

Creating Better Environments

Sustainability is about the
things you can't see



FLOORING SYSTEMS

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.





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

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: 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 new products.

We make our flooring in clean, efficient factories, powered by **100% renewable electricity**. 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.

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

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 made from 97% natural raw materials.

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



our footprint

There's a craft to making really good Marmoleum. Fortunately, we've had over 100 years' experience in getting it just right. Marmoleum is made from **97% natural raw materials, 72% 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.

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

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

To find out more about how Marmoleum helps to Create Better Environments, visit our web site **www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE**

your footsteps

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 **Topshield2**, which, together with its natural antibacterial 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 and **CO₂ emissions 50% lower than other resilient flooring**, 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 94% 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.



our footprint

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** and it achieves an **A/A+** rating in all categories on BREEAM.

We make Coral in a factory that runs entirely on green electricity and sends virtually zero waste to landfill and our Nuway range of rigid entrance systems contain recycled aluminium. We recycle all our steel, aluminium and rubber waste.

To find out more about how our Coral and Nuway ranges help to Create Better Environments, visit our web site **www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE**

your footsteps

We offer different types of entrance flooring; together they **stop up to 94% 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: Closing the loop

Not only do all our UK-produced tufted tiles have over 50% recycled content (by weight), we can reprocess production or installation waste and close the loop.



our footprint

By challenging the way tufted carpet tiles are made, our UK-produced Tessera tiles now boast **over 50% recycled content**.

We use innovative ultrasonic blades to cut our carpet tiles, which **reduces tile waste by 80%** compared to the standard technique.

Our new extruder can create a closed loop process, ensuring that trim waste and installation off cuts can be **recycled back into the product**.

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 range. We even have several ranges made with up to **100% ECONYL® regenerated yarn**.

For those looking for something closer to nature, our Westbond natural range is made from the **undyed wool** of seven different UK sheep breeds and **has at least 70% recycled content** in its backing.

To find out more about how our Tessera and Westbond ranges help to Create Better Environments, visit our web site **www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE**

your footsteps

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 appearance.

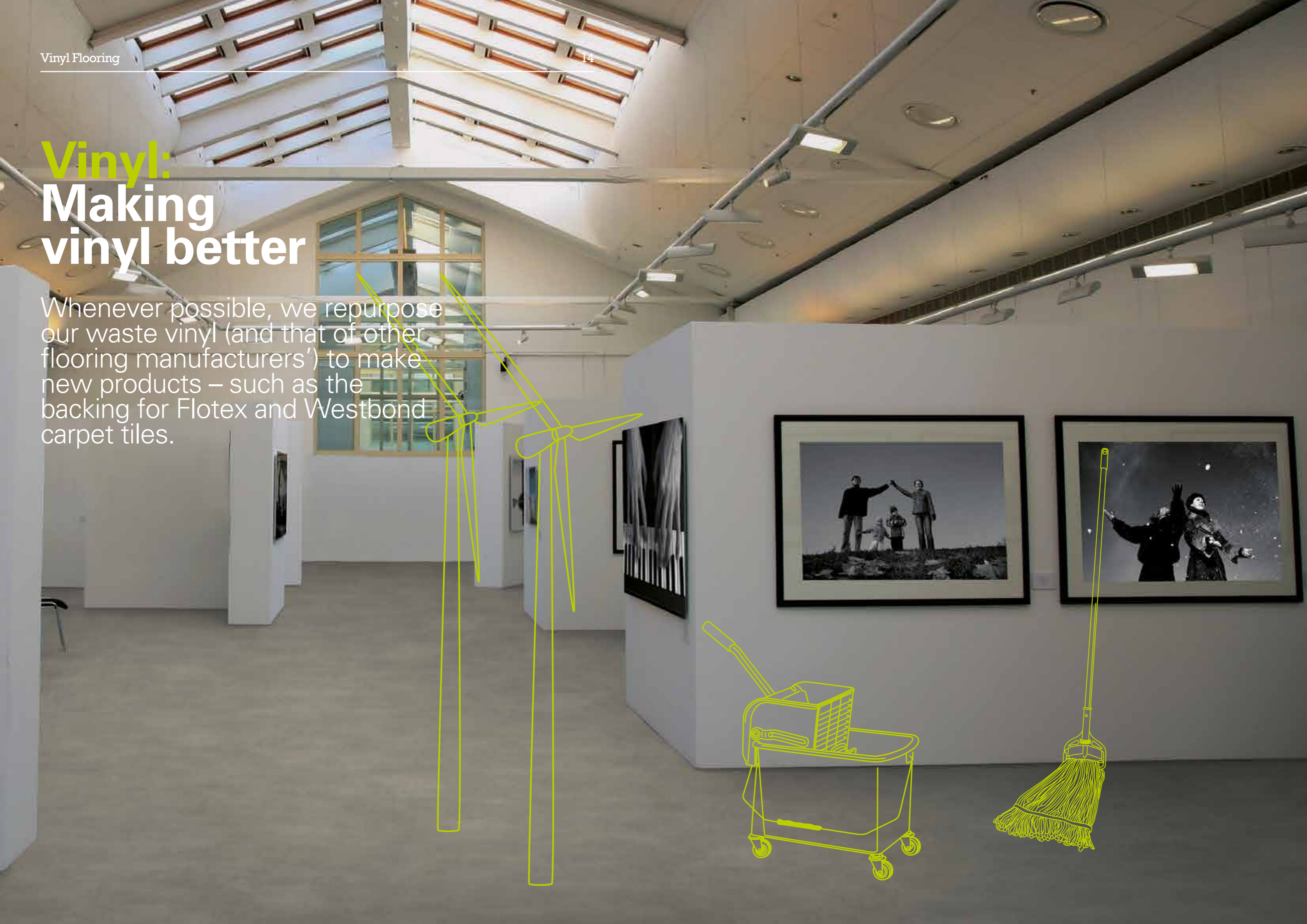
Following Green Design principles, our innovative random-lay carpet tiles **reduce fitting waste to less than 2%**.

And any Tessera fitting waste can be **collected for recycling** at our plant near Preston, Lancashire, where its processed back into new carpet tiles.

As a founder member of **Carpet Recycling UK**, we are also working to ensure that at the end of life, our carpet tiles can be recycled or reused.

Vinyl: Making vinyl better

Whenever possible, we repurpose our waste vinyl (and that of other flooring manufacturers') to make new products – such as the backing for Flotex and Westbond carpet tiles.



our footprint

Our vinyl ranges contain **up to 45% 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.

Plasticisers are what give vinyl its flexibility. These are usually inorganic, but we've started using a more natural '**bio-plasticiser**' that can grow back within a year. It may be a small step, but we're always looking for ways to make things better.

To find out more about how our various vinyl ranges help to Create Better Environments, visit our web site **www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE**

your footsteps

We're a founder member of **Vinyl plus** which is working to increase PVC recycling across Europe.

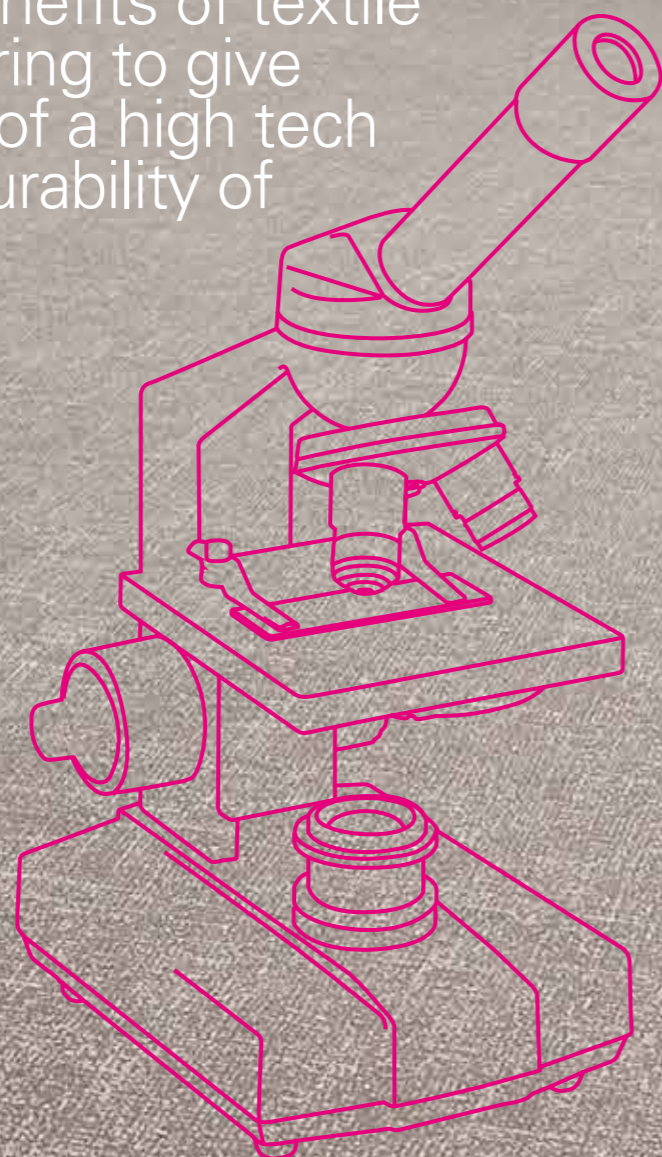
We use smart material constructions and durable finishes on our vinyl. A micro-embossing technology reduces the need for chemical cleaning and increases the floor's lifespan.

Through our **Back to the Floor scheme**, we can collect installation off-cuts from our vinyl floors and recycle them back into Forbo products at our plant in Ripley, Derbyshire.

Our Flex Design vinyl tiles are adhered using tackifier so they can simply be **taken up and recycled at the end of their life**.

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.





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.

Creating Better Environments

We'll only keep Creating Better Environments if we keep improving and innovating our products and services.

So, while we're proud of our existing certification, we'll always be working to achieve better results – for you and the environment.

A selection of our International environmental awards



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

Just visit www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE to find out more.

Ska

Ska rating is an environmental assessment method, benchmark and standard owned by RCIS (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.

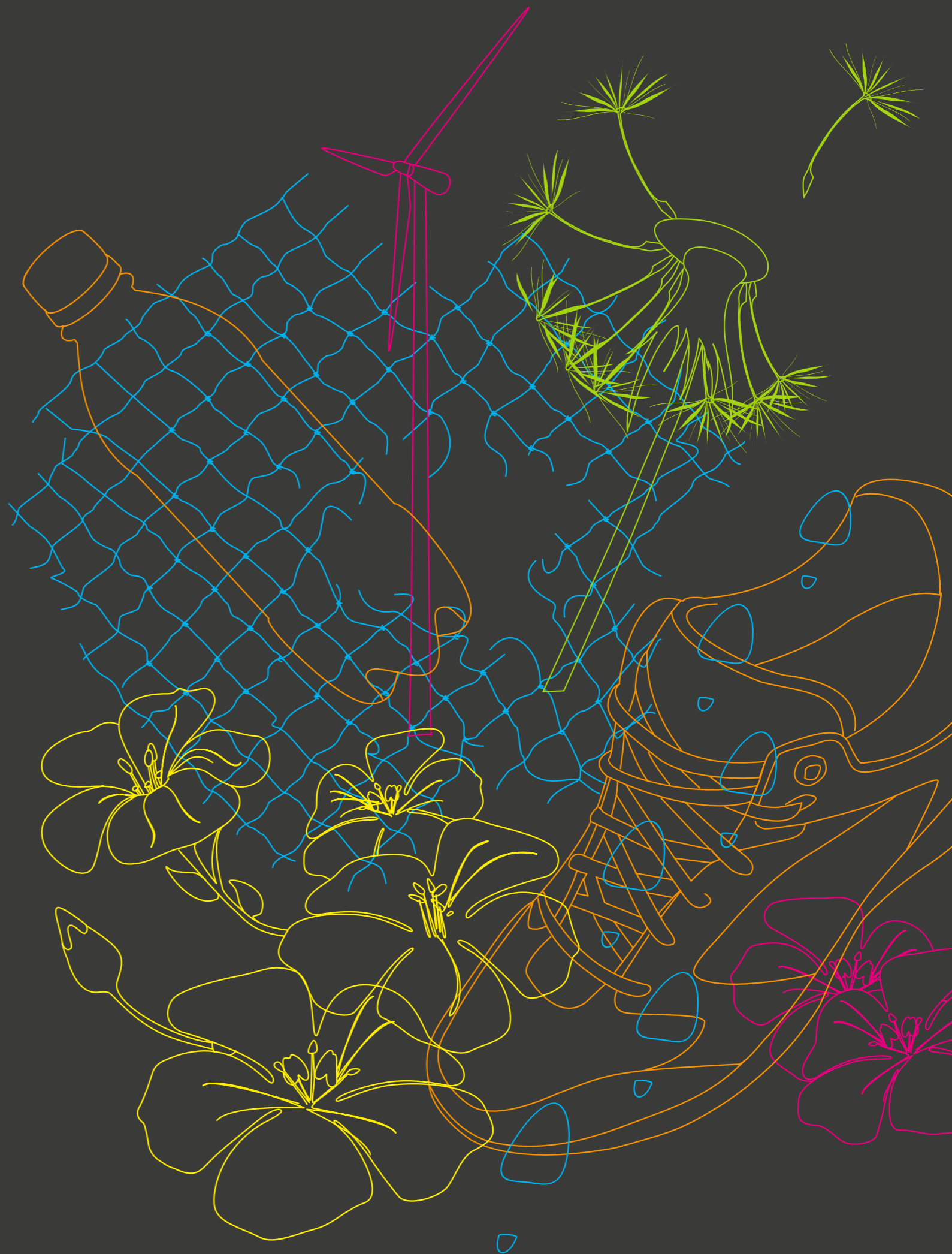
LEED

[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 our web site www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE



BREEAM

[Building Research Establishment
Environmental Assessment Methodology]

BREEAM is the world’s most well-known environmental assessment for buildings.

As the table below 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.

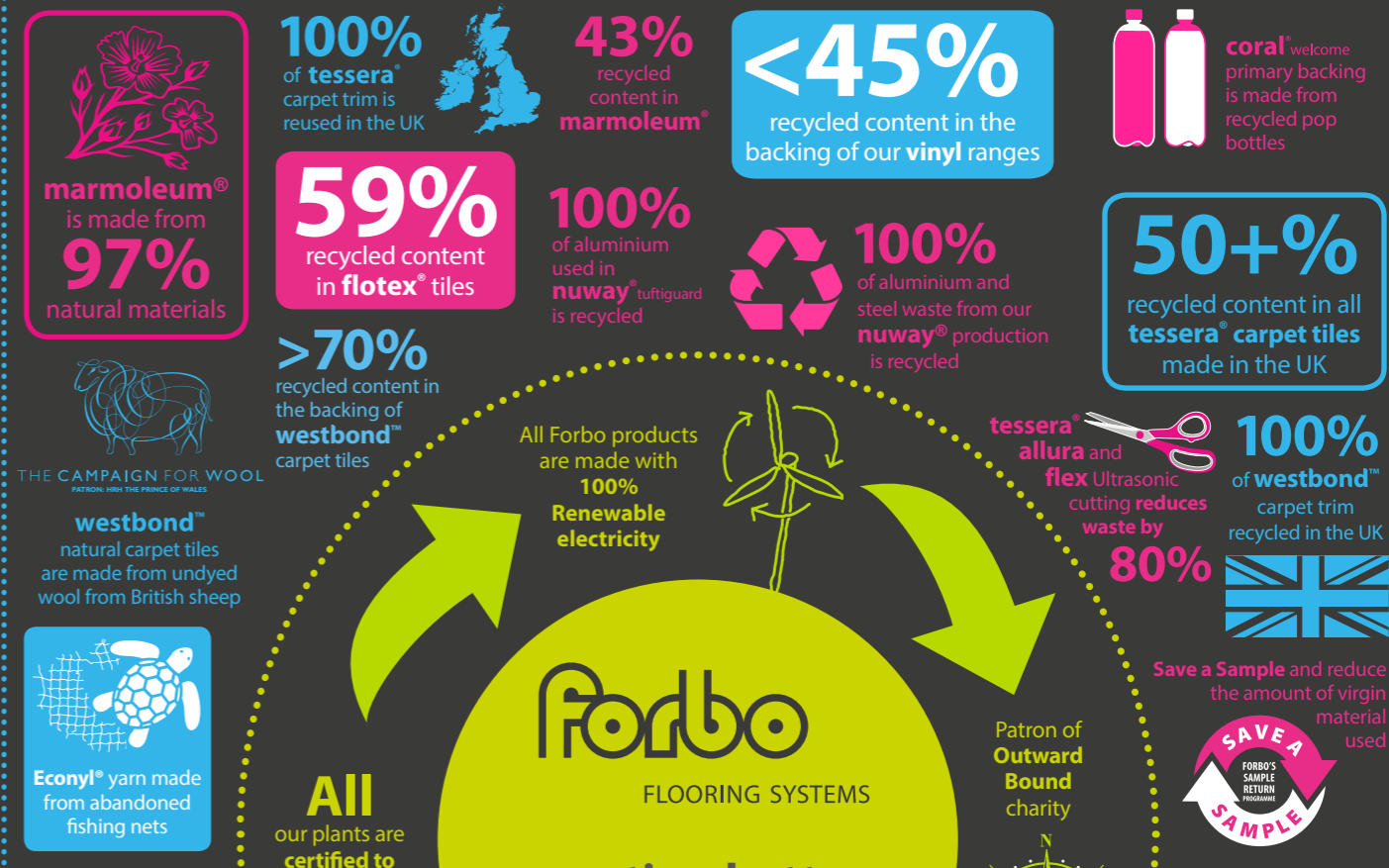
BREEAM generic ratings for floor coverings						
Product Description	Building Type Commercial	Education	Health	Domestic	Retail (Durability)	Retail (Fashion)
Acoustic Vinyl (Sarlon) – PVC floor covering with a foam layer (EN651)	A	A+	A+	A	A	A+
LVT (Allura) – Printed laminate PVC floor covering (EN649)	A	A+	A+	A	A+	A+
Static control flooring (Colorex) – Homogeneous PVC floor coverings (EN649)	A	A+	A+	A	A+	A+
Compact Vinyl (Eternal) – 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						
Ripley – Flotex						
Flotex F50 tile with recycled backing	B	B	B	B	B	A+
Flotex F200 sheet with PVC backing	A	A	A+	A	A	A+
Flotex F200 HD sheet with PVC backing	B	A	A	B	B	A+
Bamber Bridge – Tessera						
Alignment	B	B	A	B	B	A+
Apex	A	A	A	A	A	A+
Arran	B	B	A	B	B	A+
Barcode	A	A	A	A	A	A+
Circulate	A	A	A	B	A	A+
Create Space 2	A	A	A+	A	A	A+
Create Space 3	A	A	A+	A	A	A+
Ethos	A	A	A	B	A	A+
Format	A	A	A	B	A	A+
Helix	B	B	A	B	B	A+
Inline	A	A	A	B	A	A+
Mix	A	A	A	B	A	A+
Sheerpoint	B	B	A	B	B	A+
Teviot	A	A	A	A	A	A+
Weave	A	A+	A+	A	A	A+
Softbac® Results						
Helix with Softbac®	A	A	A	B	A	A
Mix with Softbac®	B	B	B	B	B	A
Teviot with Softbac®	A	A	A+	A	A	A+
Krommenie – Coral						
Coral Classic	B	B	A	B	B	A+
Coral Welcome	A	A	A	A	A	A+

At the time of publication, Create Space 1, Coral Duo, Brush Pure and Brush Blend are being assessed by BREEAM as they are new products. Please visit www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE for updates.

To find out more about BREEAM or the ratings included here, visit www.forbo-flooring.com/CBE

Our footprint

How it’s made



Your footsteps

How it performs

