



we care | we act.

Our commitments for a sustainable future

Gerflor[®]
theflooringgroup



Gerflor teams have always considered customers and the environment as their absolute priorities. Our floor coverings, wall solutions and finishing components are user friendly, healthy solutions. They are designed with respect for our planet to last as long as possible with proposed end-of-life options.

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OUR COMMITMENTS FOR 2025

Since 1937, Gerflor **has designed, manufactured and distributed design-led, innovative and eco-responsible** floor covering and wall protection solutions. Present in more than **100 countries**, with **4,200 employees, 29 subsidiaries** and **19 production sites**, Gerflor serves many activity sectors including health, education, residential accommodation and sport.

From product design through end-of-life, the circular economy is a core priority for the group.

We have determined 5 priority commitments to guide our environmental management up to 2025.



* Scopes 1 and 2 defined in the GHG protocol ** % of activity with biosourced materials *** % of activity - adhesive free solution



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CARBON FOOTPRINT
2025 TARGET

-20%

**LET'S TAKE A BIG STEP
TO LIGHTEN OUR FOOTPRINT**

carbon footprint reduction in kg of CO₂ per m² of product,
calculated on scopes 1 & 2 defined in the GHG protocol.
-16% kg CO₂ equivalent/m² between 2016 and 2019.

CONSIDERING LOW CARBON AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY FROM THE DESIGN STAGE

AVERAGE LIFE SPAN OF 25 YEARS

Floors that last

One of the best ways to preserve our planet's resources is to offer products that last a long time. At Gerflor, we consider our products as durable capital goods that fulfill their technical and aesthetic function for years and even decades.

OUR 11 ECO-DESIGN CRITERIA

Gerflor has elaborated a set of guidelines based on 11 eco-design criteria covering the life cycle of our products. The goal is to manage a product's carbon footprint starting with the very first pencil stroke, the first essential step in a circular economy.

- 1 RESPONSIBLE PURCHASING OF RAW MATERIALS
- 2 USE OF RENEWABLE RAW MATERIALS
- 3 ENERGY REQUIREMENT PER M²
- 4 PRODUCTION SCRAP RATE
- 5 LOAD VOLUME OPTIMISATION
- 6 WEIGHT REDUCTION PER M²
- 7 ADHESIVE FREE PRODUCTS
- 8 VOC AND VOLATILE REDUCTION
- 9 MINIMISED USE OF CLEANING PRODUCTS
- 10 RECYCLED MATERIAL IN OUR PRODUCTS AND PACKAGING
- 11 RECYCLABILITY OF OUR PRODUCTS AND PACKAGING



GERFLOR FORMULATIONS ARE 100% REACH* COMPLIANT

- No heavy metals
- No formaldehydes
- No solvent-based inks
- No PCP (pentachlorophenol)
- No CMR content (carcinogenic, mutagenic, reprotoxic)
- No other substances prohibited by REACH

*REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) is a European regulation listing chemical substances with potential impact on human health. The list is managed by the ECHA (European Chemicals Agency).

CONTINUOUS LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS

Gerflor products all have an Environmental and Health Declaration Sheet (FDES), which, among other information, presents the carbon impact at each stage of the product's life. This policy enables our engineers to set relevant eco-design targets, and allows our customers to evaluate the environmental impact of our products. The FDES documents are available on www.inies.fr

INNOVATING MORE WITH BIOSOURCED SOLUTIONS

OUR BIOSOURCED SOLUTIONS

Gerflor has innovated over the years by integrating new raw materials in its products, notably biosourced materials.

As early as 2002, Gerflor launched the SAGA² range with its backing made of cork, a biosourced material that also offers exceptional acoustic properties.

In 2011, the Mipolam Symbioz range of homogeneous floor coverings was manufactured using 100% biosourced and renewable plasticisers made from cereal crop residue.

Since 2018, this commitment has been further strengthened by integrating DLW Linoleum manufacturing within the Gerflor Group.

THE SPECIAL CASE OF LINOLEUM

98%

biosourced or mineral based materials

76%

renewable within one year

Up to

40%

recycled content

LINOLEUM

Because nature is our greatest source of inspiration, the DLW Linoleum collection offers architects a choice of 159 nature-inspired colour options to feed their creativity while respecting the environment.

Made in Germany since 1882 and "Cradle to Cradle certified™ Silver", DLW Linoleum is composed of 98% biosourced or mineral materials such as linseed oil, wood flour, chalk, jute and pine resin. This is an eco-friendly product, with 76% of its raw materials renewable rapidly. Linoleum also helps preserve nature, as it contains up to 40% recycled materials and is 100% recyclable (industrial scrap and laying offcuts). This is how we connect people with nature.



2%
Cork



3%
Colour pigments



5%
Pine resin



8%
Jute



19%
Limestone



20%
Wood



41%
Linseed oil



BIOSOURCED CONTENT
2025 TARGET

10%

**NATURE, OUR MOST BEAUTIFUL
SOURCE OF INSPIRATION**

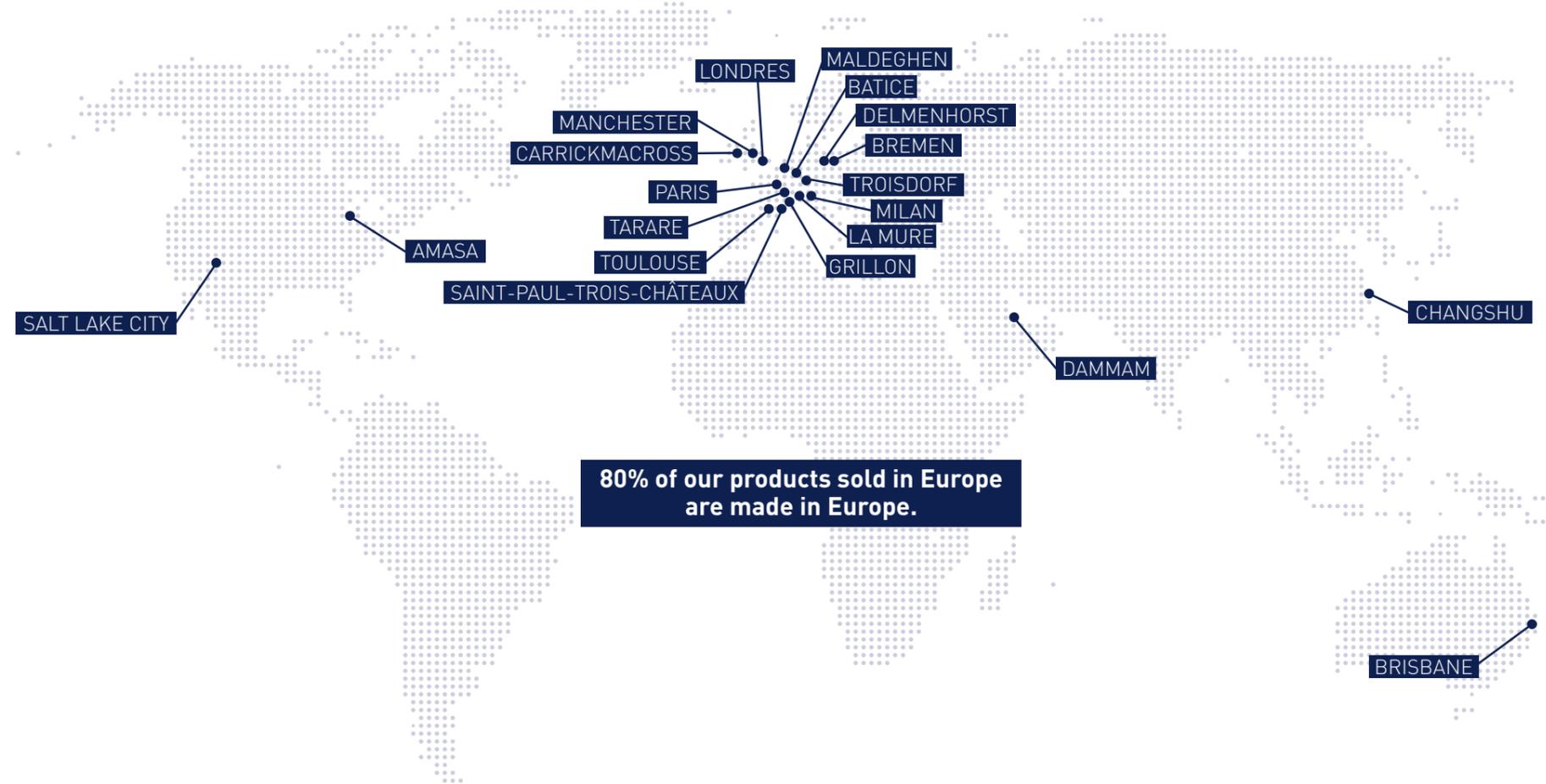
of biosourced content on average per product. 5% in 2020.

PRODUCING WHILE MINIMISING OUR FOOTPRINT

A SOLID INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Close to our markets with an optimised logistic network

- 19 production sites
- 4,200 employees
- 29 subsidiaries
- 7 logistics platforms
- 5 R&D centres



80% of our products sold in Europe are made in Europe.

LESS ENERGY MORE RECYCLING

Located in Saint-Paul-Trois-Châteaux (Drôme region in France), this new-generation production site is entirely eco-designed, reflected in its energy efficiency and intensive treatment of recycled materials.

By deploying a gravity-based process, 30% of energy per m² is saved, as compared with industry standards.

ALL GERFLOR SITES CERTIFIED

ISO 9001
(QUALITY)

ISO 14001
(ENVIRONMENT)

ISO 50001
(ENERGY)



EXEMPLARY PRODUCTION SITES

GERFLOR PRODUCTION SITES ARE AMONG THE MOST VIRTUOUS IN THE INDUSTRY

Thanks to modern manufacturing, vinyl has a low environmental impact. Since the material can be processed at low temperatures, the energy required for production is relatively low compared to other materials such as metal, glass and ceramics.

OPTIMISED TREATMENT OF FLUE GASES

Over the past 5 years, flue gas treatment systems have been renewed and modernised to ensure minimal impact.

OPTIMISED ACOUSTIC PERFORMANCE

Each new industrial project incorporates acoustic performance improvement objectives. For example, the new Tarare production line features the most recent noise reduction technologies available.

100% GREEN ELECTRICITY

All the electricity used by our French & German production sites is generated from renewable energy sources. Our hydroelectric power is backed by certificates of origin.

-10%
IN 3 YEARS

FINDING THE ENERGY TO CONSUME LESS

In recent years, the industrial heating and cooling systems at our French production sites in Tarare, Saint-Paul, and Grillon have been replaced with higher efficiency energy systems.

In addition, the design of new production lines and re-engineering of existing resources have enabled us to reduce energy consumption by incorporating the absolute best existing technologies. For example, the new "2 metre" roll line in Saint-Paul has resulted in a 30% reduction in consumption.

MOVING TO ALL-ELECTRIC

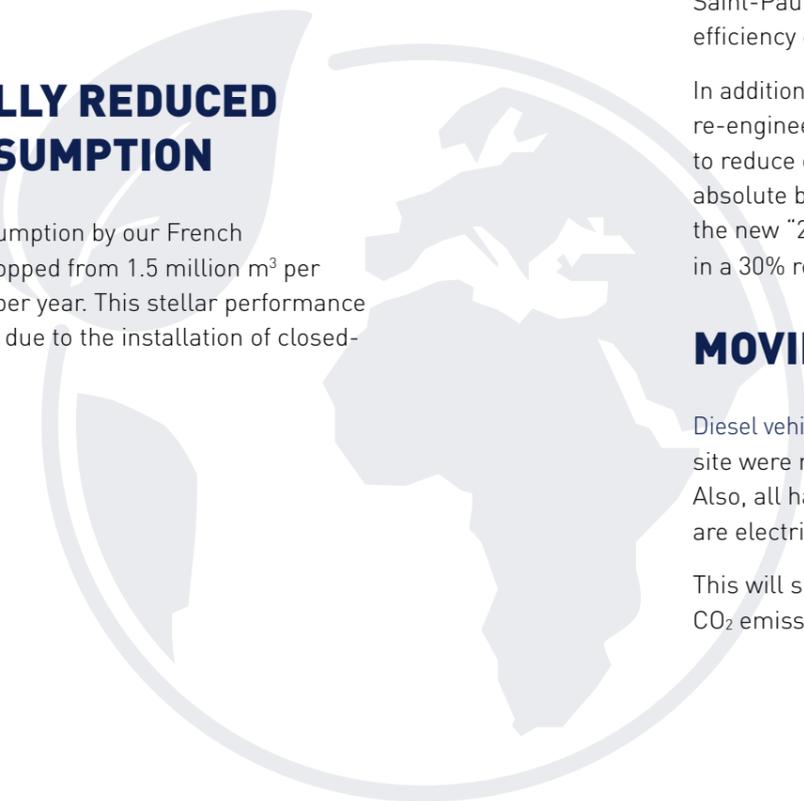
Diesel vehicles used for handling trailers at the Saint-Paul site were replaced with electric tow tractors in 2019. Also, all handling vehicles at the Tarare production site are electric in 2022.

This will significantly contribute to reducing the site's CO₂ emissions.

-85%
IN 20 YEARS

DRAMATICALLY REDUCED WATER CONSUMPTION

Since 2000, water consumption by our French production sites has dropped from 1.5 million m³ per year to 0.25 million m³ per year. This stellar performance improvement is notably due to the installation of closed-loop cooling systems.



**AVERAGE
RECYCLED CONTENT**
2025 TARGET

30%

**NOTHING IS LOST,
EVERYTHING IS TRANSFORMED**

recycled content in Gerflor products, derived from industrial scrap, laying offcuts and end-of-life products. 25% in 2020.

PRODUCING
WHILE MINIMISING
OUR FOOTPRINT

75%

**FLOORING DESIGNED
USING INEXHAUSTIBLE,
MINERAL-BASED , BIOSOURCED
OR RECYCLED MATERIALS.**

Almost 60% of Vinyl consists of chlorine, which - like most of the table salt we use every day - is extracted from rock salt and chalk and are available in large, these components are not subject to resource depletion.

**PVC, A 100%
RECYCLABLE
MATERIAL**



**ON AVERAGE, 25% RECYCLED
CONTENT IN OUR PRODUCTS**

Our vinyl products contain 25% recycled materials, on average. Incorporating recycled materials does not affect our product quality and performance. Some of our more technical products contain over 50% recycled materials. All recycled content complies with the European REACH regulation.

**UPCYCLING*: GERFLOR RECYCLES
ITS OWN PRODUCTS... AND OTHER
MANUFACTURERS' PRODUCTS**

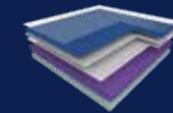
In 2000, Gerflor became the first flooring manufacturer in the world to use a textile backing made from recycled PET bottles.

For example, every m² of the Transit Tex range recycles 4 uses plastic bottles.



* Upcycling: re-use of end-of-life materials in such a way as to create products of higher quality or value.

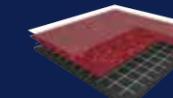
TECHNICAL PRODUCTS
WITH A HIGH PERCENTAGE
OF RECYCLED MATERIAL:



up to **32%**
in Taraflex Sport
Evolution rolls



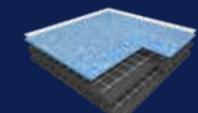
up to **100%**
in Bateco rolls



up to **51%**
in Premium rolls



up to **55%**
in Creation Clic
Planks and Tiles



up to **80%**
in GTI
Technical Tiles

ADHESIVE FREE
2025 TARGET

35%

**LET'S LAY THE FOUNDATION
FOR A MORE RESPECTFUL FUTURE**

of activity with flooring designed for adhesive free installation.
25% in 2020.

USER HEALTH AND SAFETY ABOVE ALL

ADHESIVE FREE INSTALLATION, FOR LOWER EMISSIONS AND MORE FLEXIBILITY

To reduce VOC* emissions associated with adhesives, we have developed innovative products that can be loose-laid, without glue. The three key benefits of adhesive free installation:

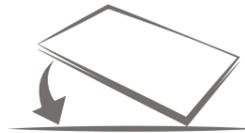
- No VOCs associated with adhesives
- Easier and faster to install
- Easier to remove and re-use or recycle



100% vertical CLIC



Rolls with TEXTILE BACKING



Technical LOOSE LAY Tiles

In spaces where laying with adhesive is necessary, we recommend using solvent-free acrylic glues with low VOC emissions, certified EMICODE EC1 and EC1 PLUS.

*Volatile Organic Compounds.

SUSTAINABLE AND RELIABLE SOLUTIONS, VALIDATED BY CSTB TECHNICAL APPROVALS

All innovative solutions marketed by Gerflor in France are subject to a Technical Approval (AT) or an Experimental Technical Assessment (ATEX) issued by the Scientific and Technical Centre for Building (CSTB). The Technical Approval or ATEX certifies the robustness and durability of the products or laying techniques offered by Gerflor.

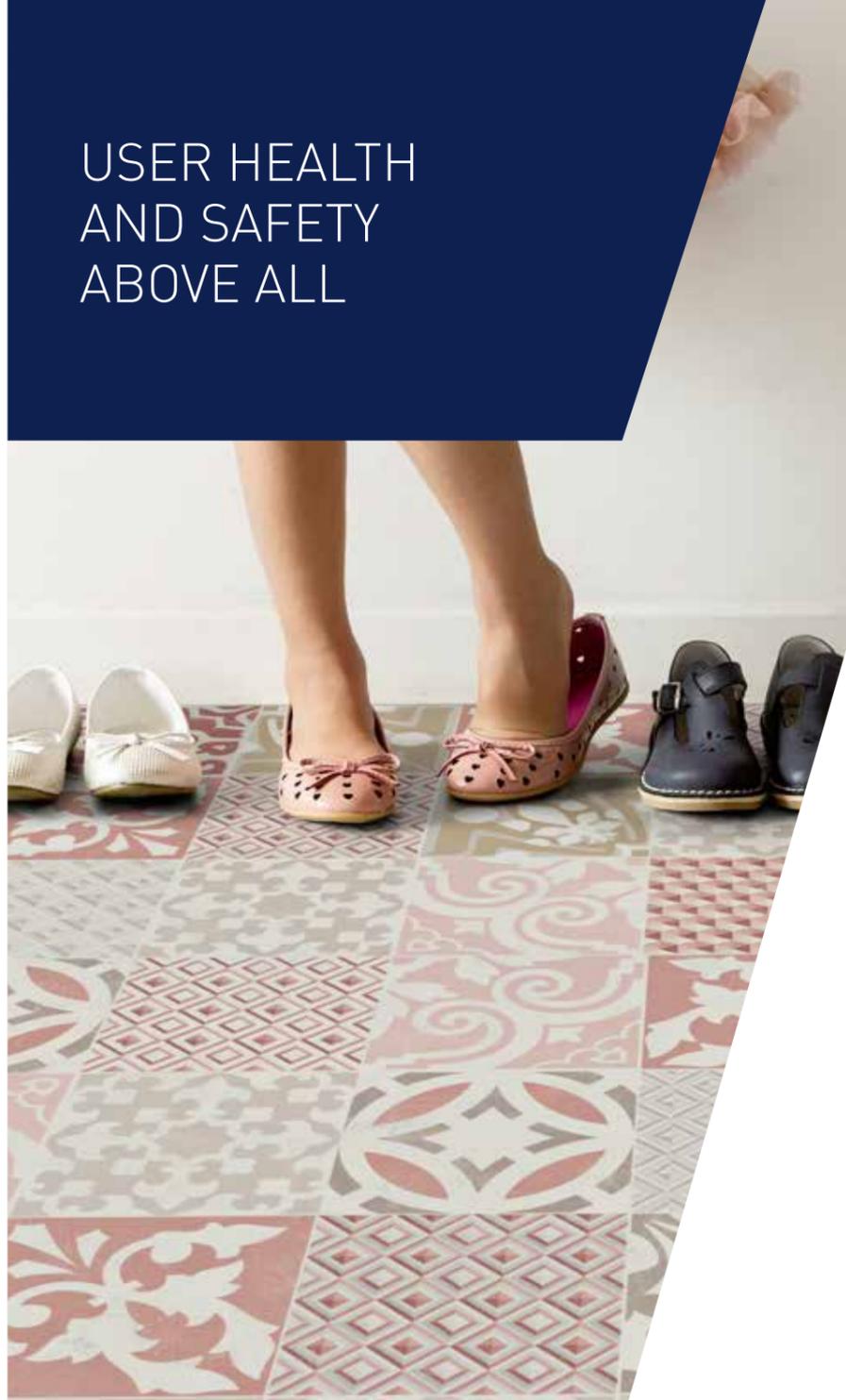
In contrast, products and laying solutions without any CSTB Technical Approval or ATEX present a higher risk of disputes, which most often result in removal and scrapping of the first floor covering and laying a new one.



A PRE-CUTTING OR LENGTH-TO-MEASURE SERVICE TO REDUCE LAYING OFFCUTS

Gerflor offers its customers a pre-cutting service prior to shipping, as well as manufacturing custom lengths.

This applies to Sport products in the Taraflex range, for example. Products supplied in rolls and distributed by large DIY stores and interior design specialists can also be cut in our factories to dimensions requested by end customers.



USER HEALTH AND SAFETY ABOVE ALL



IMPROVING INDOOR AIR QUALITY

A response to our changing lifestyles

Many of us tend to spend 90% of our time indoors, in homes, sports halls, offices, public buildings, etc. Since most building materials emit Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), indoor air quality has become a major health issue.

We have reduced VOC emissions down to levels up to 100 times lower than required by standards. Our products do not emit any formaldehyde.

Certifications

All Gerflor products are certified A+, the most high-performance emissions level for building products. Gerflor products are also Floorscore certified. Most of our products emit less than 10 µg/m³ after 28 days. Examples include the Creation, Premium, Taralay Impression, Mipolam and DLW Linoleum ranges.



IMPROVING SOUND INSULATION

Gerflor flooring reduces noise by up to -20 decibels

Noise is increasingly recognised as a threat to people's quality of life and comfort, especially in residential, hospitality, health and education sectors.

Our solution is for almost all Gerflor ranges to offer acoustic product versions incorporating a foam or cork backing to help reduce:

- impact sound caused by objects falling and hitting the floor
- the sound of footsteps

Gerflor has also developed a specific range of acoustic underlays for vinyl tiles and planks.

Cork for its acoustic properties

Cork is a 100% natural and rapidly renewable material. Gerflor is one of the few manufacturers to use cork to help soundproof its floor coverings, such as Saga².

Flooring designed to last

Wear from traffic is the first threat to any floor covering. Gerflor ranges include products suitable for both heavy foot traffic (rooms in public buildings, shops, etc.) and regular machine traffic (forklifts in warehouses).

Our flooring products are also designed to resist the sources of damage in their environment: piercing, scratches, chemicals, temperature fluctuations, humidity, etc. We are the only manufacturer to offer products with a 100% pure homogeneous wear layer particularly well adapted to withstand heavy use: Premium, Taralay Millenium, GTI, Attraction.

USER HEALTH AND SAFETY ABOVE ALL

EASIER AND EXTREMELY REDUCED CLEANING

Over a floor covering's entire life cycle, cleaning alone represents 25% of the product's environmental impact. Cleaning requires substantial consumption of water, energy and cleaning products.

Thanks to the introduction of revolutionary surface coatings on Gerflor ranges, such as Evercare™ and ProtecSol®2, the environmental impact of cleaning has been cut in half over the last 10 years.

Not only that, but our various surface treatments provide even greater protection for floor coverings. They eliminate the need for costly buffing treatment throughout the product's entire lifetime. They offer better stain resistance, make cleaning easier and helping save on water and detergent.

HYGIENE ALSO INCLUDES CLEAN FLOORS AND WALLS

As a world leader in floor coverings for hospitals and medical/welfare environments, Gerflor provides a comprehensive offering for improved floor and wall hygiene and reduced risk of infection.

Antibacterial action

All our heterogeneous PVC floor coverings (treated with ProtecSol®2, ProtecSol® or Sparclean®) and homogeneous PVC floor coverings (with Evercare™ treatment) offer 99% antibacterial performance in compliance with ISO 22196.

All our linoleum floor coverings have natural antibacterial properties due to the linseed oil and pine resin used in their manufacture. In addition to natural properties Gerflor R&D has developed a revolutionary surface treatment Neocare™, a new solvent-free surface protection. Extremely hard wearing due to triple, laser uv cross-linking. The result of Gerflor R&D expertise, giving DLW new collection outstanding technical features for a healthy and durable use, with easy cleaning and maintenance. Compliance with the floor cleaning protocols enables the antibacterial action to be preserved over time. SPM handrails are fitted with antibacterial seals to prevent contamination.

Waterproofing

For showers, Gerflor offers a complete 100% watertight Floor + Wall + Accessories system validated by a CSTB Technical Approval.

A waterproof weld between sections: Gerflor floor and wall coverings are hot-welded for absolute hygiene and watertightness.

Coving: coving makes it easier to clean in corners and at floor/wall joins while ensuring excellent watertightness.

Entrance mats

Our ROMUS entrance mats are key contributors to hygiene performance in buildings. They help prevent soiling of floors and premature wear while also decreasing cleaning costs.

Anti-viral action (Covid-19)

The ISO 21702 standard enables testing antiviral activity on plastics and other non-porous surfaces.

Tests performed based on ISO 21702 by an independent laboratory, Virhealth, show that: Gerflor flooring with Evercare™, ProtecSol®2 or Neocare surface treatment shows exceptional antiviral activity against coronavirus strains: the treatments reduce virus quantity by 99.7% after 2 hours.



99.7%
of human coronavirus eliminated
after 2 hours, certified by Virhealth

USER HEALTH AND SAFETY ABOVE ALL



MORE VISUAL COMFORT FOR LESS ENERGY

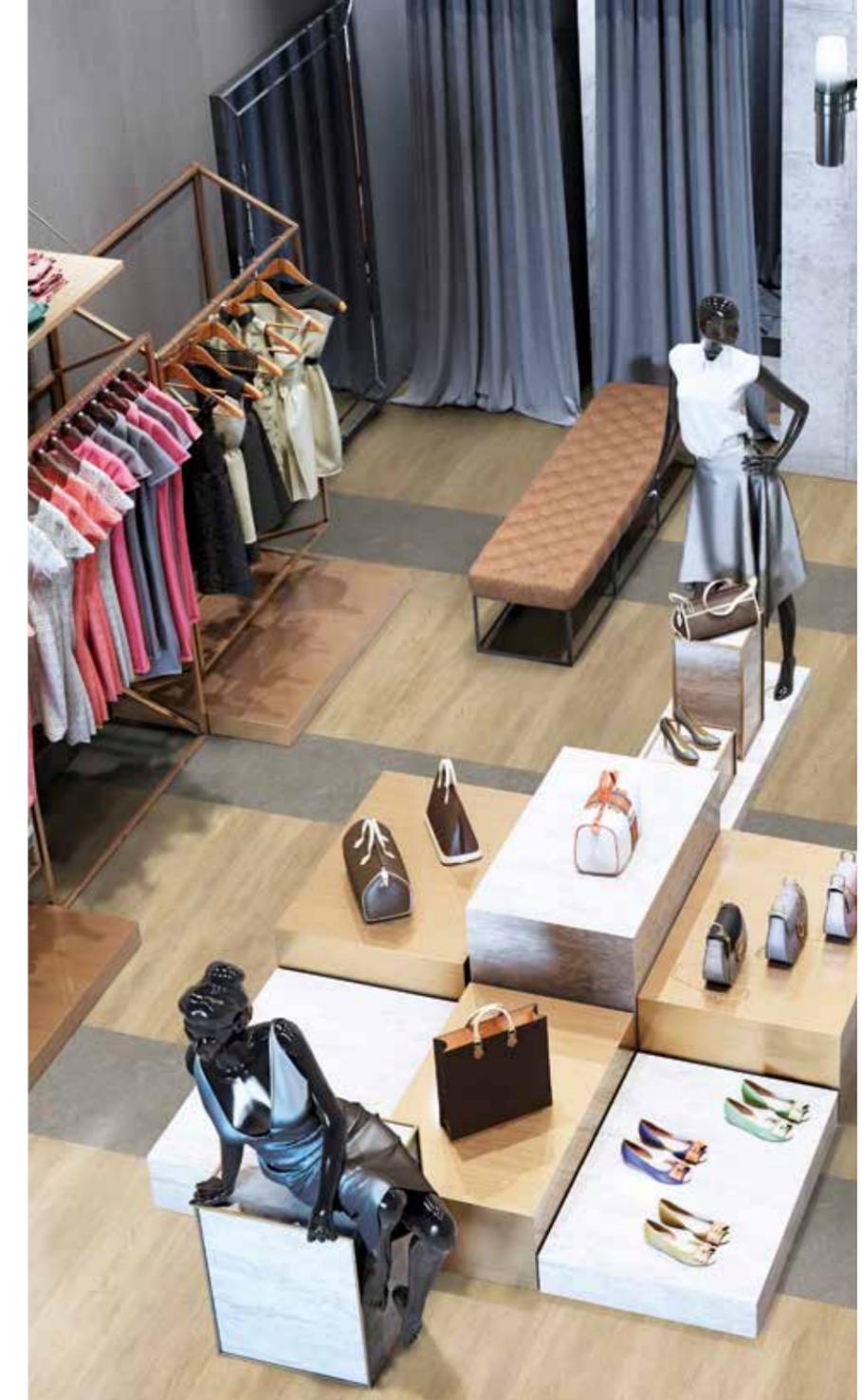
Lighter-coloured flooring for lower energy consumption

The issue of light reflectance as a source of potential energy savings is central to new environmental regulations and programmes, including the HQE approach, E+C- label, RE 2020, and more. The light reflectance value (LRV) is the quantity of light energy reflected relative to that absorbed. A pale floor reflects more light and helps delay the need to turn on artificial light: it is estimated that a pale colour can reduce energy consumption associated with lighting by 60% compared with a dark colour.

Gerflor offers a wide variety of colours with Light Reflectance Values ranging from 6% to 86%, enabling architects to select the most suitable flooring for the light conditions of each project.

REDUCING ACCIDENT RISKS

The placement of colours with very contrasting LRV ratings can be used to improve traffic flow, clearly signal obstacles and reduce accident risks, particularly for people with impaired vision. This is why all our flooring ranges, wall protections and finishes offer extensive colour ranges with LRV rating variations exceeding 70%. The Taralay Digital Printing range allows architects to customise colours to suit the LRV requirements for their project.



**VOLUME OF RECYCLED
MATERIAL PER YEAR**
2025 TARGET

60,000 t

of recycled materials, derived from industrial scrap, laying offcuts
and end-of-life products. 50,000 t in 2020.

**SOME IDEALS DESERVE
TONS OF ATTENTION**

PVC, A 100% RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

A COLLECTION AND RECYCLING SOLUTION AT EACH LIFE CYCLE STAGE

The primary challenge is to recover material for recycling at each stage of the product life cycle, from production and installation to end-of-life. Gerflor provides a collection and recycling solution for each source.

GERFLOR HAS SET UP 2 DISTINCT SYSTEMS TO MEET RECOVERY CHALLENGES:

The PVC Next programme, which reprocesses "soiled" end-of-life products such as glue-down items, items mixed with other materials or those containing non-REACH compliant components.

The Second Life programme, for recovery of laying offcuts and "clean" end-of-life products, such as glue-free REACH compliant items.



THE PVC NEXT PROGRAMME

Materials are collected and transferred to the AgPR recycling centre in Germany, of which Gerflor is the major shareholder.

There, the waste is sorted and then ground into granules for re-use in other industries.

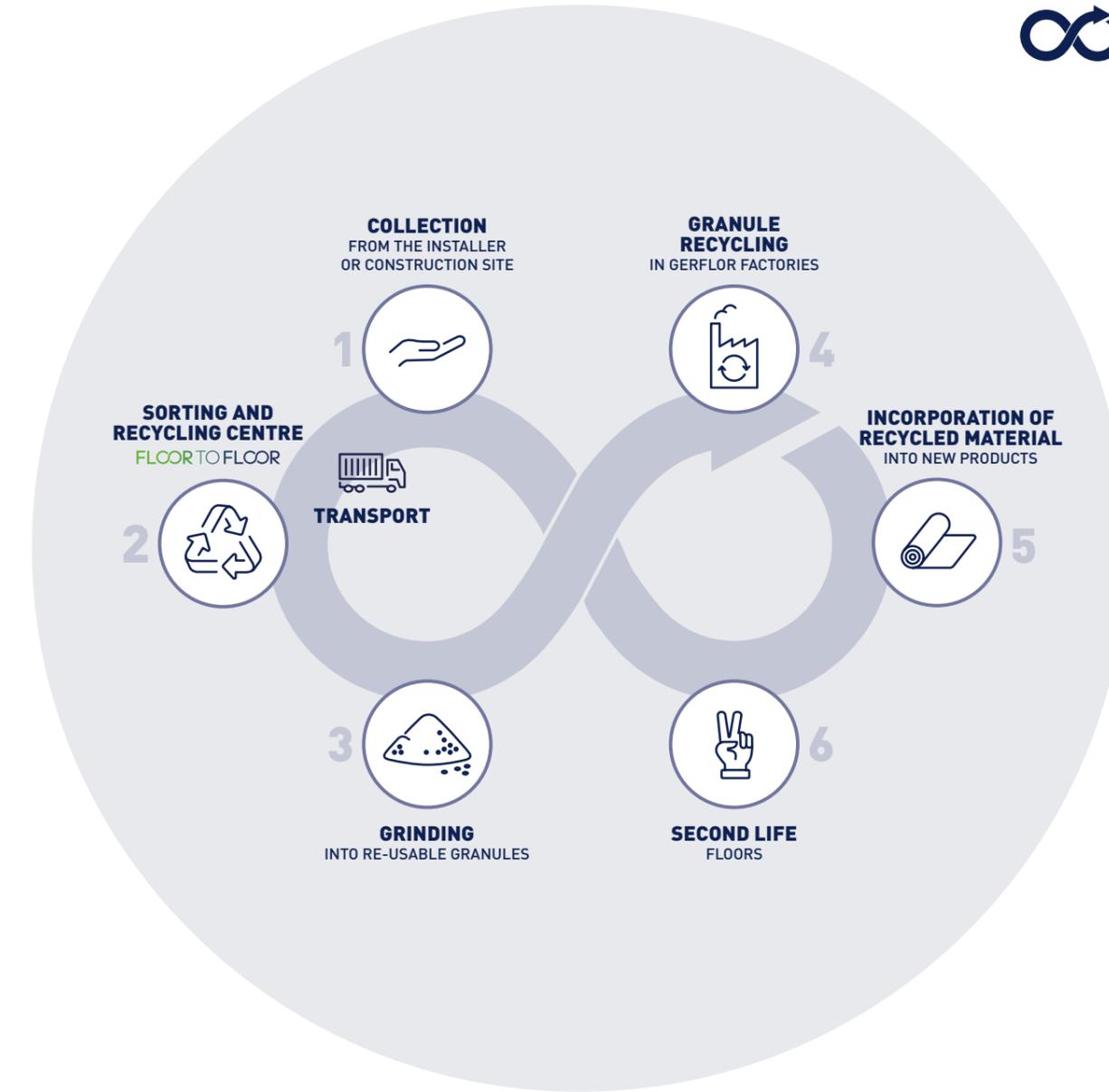
AgPR recovers up to 2,500 tonnes per year.

RECYCLING, THE CORNERSTONE FOR A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

SECOND LIFE: AN INNOVATIVE RECYCLING SYSTEM

Gerflor has been recycling its production waste in its factories for the past 50 years. From 2011, Gerflor set up the Second Life programme in France, a free programme to collect laying offcuts and “clean” end-of-life products, notably glue-free REACH compliant items. This customisable programme is adaptable to suit the size and constraints of the installation company. It also enables collection of competitors’ PVC products.

4 years ago, Gerflor linked up with recycling leader PAPREC to create a plant in France called Floor to Floor to recover laying offcuts and “clean” end-of-life products. Recycled materials generated by Floor to Floor are sent directly to Gerflor production sites, where they are incorporated into new products. Floor to Floor’s target is to recycle 55,000 t/year from 2025.



EXCEEDING REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

PRODUCT CERTIFICATIONS & LABELS



The Scientific and Technical Centre for Building's UPEC classification (based on wear, indentation, water and chemicals) divides buildings into 11 categories and within each of them defines, for each room type, the required technical specifications for floor coverings to ensure adequate durability of these coverings (a minimum of 10 years for normal use with appropriate cleaning).

The QB UPEC certification (or QB UPEC A+ for acoustic products) awarded by CSTB attests that a manufacturer's products comply with the product standards and technical specifications for the rooms in which the manufacturer intends for them to be used.

OUR ACTIONS

All our glue-down professional PVC products are certified QB UPEC, or QB UPEC A+ for our acoustic products.



Cradle to Cradle is a particularly stringent international certification that assesses products based on 5 types of criteria related to sustainable development: material health or toxicity of materials used; material reuse in a biological or technical cycle; use of renewable energies and carbon management; water stewardship or management; and social fairness or corporate responsibility.

OUR ACTIONS

Cradle to Cradle certification of other Gerflor products is in progress. DLW Linoleum is Cradle to Cradle certified™ Silver.

EXCEEDING REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

PRODUCT CERTIFICATIONS & LABELS

VOC emissions



This labelling is mandatory for construction products, corresponding to levels of VOC emissions into indoor air measured 28 days after products are installed in a room. The labelling establishes 4 emission performance classes (A+, A, B, C) based on total emissions of 10 chemicals identified as presenting health and environmental risks. Class A+, the top-performing level, corresponds to total VOC emissions < 1,000 µg/m³.

OUR ACTIONS

All our Gerflor PVC and Linoleum products are ranked A+.



An American certification system based on the California "Section 01350" for VOC emission evaluation, specific to floor coverings.

This evaluation procedure measures emissions after 11, 12 and 14 days: limit values for TVOCs and aldehydes. It is the most recognised system in the world and the best way to approve a product in terms of VOC emissions, based on LEED™ certification.

Floorscore requires:

- Initial on-site inspection based on ISO 9001 certification
- VOC emissions measurements by an external laboratory

OUR ACTIONS

Gerflor floors are Floorscore certified. Using exclusively Gerflor products in a given project can score 1 point according to the LEED™ credit system for a low-emitting flooring system.

BUILDING CERTIFICATION

All Gerflor products can contribute to environmental building certification, their contribution varying depending on product characteristics and the technologies used.

LEED™

LEED™ (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is a renowned international green building certification system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

There are different types of LEED™ certification:

- Homes
- Neighbourhoods
- Commercial interiors
- Core structure and shell
- New construction and major renovation
- Schools, health, retail

How can flooring contribute to LEED™ certification?

EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCES

- Credit 4: Recycled content
- Credit 5: Locally sourced materials
- Credit 6: Rapidly renewable materials
- Credit 7: Certified wood

INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

- Credit 4.1: Low-emitting materials - Adhesives and sealants
- Credit 4.2: Low-emitting materials - Paints and coatings
- Credit 4.3: Low-emitting materials - Flooring systems

OUR ACTIONS

Gerflor products can provide up to 3 points towards LEED™ certification:

- Low VOC-emitting products, Floorscore certified
- Products containing recycled materials
- Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) certified by a third party
- Health Product Declaration (HPD)



In France, the HQE High Environmental Quality standard is a global approach specifying criteria for buildings to "manage impacts on the outdoor environment and create a pleasant and healthy indoor environment".

HQE specifies 14 targets, 7 of which relate to flooring:

ECO-CONSTRUCTION

- Target 2: integrated choice of products and building materials

COMFORT

- Target 8: hygrometric comfort
- Target 9: acoustic comfort
- Target 10: visual comfort
- Target 11: olfactory comfort

HEALTH

- Target 12: sanitary conditions of indoor spaces
- Target 13: air quality

For detailed and personalised information, please contact your Gerflor Sales Advisor.

OUR ACTIONS

Contribution to HQE certification:

- EHPD for each product range
- Low VOC emissions
- Products containing recycled materials
- High quality coverings: technical, fire behaviour, design, installation over underfloor heating system.



we care / we act

Our Commitments for a Sustainable future



-20%
carbon
footprint*



10%
biosourced
content**



30%
recycled
content



35%
adhesive free**



60 000 T
annual volume
recycled

* Scopes 1 and 2 defined in the GHG protocol ** % of activity with biosourced materials *** % of activity - adhesive free solution