I joined as a Process Technologist, in the technical department and worked on Line 3, 5 and Ejecta.

Q. How has your role changed over the years?

"It's changed quite a lot... but the technical team helped me tremendously in those early years. The whole technical / R&D department was a busy, bustling place with many new developments and projects on-going. We were working shifts and commissioning new equipment on nearly every plant."

"I got transferred to Ejecta to modernise the 25-year-old extrusion department and make it faster and more efficient. You'd never believe how we used to make welding rods compared with today, unless you'd seen it! The project didn't always go smoothly but you learn a lot of resilience during those times. I still feel immense pride walking into the department and seeing the machine operating as it did that first day."

"Providing cover, I tried my hand at managing the line and shifts as well as my technical role - sometimes these opportunities arise at the right time and place, and you have to take them. From there the company invested in me to complete my master's degree in business & management at Manchester Met."

"Following that, I was asked to look after the factored goods we purchase from all around the world and ensure our exacting standards are met and suitable for the Polyflor brand. This involved travel, including 15-hour flights, which was a challenge for someone who has never been great at flying! So much was achieved during those years in being the first to get several accreditations across all our collections. This included the BRE (first ever in the Far East), CSTB, Indoor Air Comfort Gold, BES 6001 and SA 8000."

"I was then heavily involved in the acquisition of Armstrong's former plant in Teesside, where it was converted from a predominantly cushion vinyl plant to where we manufacture our heterogeneous products today. The next natural step was to take over the running of the Radcliffe facility in Greater Manchester: The largest flooring plant in the UK, that has been here since 10th May 1915, and it's with a sense of history and pride to do that in 2014 and be part of the 100-year celebrations. I've been Manufacturing Director for 11 years now and we've seen some good and tough times."

"Some 26 years later and I've spent over half of my life working for Polyflor Ltd. A bit like that famous saying, if you love what you do, the people you work with and the company you work for – you'll never work a day in your life."

Q. What do you enjoy about your role?

"Every day is different - always expect the unexpected."

Q. What do you like about working for Polyflor?

"We've got nearly 80 colleagues on the 40 year and 25-year service list. There are some incredible people who have worked here and continue to do so in all those years, and together we've come this far. People you meet become friends for life. Even after 26 years, I'm a long way down the service list! How incredible for a factory in north Manchester to have that history and longevity of employment. The generations of families to have worked here since 1915 - some of them still do - all thanks to the Halstead family, the resilience of the business and the amazing development of vinyl flooring. Great to be a part of that story. Longevity of service and stable employment really has been a privilege and long may it continue."

Commitment to our Communities

Let's do good

As a responsible manufacturer, Polyflor has a duty of care to ensure that the impact of day-to-day operations from its business to the local community is minimal. We also want to ‘give back’ wherever we can and support our local heroes... Let's do good.

Good Neighbours

As such the company has procedures and policies to address issues which may arise in line with ISO 14001 and BES 6001, including a robust complaints procedure, where these issues are regularly reviewed at Environmental Steering Meetings. It is the responsibility of the Directors to initiate a project in instances where the source of a complaint is persistent and requires a solution. Where a complaint form is received, the company has a formalised procedure as per its BES 6001 objectives to respond and action within 7 days of receiving it. The recording of these complaints is audited and reported on annually.

Polyflor's Whitefield site is the original production site and located within a residential area (the site is over 100 years old and older than many of the nearby houses). For this reason, continued efforts to reduce noise pollution and emissions remain important for harmonisation between this production site and its neighbouring residents. As well as ensuring HGVs turn off engines during evening and early morning deliveries and collections, investment has also been made into acoustic engineering and into new electric forklift trucks, to help minimise noise levels.

Given the proximity of the 100s of residents to this 24-hour production site (Monday to Friday), complaints can be difficult to control, and the number of complaints can fluctuate and vary year on year. However, only 4 complaints were received in 2024 - of which only 3 linked to Polyflor and were specifically noise issues; 1 complaint was not relevant and related to the nearby railway line. As always, the three complaints were promptly handled and resolved. The Whitefield factory had an exceptionally low level of complaints again, which is a testament to the production site and ongoing BES 6001 and ISO 14001 objectives. Polyflor continues to strive to prevent complaints from the outset and continues to interact closely with its communities.



Good Support

As part of ongoing CSR commitments, Polyflor continues to liaise with and support the local communities in which it operates. It is particularly important to give something back to local communities – our (often unsung) heroes who make a massive difference - as well as contributing to causes further afield.

Polyflor provides support to its local communities in many ways, including donating product, money and time. When Polyflor is involved in donating flooring to charitable projects, the marketing, sales and distribution teams invest a lot of time through support and communication: They work together in arranging a suitable product, ordering and despatch. There is a duty of care in ensuring the right flooring is specified and delivered in a timely manner and followed up with appropriate customer aftercare.

Employees are also allowed to engage with charitable organisations and events, where appropriate. This can include fundraising or supporting their peers (we allow time during work hours for communicating and organising collections for selected charities and food banks) or carrying out volunteer work as another way for employees to feel fulfilled outside of their role.



Polyflor's Highlights

CSR activities are important to Polyflor and throughout the last 7 years, Polyflor has donated £134,545 to local charities in the UK.

In 2024, Polyflor supported 11 amazing charities by donating a total value of £31,265 both financially and in flooring. Polyflor employees also raised £600 in financial contributions plus food and toy gifts, in support of various local and national charities in the UK. We provided flooring to a Wildlife Centre and sports kits to various school teams, but here is a selection of some the charities we helped in 2024.

Supporting Greater Manchester

Bury Council Fostering Team

Once again we showed our commitment and support to Bury Council's Fostering Team, which helps children stay connected to their community, school, friends, and family. We did so by making a financial donation, and employees generously bought Christmas presents for the children in foster care over the festive period. A party was organised by Bury Council, where every child and young person received their gifts from Father Christmas himself.



The River Manchester

For the 4th year running we helped The River Manchester, a charity which brings hope and support to those facing or fleeing domestic violence and potential poverty by empowering them to create better lives for themselves. The organisation provides people with furniture for new accommodation and offers training and emotional support at its Openshaw HQ. For information on the charity, visit www.therivermanchester.org.uk

We took part in the charity's reverse advent calendar, which, instead of opening the windows and taking out treats, participants picked a number at random and donated a corresponding item towards several food hampers.

In 2023 we donated 108m² of Expona Flow and matching weld rods to brighten up part of the facility. Following on from that in 2024, our Training Academy's Training & Installation Manager, Chris Landon, fitted this flooring for the charity, free of charge.

Supporting Teesside & the North East

African Adventures

We sponsored a 6th form student from the Teesside area to take part in a trip of a lifetime to make a difference in Kenya. Through the school's partnership with Tour Operator, African Adventures, a group of teenagers raised funds to travel to Kenya for 2 weeks and help refurbish a school.



NDAS

We also helped the NDAS (Northumberland Domestic Abuse Service), who provide invaluable support to anyone dealing with physical or emotional abuse in the wider area.

Polyflor provided free of charge, 160m² of Expona Flow and weld rods to brighten up the office of this deserving charity. For more information on their service, visit www.nda.services

"We were delighted to receive a gift of amazing flooring for our newly refurbished office from Polyflor. The flooring is perfect within our scandi styled spaces bringing both style and colour. Polyflor have been so generous and helpful throughout. I would like to thank the Polyflor team on behalf of NDAS, and the adults and children and young people we support."

Sharon Brown, CEO NDAS



CASE STUDY

Polyflor returns with its free Apprentices’ Training Courses

Once more, Polyflor Ltd. Collaborated with F. Ball and Co. Ltd., known for its flooring adhesives and subfloor preparation products, to provide additional FOC flooring installation training courses for apprentices throughout 2024. Following on from this skills-focused initiative which commenced in Spring 2023, more four-day standalone courses continued at regular intervals until late 2024.

Held at Polyflor’s Training Academy in Greater Manchester, and F. Ball’s Centre of Excellence in Staffordshire, the courses serviced first-year (Level 1) apprentices hired by Polyflor’s numerous flooring contractor customers. Their training focused on all aspects of vinyl sheet installation, including setting out, adhering to the sheet, and heat-welding seam joints.

As with its initial conception, the training initiative seeks to help flooring contractors connect with additional construction sector apprentices. Furthermore, they aim to address growing labour shortage concerns within the UK construction industry by engaging with future flooring installation professionals from a young age.

It is also hoped that the courses will assist in replenishing the ongoing deficit of contract flooring installers, which was, according to a report by the Contract Flooring Association (CFA), exacerbated by Brexit, changes to industry standards, and other macroeconomic factors.

More broadly, according to an updated report from the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), the current UK skills shortage has been depleted further since 2023. Previously 217,000, the construction industry now requires 224,900 extra workers to meet planned output by 2027.

Unfortunately, few technical colleges in the UK currently operate floor-laying courses as part of their standard curriculum, largely due to the CITB classification of flooring as a furnishing trade rather than a construction trade.

Employers can take advantage of the Government’s Apprenticeship Levy. However, hiring apprentices remains a high cost and significant responsibility for flooring contractors.

Amidst difficult industry conditions, Polyflor Ltd. endeavours to support and invest in the future generation of flooring professionals.

“I have learned a lot. The course instructors have helped massively, and I now feel more confident.”

Jake Kiley
Next Level Flooring



“Working as an apprentice will now be easier thanks to the practice and information gained from this course.”

Lucien Thomas
Darren Thomas Flooring



“Very friendly, patient instructors. Great demonstrations with plenty of time to make mistakes and have another go.”

Kieron Taylor
Hyde Flooring Company

About this Report

This report provides an overview of Polyflor’s sustainability performance for the 2024 calendar year and enables us to communicate to all stakeholders, be accountable for our sustainability activities and identify where improvements should be made.

Report Boundary

The environmental data reported is required as part of our BES 6001 sustainability objectives and framework, relating to our 2 production sites and distribution site in the UK. In compliance to our BES 6001 Excellent rating, the methodology used for significant environmental aspects is outlined herewith.

Polyflor Environmental Impacts Assessment - Methodology

General

Polyflor has assessed its operations and as a result has identified environmental impacts of the business.

Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of Polyflor Senior Management to systematically examine their business operations and identify possible and actual effects on the environment.

Control Measures

- Internal procedure titled “Environmental Aspects Identification and Assessment”.
- Register of Environmental Aspects.
- Environmental Aspects Identification and Assessment Form.
- Register of legal requirements.
- Environmental Objectives.

Identification of Environmental Aspects

Polyflor has identified 18 non-significant aspects and 15 significant aspects. Identification of all Environmental Aspects consider the following:

- Possible and actual effects on the environment.
- Type of activities carried out.
- Use of materials and utilities.
- Generation of solid and liquid waste.
- Discharges to sewer or surface waters.
- Emissions to atmosphere.
- Energy consumption.
- Transport and distribution.
- Noise emissions.
- Packaging.
- Housekeeping and visual impacts.
- Effect of fire.
- Effect of flooding.
- Electrical failure.
- Spillages on site.

Significant Environmental Aspects

- EA8 Transport of goods and materials to the Polyflor sites.
- EA9 Energy Use – steam generation.
- EA10 Emissions to air from safety flooring manufacture.
- EA12 Environmental noise and vibration from site.
- EA13 Generation of waste for off-site disposal or reclamation.
- EA14 Disposal of foul water.
- EA17 Packaging of final product.
- EA18 Distribution of product from site.
- EA24 Effect of liquid spillage from site.
- EA25 Use of cooling towers on site.
- EA26 Presence of asbestos in building materials on site.
- EA27 Presence of chiller systems.
- EA33 Demolition and building on site.
- EA36 Climate change and energy.
- EA37 Water abstraction.

Assessment of Significance

Environmental Aspects are assessed based on environmental risk.

The severity score will be based on the following:

- 1-4 = Trivial effect.
- 5-8 = Minor effect.
- 9-12 = Major effect.

The likelihood will be based on the following:

- 1 = Improbable occurrence.
- 2 = Possible occurrence.
- 3 = Occasional occurrence.
- 4 = Regular occurrence.

The significance is calculated from multiplying the severity by the likelihood. An aspect is considered significant if the significance score is greater than 25.

Environmental Aspect Identification and Assessment Form

Each aspect identifies the following criteria.

- Description of the area of activity.
- Description of the environmental impact.
- Specific activities associated with impacts.
- Mitigation strategies (objectives).
- Legal requirements.

Review of Environmental Aspects

Environmental aspects are reviewed periodically by senior management to assess the following:

- Progress of associated objectives and targets.
- Associated activities.
- Necessary updates/changes.
- Need for identification of new aspects.
- Significance Score.

Auditing of Environmental Aspects

All significant aspects are audited to ensure:

- Compliance to legal requirements.
- Compliance to management system requirements.

Polyflor is compliant to legal and management system requirements and remains accredited to ISO 14001.

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is important to Polyflor and facilitates a two-way process for communication and insight, as outlined within our BES 6001 parameters. The stakeholder consultation process and its activities generally involve meetings, feedback procedures and surveys, audits, representations and regular contact and involvement with the following: Employees; customers; suppliers; trade unions; industry associations; local communities; shareholders; government and financial organisations.

We value your opinions and would welcome feedback on this report. Please get in touch at info@polyflor.com



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POLYFLOR™ INTERNATIONAL

Australia

Polyflor Australia
Tel: 1800 777 425
Tel: +61 3 9215 4400
E-mail: sales@polyflor.com.au
www.polyflor.com.au

Canada

Polyflor Canada Inc.
Tel: +1 905 364 3000
E-mail: sales@polyflor.ca
www.polyflor.ca

China

Polyflor North Asia Ltd
Tel: +(852) 2865 0101
E-mail: info@polyflor.com.hk
www.polyflor.com.hk

Colombia

Polyflor Ltd (LATAM Office)
Tel: +57 3142859005
E-mail: export@polyflor.com
www.polyflor.com

France

James Halstead France SAS
Tel: +33 (0)8 20 20 32 11
Email: info@jhfrance.fr
www.objectflor.de

Germany

objectflor Art und Design Belags GmbH
Tel: +49 (0) 2236 966 330
E-mail: info@objectflor.de
www.objectflor.de

India

Polyflor India Pvt Ltd.
Tel: +91 22 4023 2486
E-mail: info@polyflor.co.in
www.polyflor.com

Ireland

Polyflor Ireland
Tel: +353 (1) 864 9304
E-mail: salesireland@polyflor.com
www.polyflor.com

Malaysia

Polyflor Martex
Tel: 1300 80 7788
E-mail: sales@polyflor.com.my
www.polyflor.com.my

Middle East

Polyflor Ltd
Tel: +971 50 406 8114
E-mail: export@polyflor.com
www.polyflor.com

New Zealand

Polyflor New Zealand Ltd.
Tel: 0800 765 935
Tel: +64 9 269 1111
E-mail: sales@polyflor.co.nz
www.polyflor.co.nz

Norway

Polyflor Nordic
Tel: +47 23 00 84 00
E-mail: firmapost@polyflor.no
www.polyflor.no

Spain

Polyflor Ltd
Tel: +34 619 949 054
E-mail: export@polyflor.com
www.polyflor.com

Sweden

Polyflor Nordic Sweden AB
Tel: +46 (0) 300 15820
E-mail: info@polyflor.se
www.polyflor.se

POLYFLOR™ UK

Polyflor Ltd. PO Box 3, Radcliffe New Road,
Whitefield, Manchester, M45 7NR

Sales Direct: +44 (0) 161 767 1122
Export Sales Direct: +44 (0) 161 767 1913
Reception: +44 (0) 161 767 1111
Sample Requests: +44 (0) 161 767 2551
Technical Support: +44 (0) 161 767 1912
E-mail: info@polyflor.com

James Halstead™
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