



# Creating Better Environments

Sustainability is about the things you can't see



FLOORING SYSTEMS



A large field of small, light blue flowers with yellow centers, growing on green stems. The field stretches to the horizon under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds.

# We believe in creating better environments

From how they're made to how they perform, we make outstanding floors that are truly sustainable.

That's because our floors are good for people, good for buildings and good for the environment.

So, from the building they're in to the world outside, we're helping our customers work, live and relax in better environments.



# It's about the things you can't see

A Forbo floor is always beautiful and stylish to look at. A floor that's comfortable to live, work and play on.

But looks aren't everything; often, it's the things you can't see that really matter.

We believe true sustainability is about creating links of shared responsibilities and values between all stakeholders.







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# From how it's made, our footprint...

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From how we run our factories to how we choose our ingredients, the way we make our floors is a big part of how we meet our mission to create better environments.

**For example:**

We use **Life Cycle Assessment**, an open and transparent methodology, to measure our products' complete environmental performance. We're committed to **Green Design** principles including **BIM**: to increasing efficiency, reducing the use of virgin raw materials and always searching for the most environmentally appropriate solution.

We **reduce, reuse, recycle and renew**. For example, **we collect and recycle installation off-cuts** and help repurpose end-of-life waste into some of our new products. Our **save a sample scheme** encourages customers to return samples to us once they have served their purpose. This allows the samples to be re-used or recycled rather than thrown in the bin, and ultimately reduces the amount of material going to landfill.

We make our flooring in clean, efficient factories, powered by **100% renewable electricity** (our carpet tiles are produced with 100% renewable **energy**). And we make sure they're close to our designers in Europe – so that those who make and those who create can work side by side.

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# ...to how it performs, your footsteps...

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We include the whole life of a floor when we think about its sustainability performance. Which means we make sure our floors start performing from the moment they're fitted.

**For example:**

We understand that floors have different roles to play within a building. Because we make a wide range of flooring, we'll start by recommending the **best floor for the job**, and then always make sure it's as sustainable as possible.

We're always finding ways to provide you with the **lowest cost of ownership** for our floors. They're always easy to install and require less maintenance, using **less cleaning chemicals**, throughout their life.

Which, by the way, will be a long and happy one, saving money and reducing waste.

**Simply browse through this brochure to discover the things you can't see that make Forbo's floors truly sustainable.**



# Marmoleum: A natural talent

Forbo's Marmoleum is created from 97% natural raw materials, is phthalate free and the weighted average of our Marmoleum portfolio is also CO<sub>2</sub> neutral (cradle to gate) – without offsetting.

So it's no surprise that it is the world's leading sustainable resilient flooring. Marmoleum is what it is, a genuine, authentic product.





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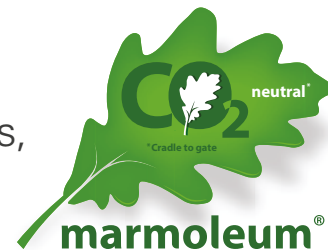
# our footprint

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There's a craft to making really good Marmoleum. Fortunately, we've had over 150 years' experience in getting it just right. Marmoleum is made from an average of **97% natural raw materials, 62% of which are renewable** and will grow back within ten years.

At the heart of Marmoleum is the flax plant from which we derive the key ingredient, linseed oil.

Due to its unique properties, 97% natural raw materials and modern manufacturing processes, Marmoleum is also CO<sub>2</sub> neutral\* – without needing offsetting.



The new Marmoleum Cocoa range goes one step further by adding a seventh natural ingredient, upcycled cocoa shells from a Dutch chocolate producer.

Marmoleum is also made with **43% reused and recycled content** to reduce the need for virgin raw material.

At the end of its long life, Marmoleum is **100% biodegradable** under controlled conditions.

*\*weighted average of the Marmoleum portfolio, cradle to gate*

To find out more about how Marmoleum helps to Create Better Environments, visit our web site and download the environmental data sheets [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads)

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# your footsteps

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This floor performs well from the minute it's installed, but it also becomes **stronger over time**, making it more and more durable.

We finish Marmoleum with **Topshield**, which, together with its natural bacteriostatic properties means the floor is hygienic and needs less cleaning with less harmful chemicals.

Approved by **Allergy UK** and with TVOC's 30 times lower than the European norm, you can relax knowing that Marmoleum contributes to a healthier indoor environment.

We **recycle installation off-cuts** into new Marmoleum at our plants in Scotland and the Netherlands.

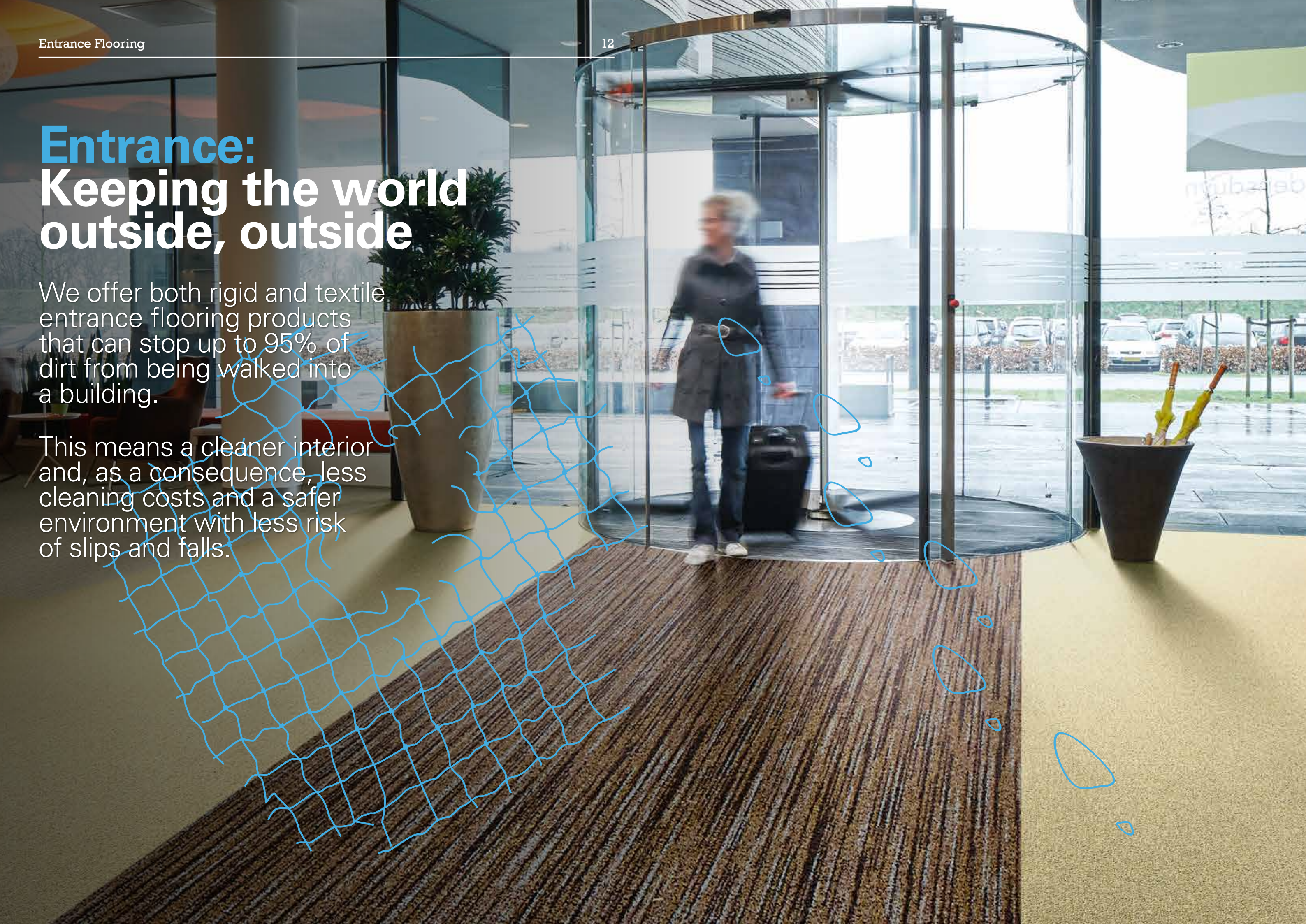
And because it lasts for so long and is so easy to clean, Marmoleum has a very low cost of ownership.



# Entrance: Keeping the world outside, outside

We offer both rigid and textile entrance flooring products that can stop up to 95% of dirt from being walked into a building.

This means a cleaner interior and, as a consequence, less cleaning costs and a safer environment with less risk of slips and falls.





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# our footprint

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From old carpet fluff to abandoned fishing nets, many of our Coral collections are made from ECONYL® – a high quality yarn made from **100% regenerated polyamide**.

The primary backing of Coral Welcome is made from **recycled plastic PET bottles**.

We make Coral in a factory that runs entirely on green electricity and sends virtually zero waste to landfill and 100% of our aluminium, steel and rubber waste from our Nuway production is recycled.

And for those customers wanting a 'natural' entrance system, we now offer Nuway Tuftiguard with Bamboo scraper bars. Bamboo is a sustainable species of grass and one of the fastest growing plants on earth.

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# your footsteps

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We offer different types of entrance flooring; together they **stop up to 95% of dirt** being walked into your building:

- External rigid matting scrapes coarse dirt from shoes
- Interior primary matting with scraper yarns removes moisture and finer dirt particles
- Interior secondary matting removes the final traces of moisture to prevent slips

Together, these can **reduce your cleaning bills by up to 65%** thus saving you money, energy and chemical cleaners. They also reduce your environmental impact.

In addition, our Nuway Tuftiguard rigid entrance mats are reversible, so you can **double their lifespan** by simply turning them over.



# Carpet tiles: Industry leading recycled content

All our carpet tiles have at least 57% recycled content (by weight), with some containing an impressive 77%.





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# our footprint

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By challenging the way tufted carpet tiles are made, our UK-produced Tessera tiles now boast **at least 57% recycled content** and all Tessera products meet the indoor air quality requirements of CDPH Standard Method V1.2, widely known as CA Section 01350.

Investment in an extruder has reduced our bitumen usage by 56% and enabled us to increase the levels of our recycled filler by 30%.

We're reducing the amount of virgin materials we use. For example, instead of throwing away yarn ends, we rewind them and tuft them into our Tessera carpet tiles. We even have carpet tiles made with up to **100% ECONYL® regenerated yarn**.

All tufted Tessera carpet tiles are manufactured using 100% renewable energy (electricity & biogas).

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# your footsteps

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Our carpet tiles are quick and easy to clean using a system called **Dry Fusion**, which uses heat, a little water and natural, organic cleaners. So you can use less water and fewer chemicals without compromising the appearance.

Following Green Design principles, our innovative random-lay carpet tiles **reduce fitting waste to less than 2%**.

And any Tessera fitting waste can be collected **to avoid landfill**.

We work with recycling companies to help customers clean, reuse and recycle old carpet tiles in the UK.



# Vinyl: Making vinyl better

Whenever possible, vinyl wastes generated during production processes are recycled and re-used as backings in products such as Flotex tiles and planks.





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# our footprint

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Our vinyl ranges contain **up to 70% recycled content** in their backing.

**We produce all our vinyl in Europe** where it meets the highest possible current and future REACH compliance standards for chemical content.

Of all the electricity we buy, **100% comes from renewable sources**. This means our vinyl production sites are part of an effective environmental management system and achieve ISO 14001 certification.

Our ground breaking new **Fast Fit adhesive free flooring solutions** help reduce the amounts of material and energy used for a flooring installation.

Many of our vinyl ranges are produced in **zero waste environments**, ensuring efficient and sustainable manufacturing.

To find out more about how our various vinyl ranges help to Create Better Environments, visit our web site and download the environmental data sheets **[www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads)**

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# your footsteps

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We use smart material constructions and durable finishes on our vinyl. A micro-embossing technology reduces the need for chemical cleaning and increases the floor's lifespan.

Through our **Back to the Floor scheme**, we can collect installation off-cuts from our vinyl floors floors to avoid landfill.

Our collection of **Fast Fit products**, including sheet, tile and plank options, can be reused or effortlessly removed at the end of their useful service life and recycled avoiding landfill as there is no adhesive residue stuck to the back of the material.

Low emissions and **phthalate free** manufacturing contributes to a healthy indoor environment.



# Flotex: Greater than its parts

Our unique hybrid flooring combines the benefits of textile and resilient flooring to give you the comfort of a high tech carpet and the durability of a resilient floor.





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# our footprint

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We reduce the resource use of our hybrid flooring range, Flotex, wherever possible and through packaging re-design, we've cut cardboard use by 50 tonnes per year.

The unique design of Flotex means it releases twice as many allergens on cleaning than standard carpet. It also meets the indoor air quality requirements of CDPH Standard Method V1.2, widely known as CA Section 01350.

Flotex tiles and planks contain **49% recycled content** and, as Flotex Colour ranges have no pattern repeats, installation is easier and wastage reduced.

To find out more about how our Flotex ranges help to Create Better Environments, visit our web site and download the environmental data sheets [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads)

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# your footsteps

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Our Flotex flooring is **100% waterproof**, which means you just need water and standard cleaning materials, (and no chemicals) for an effective clean, and you can also easily steam clean Flotex when hygiene standards demand it.

Recent research by Cleaning Research International has shown that **the cleanability and durability of flocked floor coverings are unsurpassed** amongst textile floor coverings which, along with the allergy benefits makes them particularly suited to high-traffic spaces.

Flotex is proven to have a positive effect on the lives of allergy sufferers and is the only textile floor covering to receive the prestigious **Allergy UK Seal of Approval™ \***

Phthalate free, slip resistant and offering up to 22 dB impact noise reduction, Flotex is a reassuringly safe and sound flooring solution.

Through our Back to the Floor scheme, we can collect clean Flotex installation off-cuts and recycle them at our plant in Ripley, Derbyshire.

\*Correct at print. Visit [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk) for further information and updates.



# Green certification

We use several transparent independent third party certification systems for our flooring products. We're also keen to include our products in the building rating systems for a sustainable environment.

**It's good for Forbo** because it helps us share our sustainability story and spot opportunities to improve.

**And it's good for you** because it shows that other environmental experts agree that our floors are among the most sustainable and high performance available.

## Green information

We provide environmental data sheets for our products which are available online. Importantly, if a particular product doesn't meet a relevant standard or criteria, this is noted on the sheets. Please visit [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads) to download the data sheets.

We also provide high quality electronic information such as BIM models with all the relevant and up-to-date information included. Please visit [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/BIM](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/BIM) to find out more.



## Social accountability

As well as reducing our impact on the planet, we're also working on caring for the people that touch our business, from employees to suppliers. That's why all our UK manufacturing facilities and most of our sites in Europe are certified to OHSAS 18001 – Occupational Health and Safety and SA8000®. The SA8000 Standard, established by SAI and **one of the world's preeminent social standards**, is a tool for implementing international labour standards to protect workers along each step of the supply chain.

In addition, Forbo is the first flooring company in the UK to achieve BES 6002, the Ethical Labour Sourcing Standard.



The **Nordic Swan**, **Blue Angel**, **BREEAM** and **natureplus** are just a few of the sustainable product labels that Forbo complies to.

Just visit [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbe](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbe) to find out more.

## BREEAM

[Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology]

BREEAM is the world’s most well-known environmental assessment for buildings. As the table opposite shows, Forbo wants you to have all the information you need to make considered decisions – even though there are many of them, we don’t just show you our A+ rated products. To find out more about BREEAM or the ratings included here, visit [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/CBE](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/CBE)

## Ska

Ska rating is an environmental assessment method, benchmark and standard owned by RICS (Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors). It’s for use in non-domestic fit outs and is mainly used in the office and retail sectors.

Many of Forbo’s ranges contribute to the overall Ska rating of a fit out.

The table opposite shows which of our products meet the best practice criteria for soft floor coverings in office, retail and higher education schemes.

## LEED

[Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design]

LEED is the most widely used environmental certification programme in the US, and is recognised internationally.

This programme awards ratings based on the whole performance of a building, instead of individual products, such as flooring.

To find out more about our LEED ratings visit the downloads section of our web site and download the environmental product data sheet for the relevant product [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads)

## BREEAM/SKA

M12 soft floor covering criteria (Ska Offices Vs.1.2 2013)  
M12 soft floor covering criteria (Ska Retail Vs.1.0 2012)  
M12 soft floor covering criteria (Higher Education Vs.1.0 2016)

BREEAM generic ratings for floor coverings							
Product Description	Commercial	Education	Health	Domestic	Retail (Durability)	Retail (Fashion)	Meets Ska criteria
Acoustic Vinyl (Sarlon, Allura Flex, Modul'up decibel, Eternal de Luxe decibel) – PVC floor covering with a foam layer (EN651)	A	A+	A+	A	A	A+	✓
LVT (Allura dryback, Click Pro, Puzzle, Ease) – Printed laminate PVC floor covering (EN649)	A	A+	A+	A	A+	A+	✓
Homogeneous Vinyl (Colorex, Sphera, Fabscrap) – Homogeneous PVC floor coverings (EN649)	A	A+	A+	A	A+	A+	✓
Compact Vinyl (Eternal, Modul'up compact and TE) – Heterogeneous PVC floor coverings (EN649)	A	A+	A+	A	A+	A+	✓
Cushioned Vinyl (Novilon, Novilux) Cushioned PVC floor covering (EN653)	–	–	–	A	–	–	–
Linoleum (Marmoleum) – Plain and decorative linoleum (EN548)	A	A+	A+	A	A+	A+	✓
Safety Flooring (Step) – PVC floor covering with enhanced slip resistance (EN13845)	A	A+	A+	B	A	A+	✓
BREEAM specific ratings for product ranges							
Flotex							
Flotex F50 / Planks tile (Colour, Linear) with recycled backing	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Flotex F200 sheet (Colour, Linear) with PVC backing	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Flotex F200 (Naturals, Vision Bespoke, Designer Collections) with PVC backing	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Tessera							
Alignment	B	A	A	B	B	A+	✓
Arran	B	B	A	B	B	A+	✓
Barcode	A	A	A+	A	A	A+	✓
Chroma	Not being assessed for BREEAM						✓
Cloudscape	A	A	A	B	A	A+	✓
Contour	A	A	A	A	A	A+	✓
Create Space 1	A	A+	A+	A	A	A+	✓
Create Space 2	A	A+	A+	A	A	A+	✓
Diffusion	A	A	A	A	A	A+	✓
Earthscape	B	A	A	B	B	A+	✓
Inline	A	A	A	A	A	A+	✓
In-touch	B	A	A	B	B	A+	✓
Layout & Outline	A	A	A	A	A	A+	✓
Mix	A	A	A	B	A	A+	✓
Nexus	B	A	A	B	B	A+	✓
Seagrass	A	A	A	B	A	A+	✓
Teviot	A	A	A+	A	A	A+	✓
Softbac® Results							
Layout & Outline with Softbac®	A	A	A+	A	A	A+	✓
Coral							
Coral Classic	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Coral Brush	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Coral Welcome	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Coral Duo	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Nuway							
Nuway Tuftiguard HD	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Nuway Connect (depending on composition of the mat)	–	–	–	–	–	–	✓
Nuway Grid	–		–	–	–	–	✓
Please visit <a href="http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbe">www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbe</a> for updates.							


\*Currently being re-assessed.

For more detailed information on the sustainability profile of our products, please visit [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbedownloads) to download any of our environmental data sheets.



# Our footprint

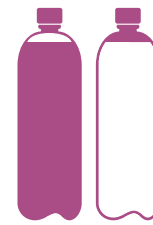
How it's made



**marmoleum®**  
is made from an average of **97%** natural materials



Save a Sample and reduce the amount of virgin material used

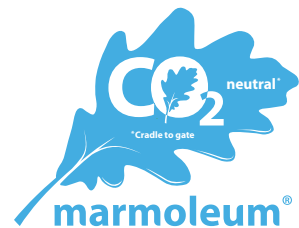


**coral®** welcome primary backing is made from recycled pop bottles

**UP TO 70%** recycled content in the backing of our vinyl ranges

All **tessera®** tiles are produced using renewable energy (electricity and biogas)

**<49%** recycled content in **flotex®** tiles and planks



The weighted average of our Marmoleum product range is CO<sub>2</sub> neutral (cradle to gate) – without offsetting.

**>57%** recycled content in all **tessera®** tufted carpet tiles made in the UK



**ECONYL®** yarn made from abandoned fishing nets

**43%** average recycled content in **marmoleum®**



**100%** of aluminium and steel waste from our **nuway®** production is recycled



Ultrasonic cutting of **allura** reduces waste by **80%**



All Forbo vinyl ranges are phthalate free

**All** our plants are certified to **ISO 9001** **ISO 14001**

**All** our UK plants are certified to **SA8000®** **OHSAS 18001**

**forbo**  
FLOORING SYSTEMS  
**creating better environments**  
Sustainability is about the things you can't see

We were the first flooring manufacturer in UK to achieve **BES 6002** The Ethical Labour Sourcing Standard

All Forbo products sold and made in the UK are produced with **100% electricity from renewable sources**



Patron of **Outward Bound** charity



**UP TO 65%** reduction in cleaning costs when **coral®** is installed

Our innovative random-lay carpet tiles reduce fitting waste to less than

**2%**

**marmoleum®** is biodegradable in a controlled environment

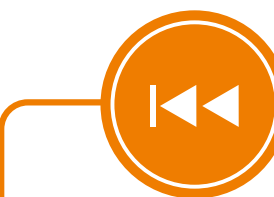



reduces scuffing so less cleaning




**marmoleum®** inhibits the growth of MRSA, C Difficile and other bacteria

**flotex®** releases twice as many allergens on cleaning than standard carpet



**95%** of dirt and moisture can be kept outside the building with **coral®**



We work with Recycling companies to clean, reuse and recycle old carpet tiles in the UK



**nuway® tuftguard**  
mats are reversible, effectively doubling their life



Quick, Easy & Economical  
Our vinyl Fast Fit ranges are adhesive free so can be recycled

**100%** of our packaging is recyclable

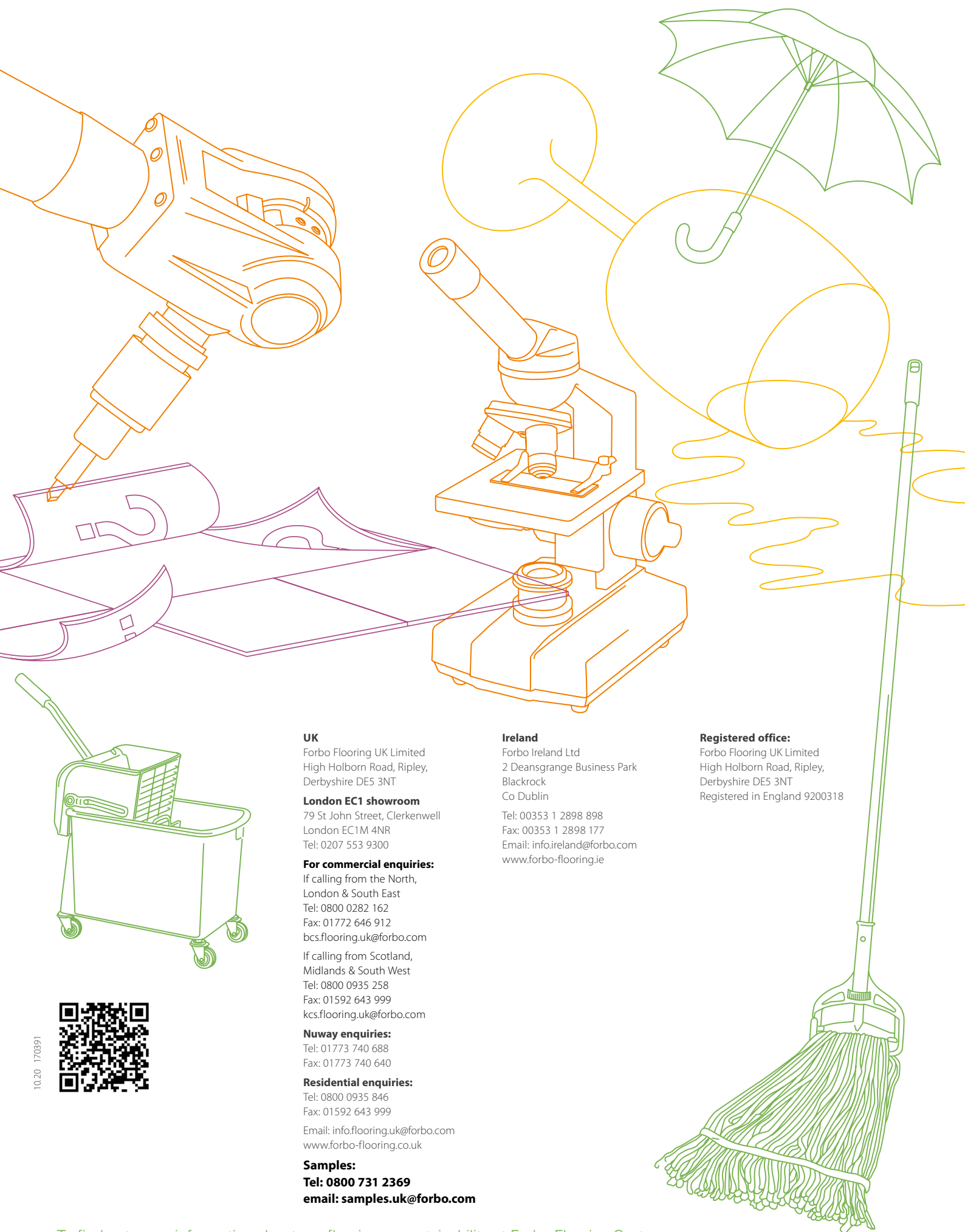


Reduces the environmental impact of an installation by preventing waste from going to landfill

Sustainability is about the things you can't see

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To find out more information about our flooring or sustainability at Forbo Flooring Systems,  
speak with your local Forbo area manager or visit [www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbe](http://www.forbo-flooring.co.uk/cbe)