

# ECO-RESPONSIBLE SOLUTIONS

ARCHITECTURE  
DECORATION  
SPORT  
TECHNOSPECIFIC



**Gerflor**<sup>®</sup>  
theflooringgroup

# LET'S GO FURTHER

## FLOORS FOR HUMAN HEALTH



For more than 70 years, Gerflor's development is built on its ability to meet the specific flooring needs of diverse markets including healthcare, education, home, sports... ,

Children, patients, elderly people are our main users, which means we have always got these target groups in mind when designing our floors that meet the most challenging requirements.

Hygiene, indoor air quality, safety, acoustic and visual comfort are part of all our product specifications and benefits.

## ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE SOLUTIONS

We set ourselves the highest standards when it comes to the environmental quality of our manufacturing materials. Gerflor ranks among the product ranges with the lowest VOC emissions on the market. Gerflor uses recycled materials across all its product ranges. Our new generation of loose-lay products, reduce the use of adhesives and facilitate recovery and recycling at the end of the product's life. In addition, our products are easy to maintain throughout their lives, requiring less water and chemical products than many alternative surfaces.

## OUR MOTTO : TO GO FURTHER

Because we think actions speak louder than words, we have always been more willing to act than to communicate. For decades, we have worked together in partnership with many key players within the industry including our customers to continuously improve our sustainable processes.

Still, we want today to give the market another mindset to sustainability : we do not only want to meet standards or market requirements, we want to go further i.e. to challenge and exceed the norms, to question the requirements and to offer our markets a new way to sustainability ...

## A RESPONSIBLE WAY...

**Bertrand CHAMMAS**  
Chairman and CEO



**RAW MATERIALS / SUSTAINABLE RAW MATERIALS**

p. 04-05



**RECYCLED CONTENT / HIGH QUALITY RECYCLED CONTENT**

p. 06-07



**LOW VOC PRODUCTS / INDOOR AIR QUALITY VOC FREE SYSTEMS**

p. 08-09



**LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS / LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS**

p. 10-11



**100% RECYCLABLE / A SECOND LIFE**

p. 12-13



**OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE - ISO14001 / HUMAN CARE**

p. 14-15



**CONTRIBUTING TODAY / INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE**

p. 16-17



**CONTRIBUTION TO GREEN BUILDING SCHEMES / WORLD CLASS REFERENCES**

p. 18-19



**GLOSSARY / KNOW MORE ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL NORMS**

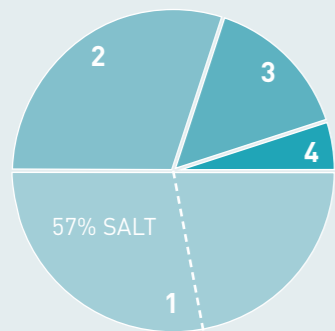
p. 20-23

# RAW MATERIALS



GOING FURTHER

## WHAT ARE GERFLOR VINYL FLOORS MADE FROM ?<sup>1</sup>



- 1 ● POLYVINYL RESIN (57% salt and 43% oil)
- 2 ● FILLER (typically limestone or chalk)
- 3 ● PLASTICIZERS used to make the product soft and flexible
- 4 ● OTHER INGREDIENTS pigments, inks, stabilizers, etc.

<sup>1</sup> Quantities of each raw material may differ depending on the type of product.

## GERFLOR ACTION SECURING RAW MATERIALS PROVEN TO BE SAFE

# NO

- heavy metals (lead, cadmium...)
- solvent based inks
- phtalates and components registered as carcinogenic or reprotoxic (such as DEHP, BBP...)
- formaldehyde

## GERFLOR ACTION

# NO

substance potentially subject to any REACH restrictions



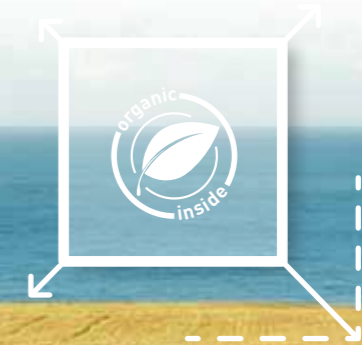
### WHAT IS "REACH" ?

REACH is the regulation for Registration, Evaluation and Authorisation of CHEMicals in the European Union.

#### IT AIMS:

- To improve the knowledge of the impact of chemical substances on human health and the environment
- To restrict their use if appropriate.

# SUSTAINABLE RAW MATERIALS



## INVESTING IN RENEWABLE BIO BASED RAW MATERIALS

Mipolam Symbioz and other Gerflor product lines to be launched soon, are made of a 100% bio based plasticizer. This plasticizer is made of corn and wheat.

Gerflor takes part to the green chemistry revolution, with the challenge to use more and more renewable bio based raw materials.

1.



### 100% BIO BASED PLASTICIZER

- 1. MIPOLAM SYMBIOZ
- 75% sustainable or renewable raw materials.



2.



### RAPIDLY RENEWABLE MATERIALS

- 2. SAGA<sup>2</sup> – Acoustic tile with cork backing.



## GOING FURTHER

"My product uses natural raw materials." What does it mean ? Even fuel comes from nature and could be considered as natural... Whether my product is natural doesn't necessarily mean the product is more environmentally friendly... Indeed, some natural products have a higher environmental impact than synthetic ones.

### WHAT MATTERS IS THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

- WE, AT GERFLOR, USE BIO BASED RAW MATERIALS THAT MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:**
- ONLY WASTE OF CEREALS, **NOT USED BY THE FOOD MARKET**
  - ONLY TREES COMING FROM **WELL MANAGED FORESTS** IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA OF THE FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL (**FSC**)



# RECYCLED CONTENTS

GOING FURTHER



Vinyl is one of the only building material which is 100% recyclable. Unlike other plastics, it can be endlessly recycled into new products and materials adding value throughout its long life.

All our manufacturing plants can be regarded as recycling centers. Much of this post manufacturing waste, but also some post installation waste are incorporated back into the product being manufactured but are also heavily used in the backings of new products.



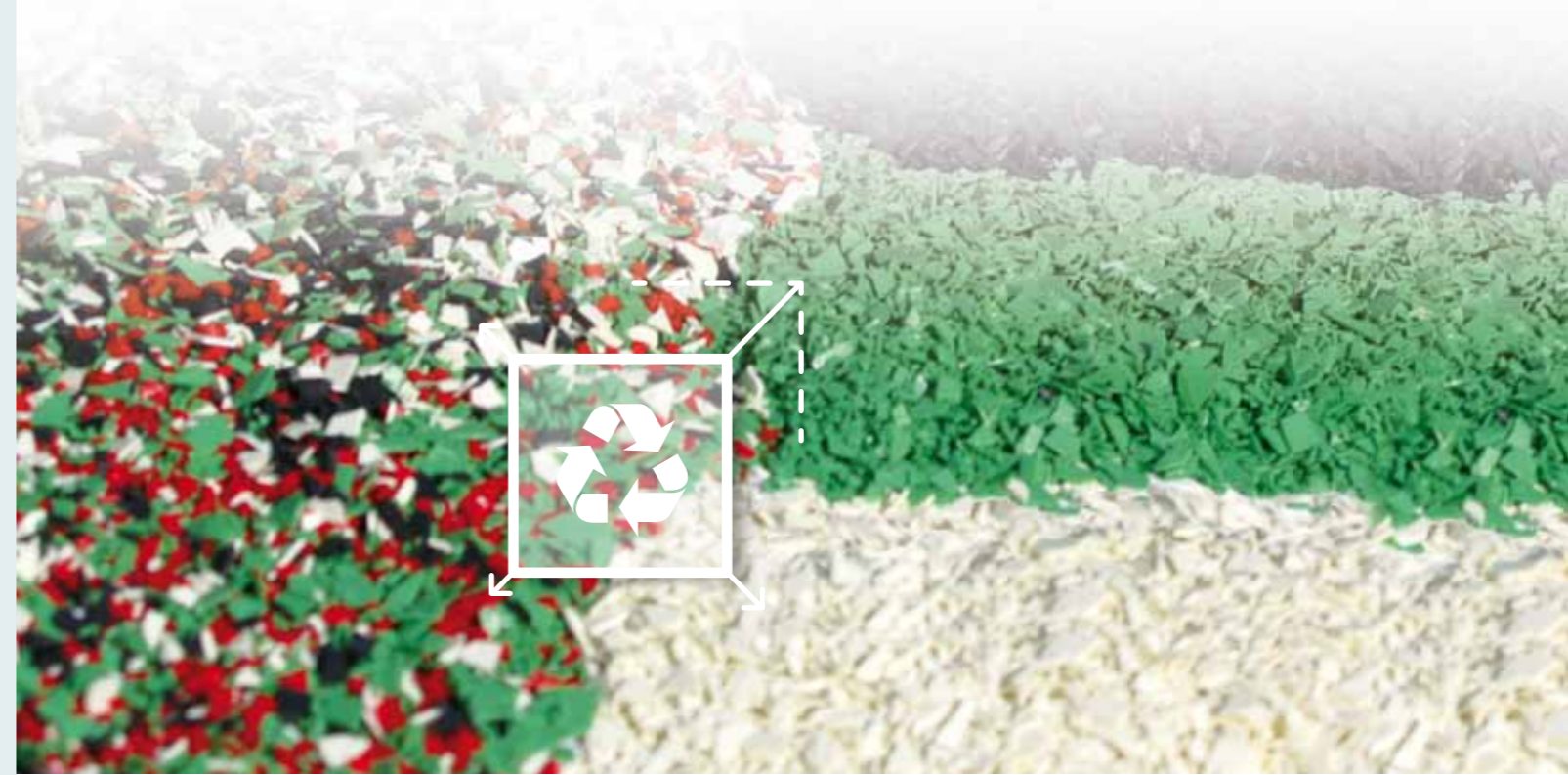
## GERFLOR ACTION

ALMOST 100% OF OUR POST MANUFACTURING WASTE IS RECYCLED AND INCORPORATED BACK INTO NEW PRODUCTION

## GERFLOR ACTION

ON AVERAGE, GERFLOR PRODUCTS ARE MADE OF **25% RECYCLED CONTENT**

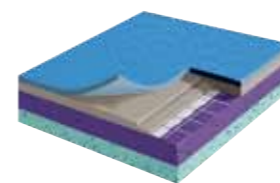
# HIGH QUALITY RECYCLED CONTENTS



## INCREASING RECYCLED CONTENT IN OUR PRODUCTS

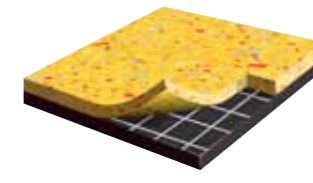
For decades, we have continuously increased the overall recycled content. Today, the majority of our products contain from 20% to 100% recycled content.

The recycled content varies between products, depending on colours and production process.



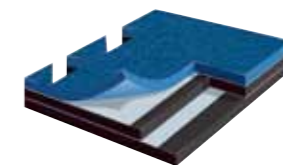
**32%**

Taraflex Sport M Evolution Uni



**53%**

Taralay Premium



**55%**

GTI Tiles



**100%**

Taraflex Bateco

## GOING FURTHER

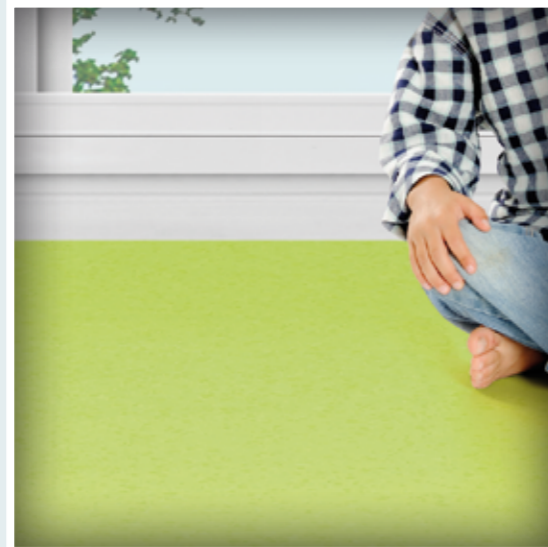
My product has X% recycled content... Using post manufacturing or post consumer waste is commonly done and recycled in many industries. But who cares about the quality of the recycled content that is put back into the production process ?

**WE, AT GERFLOR, COMMIT THAT 100% OF OUR RECYCLED CONTENT HAS BEEN FULLY CONTROLLED AND IS REACH COMPLIANT (NO SUBSTANCE IN THE REACH CANDIDATE LIST)**



# LOW VOC PRODUCTS

GOING FURTHER



Most materials emit volatile substances called VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) during their lifetime. Depending on the quantity and/or quality of emitted VOC, some products (solvents, adhesives, paints...) can undermine air quality inside buildings.

Our products are regularly assessed in accordance with the ISO 16000 standards, at both 3 and 28 days and are proven to rank among the product ranges with the lowest VOC emissions on the market.

## GERFLOR PRODUCTS ARE FLOORSCORE CERTIFIED



## SPM WALL PROTECTION IN THE PROCESS OF GREENGUARD CERTIFICATION.

For more information about these norms, see pages 20-21.

## GERFLOR ACTION

GERFLOR PRODUCTS WITH TVOC AFTER 28 DAYS < 100 µg/m³



## GERFLOR PRODUCTS COMPLY WITH AgBB PROTOCOL



# NO

- formaldehyde emission
- carcinogenic emission

# INDOOR AIR QUALITY VOC FREE SYSTEMS



## PROMOTING VERY LOW EMISSION ADHESIVES

Where permanent adhesion is required, we only recommend the use of very low emission solvent free acrylic adhesives, certified EMICODE EC1 & EC1PLUS.



## GOING FURTHER

Some manufacturers claim that they have low emitting products and are better for the indoor air quality. But taking into account product without installation means you do not get the whole picture...

**WE, AT GERFLOR, DO NOT ONLY CARE ABOUT VOC FIGURES BUT ALSO INDOOR AIR QUALITY.** WE HAVE DEVELOPPED **UNIQUE AND PATENTED LOOSELAY FLOORING SOLUTIONS**, WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE THE USE OF ANY ADHESIVE. WE DO OFFER UNIQUE "VOC FREE SYSTEMS", **ADHESIVE-FREE INSTALLATION SOLUTIONS WITH VIRTUALLY NO VOC'S !**



Clic System Planks, Attraction, GTI... → unique looselay tiles and planks with no adhesive.



Textile backing rolls → quick and easy installation with no adhesive.



Taraflex Eco-Fit System → new installation solution for sports halls with 80% less adhesive than standard installation.

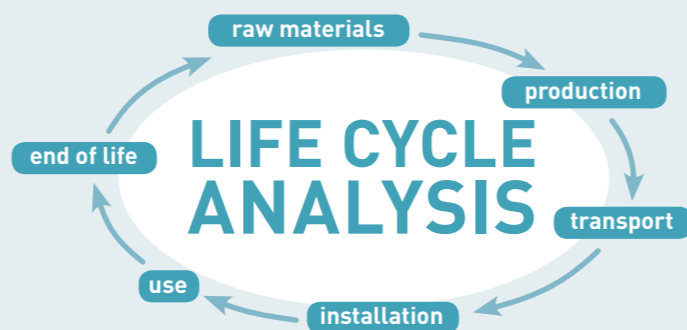
# LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS

GOING FURTHER



## ECO-CONCEPTION

All new Gerflor product ranges are developed with a view to optimize the environmental impact at every stage of the product's life ... "from cradle to grave". This includes assessment of the manufacture, installation, ongoing maintenance, eventual uplift and recycling of the products.



## WHAT IS AN EPD (Environmental Product Declaration)?

**EPD<sup>®</sup>** ERFMI (European Resilient Flooring Manufacturer Institute) has prepared EU wide Life Cycle Assessment of a broad range of flooring types and specifications. These Environmental Product Declarations (called EPD's) analyse the impacts a floor-covering has over its service life. EPD's calculator is available on [www.erfmi.com](http://www.erfmi.com)

## GERFLOR ACTION

In France, Gerflor has first been involved with the SFEC (French Association of Vinyl Flooring Manufacturers) to develop FDES. These datasheets are available on [www.inies.fr](http://www.inies.fr). Gerflor has then worked with ERFMI European Association of Resilient Flooring Manufacturers to develop the EU EPD's. 100% of Gerflor contract products have a FDES and an EU EPD.

# LIFE CYCLE COST ANALYSIS



## REDUCING PRODUCT LIFE CYCLE COST

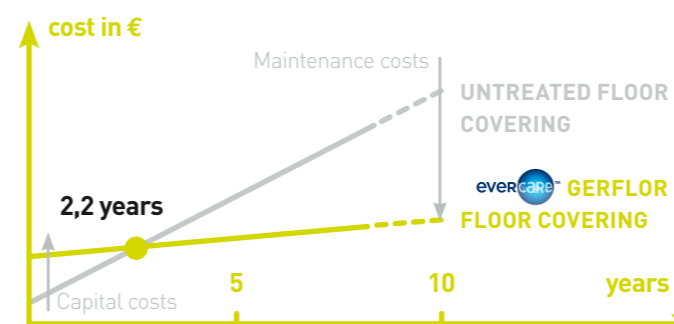
**As there is nothing better for the environment to extend the life of the products, Gerflor product life can last up to 30 years... even in high traffic areas!**

But decision makers do not only take into account the environmental impact but also the cost impact during the whole life of the product. It includes not only the original capital cost but also the cost of upkeep and replacement over a given time period. This 25 - 30 years timeframe means **the cost of maintenance becomes a critical factor in the selection of one flooring product over another.**

## GOING FURTHER

**WE, AT GERFLOR, HAVE DEVELOPED UNIQUE AND PATENTED SURFACE TREATMENTS SUCH AS EVERCARE™, PROTECSOL™ OR SPARCLEAN™, TO ENABLE NO NEED FOR POLISH/WAX AND TO DRASTICALLY REDUCE THE USAGE OF CHEMICAL PRODUCT AND WATER AND ENSURE THE BEST FINANCIAL OUTCOME.**

Saving of 100 000€ for 2 000 sqm of flooring



Average amount of Chemical Cleaning Agents used per annum per sqm



# 100% RECYCLABLE

GOING FURTHER



## POST MANUFACTURING WASTE RECYCLING

Almost **100%** of our post manufacturing waste is recycled and incorporated back into new production.

### GOING FURTHER

**WE, AT GERFLOR, MAKE SURE LEFT OVER POST PRODUCTION WASTE IS SENT TO OTHER PROCESSORS WHO IN TURN MANUFACTURE A WIDE RANGE OF NEW PRODUCTS, SUCH AS:**



Shoe soles



Flower pots



**REVERSIBLE... HOW TO USE POST MANUFACTURING WASTE TO DESIGN NEW PRODUCTS.**

Accessories and handbags. More info on [reversible.fr](http://reversible.fr)

## POST INSTALLATION WASTE RECYCLING

A typical installation will result in around 10% of the ordered material being left over. These clean (and clearly identifiable) offcuts can be easily recycled and the challenge for the industry is to establish an efficient logistics model to collect these wastes.

### GOING FURTHER

**WE, AT GERFLOR, HAVE STARTED TO ORGANIZE THE COLLECTION OF POST INSTALLATION WASTE FROM LARGE PROJECTS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SOME INSTALLERS.**



# A SECOND LIFE

## POST CONSUMER RECYCLING PROCESS



## POST CONSUMER WASTE RECYCLING

According to the European List of wastes (commission decision 2000/532/EC of 3 May 2000), vinyl is classified as a non hazardous waste and can be sent to landfill or to incinerators without any issue.

Still it can be recycled. Recycling is not an option for most other flooring materials, but it is for vinyl. The biggest challenge for vinyl recycling is the problem of separating the associated contaminants, adhesives, screed, other floorings, etc.

### GOING FURTHER

**WE, AT GERFLOR, ARE ONE OF THE FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE FIRST VINYL FLOOR COVERING RECYCLING WORKSHOP (AgpR): THIS FACTORY GETS END OF LIFE FLOORS BACK FROM INSTALLERS FROM ALL OVER EUROPE AND THROUGH ITS UNIQUE SORTING AND COOLING PROCESS, CAN GET VINYL POWDER TO BE INCORPORATED BACK INTO NEW PRODUCTION LINES.**

# OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE - ISO14001

GOING FURTHER



Less than 50% of all manufacturers in Europe have implemented an ISO 14001 management system and Gerflor is one of them. Gerflor industrial sites are ISO 14001 certified.

## WHAT IS ISO14001 ?

ISO 14001 certification means the industrial site:

- complies with all environmental standards;
- measures all environmental impacts;

- is committed to continuously improving its environmental performance.

## AIR PROTECTION



### GERFLOR ACTION

**Gerflor only uses water based inks and solvent free adhesives.**

## PRESERVATION OF WATER RESOURCES



### GERFLOR ACTION

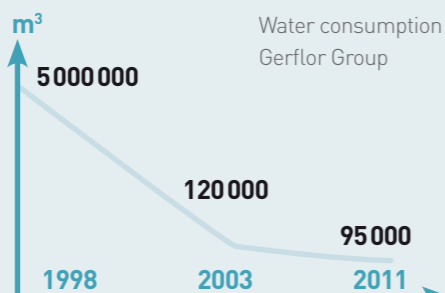
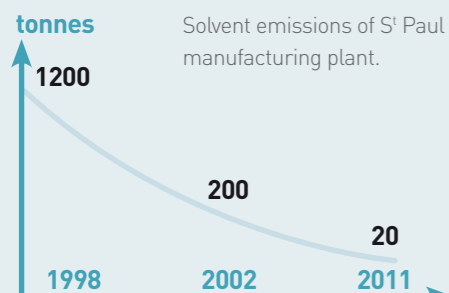
The implementation of a closed-loop cooling system has substantially **reduced our water consumption.**

## REDUCTION OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION



### GERFLOR ACTION

The Gerflor Mipolam GmbH in Troisdorf has installed heat exchangers to recover the heat generated by the production lines to heat the buildings. Both the energy consumption (3000 MWh of energy saved/year) & the **CO2 emission (555 less tons of CO2 / year) have been drastically reduced.**



# HUMAN CARE



## INVESTING IN PEOPLE

Our most valuable resource is our people. Their commitment and enthusiasm for our customers success are our main asset. Gerflor's employees are an essential part of the Gerflor brand experience. They are driven by well-established and often noted core values that make them entrepreneurial, approachable and respectful, with a sense of partnership.

## GERFLOR ACTION

### HEALTH & SAFETY

**Safety as a top priority** : target zero accident in the workplace. All employees trained on safety issues 3 times per year.

### DIVERSITY

More than 50 nationalities part of Gerflor staff.

### DEVELOPMENT

- **Training staff** : 4% of wage payroll dedicated to training.
- **Training customers** : 50 apprentices and 250 experienced installers trained every year at the Gerflor Technocentre.



## GOING FURTHER



**WE, AT GERFLOR, HAVE ENTERED A PROCESS OF OHSAS 18001 CERTIFICATION, RELATED TO OUR HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. OUR TROISDORF FACTORY IS ALREADY CERTIFIED. OUR OTHER FACTORIES ARE IN THE PROCESS.**



# CONTRIBUTING TODAY

GOING FURTHER



Gerflor products qualify for credits under many internationally accredited Green Building Schemes.

## LEED™ CERTIFICATION

LEED™ (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is an internationally recognized green building certification system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). To know more about LEED™, see page 23.

## GERFLOR ACTION

Contribution to LEED™ certification:

- Low emitting materials: Floorscore certified products;
- Products containing pre-consumer recycled materials;
- 2 LEED™ specialists part of Gerflor staff.
- LEED™ on line calculator available on Gerflor web sites.

## GREEN STAR

Rating system (similar to LEED™) developed by the Australian Green Building Council. To know more about Green Star, see page 23.

## HQE CERTIFICATION

Comprehensive life cycle analysis approach developed in France to give building industry decision makers a tool to assess all the impacts both on health and environment. To know more about HQE certification, see page 23.

## GERFLOR ACTION

Contribution to HQE certification:

- FDES for each range;
- Low emitting materials: AgBB certified products;
- Recyclable products (of cutts and deposite);
- High quality floorings: technical, fire behaviour, design, can be installed on heating floors.

## GERFLOR ACTION

Contribution to Green Star certification with PVC floors rated as Green Star material.

# INVESTING FOR THE FUTURE



## TAKING AN ACTIVE PART IN ALL MAJOR GREEN BUILDING COUCILS AROUND THE WORLD

Gerflor is an active member to all major Green Building Councils around the world :

- to be proactive in terms of setting up recycling schemes and new environmental standards.
- to benefit from the knowledge of the best experts around the world.



## GOING FURTHER

WE, AT GERFLOR, HAVE COMMITTED TO **THE VINYL PLUS VOLUNTARY PROGRAMME**, BASED ON FIVE COMMITMENTS :

- TO ACHIEVE A QUANTUM LEAP IN RECYCLING RATES OF PVC AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES
- TO REDUCE EMISSIONS;
- TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF ADDITIVES
- TO ENHANCE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND THE USE OR RENEWABLE ENERGY AND RAW MATERIALS IN PVC PRODUCTION
- TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE PVC VALUE CHAIN.

# CONTRIBUTION TO GREEN BUILDING SCHEMES

## WORLD CLASS REFERENCES



^ **OAK PARK COMMUNITY CENTER**  
Taraflex Sport M Evolution  
**USA**



^ **LONDON 2012 SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM VOLLEYBALL & HANDBALL COMPETITIONS**  
Taraflex Sports Flooring  
**UK**



^ **ALES HOSPITAL**  
Shower System / SPM Wall Protection  
**FRANCE**



^ **ENVIRONMENT STATE DEPARTMENT**  
Taralay Premium  
**CZECH REPUBLIC**



^ **SHANGHAI EXPO 2010 "ECO-BUILDING PAVILLON"**  
Saga² / Taralay Premium  
**CHINA**



^ **PLANET SOLAR**  
Texline  
**WORLD**  
*First around the world by boat using only solar energy. Villages are all equipped with Gerflor floors.*



^ **BIVACCO GERVASUTTI - MONTE BIANCO**  
GTI Tiles  
**ITALY**  
*We have selected Gerflor because the project has a strong environmental impact and among our suppliers we have chosen those having a particular attitude and sensibility to the environment themes.*  
**SUCAI - Project manager**



^ **KAUST UNIVERSITY**  
Mipolam Elegance  
**SAUDI ARABIA**  
*KAUST University has been awarded by the world best environmental certification : LEED Platinum. We have selected Gerflor products because they are low emitting and made with recycled materials.*  
**OGER International - KAUST University project leader**



^ **KTP HOSPITAL**  
Taralay Premium / SPM Wall Protection  
**SINGAPORE**  
*We are a leader in green building consultancy and aim not only to create green buildings but also engage sustainability on a larger scale with sustainable master planning and infrastructure developments. We have specified Gerflor floors for this hospital, the biggest ever made in Asia.*  
**CPG Consultant**



^ **MASTERCARD OFFICES**  
Taralay Premium  
**AUSTRALIA**  
*Gerflor flooring was the ideal product to specify for breakout areas on both levels of the fitout. It clearly met the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) guidelines. The building has been awarded a Four Star As-Built Rating by the GBCA.*  
**Interior Design Consultant**

# GLOSSARY

## PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

RAW MATERIALS

### REACH



#### WHAT IS IT ?

REACH is the Regulation for **R**egistration, **E**valuation and **A**uthorisation of **C**hemicals in the European Union.

It aims:

- To improve the knowledge of the impact of chemical substances on human health and the environment.
- To restrict their use if appropriate.

### GERFLOR

Our products do not contain any substance potentially subject to any REACH restrictions.

### AgBB



#### WHAT IS IT ?

As part of the DIBt (Deutsches Institut für Bautechnik), the German federal committee – Ausschuss für die gesundheitliche Bewertung von Bauprodukten (AgBB) – has developed a testing and evaluation procedure for VOC emissions after 3 and 28 days:

- after 3 days: limit values for TVOC, carcinogenic VOC;
- after 28 days: “health-related evaluation” by limitation of VOC emissions and carcinogenic VOC.

DIBt has made this evaluation procedure mandatory and AgBB approval is now a legal requirement to market a flooring product in Germany.

DIBt requires every year:

- on-site inspection.
- VOC emissions measurement by external lab.

### GERFLOR

Gerflor product ranges comply with AgBB protocol.

VOC EMISSIONS

### FLOORSCORE



#### WHAT IS IT ?

US certification system based on the California “Section 01350” for VOC emission evaluation, specific to flooring. This evaluation procedure takes into account emissions after 11, 12 and 14 days: limit values for TVOC and aldehydes. This is the most recognized system in the world and is the best way to approve a product in term of VOC emissions according to LEED certification. Floorscore requires every year:

- on-site inspection based on ISO9001 certification;
- VOC emissions measurement by external lab.

### GERFLOR

Gerflor floors are Floorscore certified. Using only Gerflor products on a project can bring 1 point according to LEED credit on low emitting flooring system.

### GREENGUARD



#### WHAT IS IT ?

Similar to Floorscore, but not specific to flooring. This evaluation procedure takes into account emissions after 7 days: limit values for TVOC and aldehydes.

### GERFLOR

SPM wall protection and handrails are in the process of Greenguard certification.

Other evaluation procedures can be quoted but they do not include on-site inspection and VOC emissions measurement every year. Some examples :

### M1



#### WHAT IS IT ?

Finland evaluation procedure: after 28 days, TVOC, formaldehyde, ammoniac, carcinogenic and sensory evaluation.

### GERFLOR

Gerflor products comply with M1 requirements. We have got some products M1 certified but have not done it for all our products.

### BLUE ANGEL



#### WHAT IS IT ?

Similar but more demanding than AgBB, this German evaluation procedure measures VOC emissions after 3 and 28 days:

- after 3 days: limit values for TVOC, carcinogenic VOC;
- after 28 days: of VOC emissions and carcinogenic VOC.

### GERFLOR

Gerflor product ranges VOC emissions comply with the Blue Angel requirements. But our products can not have the Blue Angel certification as Blue Angel excludes vinyl products.

### ASTM D5116



#### WHAT IS IT ?

This procedure measures VOC emissions after 3 days and 28 days.

### GERFLOR

Gerflor products comply with this protocol.

### SCANDINAVIAN TRADE STANDARDS

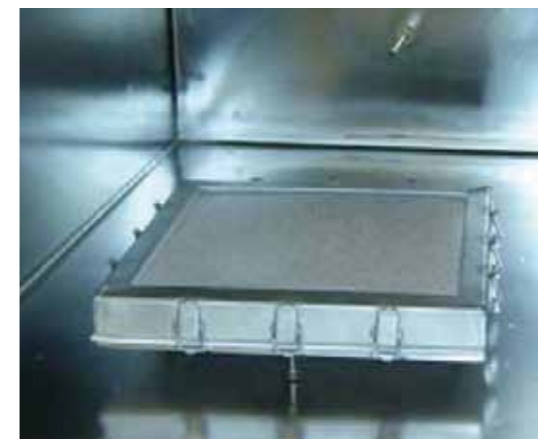


#### WHAT IS IT ?

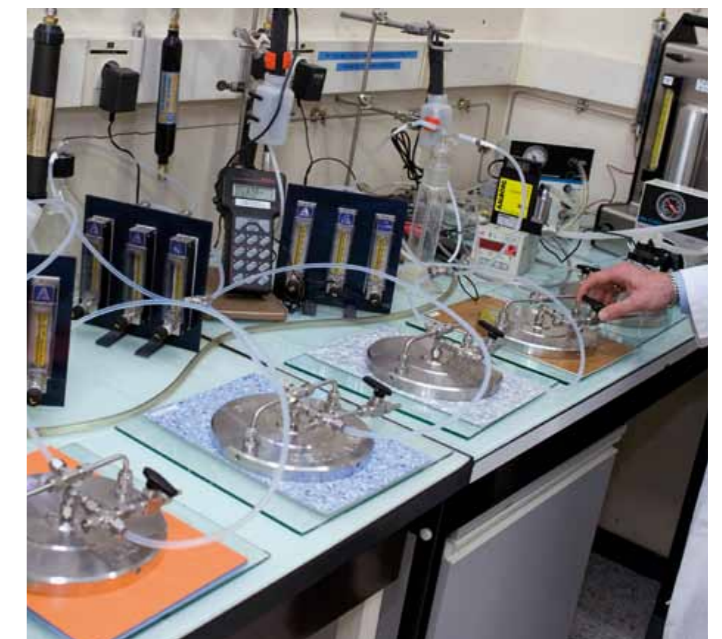
This Scandinavian procedure measures VOC emissions after 28 days & 26 weeks.

### GERFLOR

Gerflor products comply with this protocol.



VOC emissions test chamber (used by AgBB)



VOC emissions cell (equipment from Gerflor R&D center)

## PRODUCT CERTIFICATION

### EPD

#### WHAT IS IT ?

ERFMI (European Resilient Flooring Manufacturer Institute) has prepared EU wide Life Cycle Assessment of a broad range of flooring types and specifications. From this study, carried out by PE, a series of Life Cycle Analysis data sheets have been produced. These datasheets are called EPD's (Environment Product Declaration) ; they analyze the impacts a floorcovering has over its service life. EPD's calculator is available on [www.erfmi.com](http://www.erfmi.com)



### FDES

#### WHAT IS IT ?

In France, the SFEC (Syndicat Français des Enducteurs Calandriers) has developed FDES (Fiches de Données Environnementales et Sanitaires). These datasheets are available on [www.inies.fr](http://www.inies.fr)



### BRE

#### WHAT IS IT ?

BRE (Building Research Establishment) is a UK based independant third party approvals body offering certification of fire, security and sustainability products and services to an international market. BREEAM is the assessment method developed by BRE.



### GERFLOR

Gerflor has been an active member of ERFMI. Gerflor contract product ranges have a EU EPD.

### GERFLOR

Gerflor has been actively involved in this approach. Gerflor contract product ranges have a FDES.

### GERFLOR

All generic flooring specifications corresponding to Gerflor commercial products have been given an A/A+ rating according to the BRE Green Guide, A+ being the best rating on A+ – E system.

## COMPANY CERTIFICATION

### ISO14001

#### WHAT IS IT ?

ISO14001 certification means the industrial site:

- complies with all environmental standards.
- measures all environmental impacts.
- is committed to continuously improve its environmental performance.



### GERFLOR

Gerflor industrial sites are ISO 14001 certified.

### OHSAS18001

#### WHAT IS IT ?

OHSAS 18001 is an international standard giving requirements related to health and safety management systems. It enables an organization to have control over, and knowledge of, all relevant hazards resulting from normal operations and abnormal situations, and improve its performance.



### GERFLOR

Troisdorf factory is already OHSAS18001 certified and our other factories are in the process.

## BUILDING CERTIFICATION

### LEED™

#### WHAT IS IT ?

LEED™ (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is an internationally recognized green building certification system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

The different types of LEED™ Certification are:

- Homes.
- Neighborhood Development.
- Commercial Interiors.
- Core & Shell.
- New construction.
- Schools, Healthcare, Retail.

*How flooring systems can contribute to leed™ certification ?*

MATERIAL AND RESSOURCES

- Credit 4: Recycled Content.
- Credit 5: Regional 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.



### GREEN STAR

#### WHAT IS IT ?

In Australia, the local Green Building Council has developed a voluntary rating system for buildings, similar to Leed (Green Star rating) but they have also defined the Best Practice Guidelines for the Life Cycle of PVC Building Products, including PVC manufacturing criteria.



### GERFLOR

Contribution to LEED™ certification:

- low emitting materials: Floorscore certified products.
- products containing pre-consumer recycled materials.
- 2 LEED™ specialists part of Gerflor staff.
- LEED™ on line calculator available on Gerflor web sites.

### DÉMARCHE HQE

#### WHAT IS IT ?

In France, High Environmental Quality (HQE certification) is not a label nor a standard, it is a comprehensive approach to give the building the ability to fulfil the needs for "mastering its impacts on the outdoor environment and for creating a comfortable and healthy indoor environment." HQE takes into account 14 targets; 7 of them regard flooring:

ECO-CONSTRUCTION

- Target n°2: Integrated choice of construction processes and materials.

COMFORT

- Target n°8: Hygrothermal comfort.
- Target n°9: Acoustic comfort.
- Target n°10: Visual comfort.
- Target n°11: Olfactory comfort.

HEALTH\*

- Target n°12: Sanitary conditions of indoor spaces.
- Target n°13: Indoor Air Quality.

The HQE approach is based on the Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) of the building which leads to the creation of an environmental data sheet FDES with both environmental and health datas.



### GERFLOR

Contribution to HQE certification:

- FDES for each range.
- low emitting materials: AgBB certified products;
- recyclable products (of cutts and deposite).
- high quality floorings: technical, fire behaviour, design, can be installed on heating floors.

## ASIA

Gerflor Asia  
Tel: +852 9222 6355  
Fax: +852 3006 1449  
e-mail: gerflorasia@gerflor.com

## AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND

Gerflor Australasia Pty. Ltd  
Australia Tel: 1 800 060 785  
New Zealand Tel: 0 800 630 119  
e-mail: gerflor@gerflor.com.au

## AUSTRIA / SWITZERLAND

Gerflor GmbH  
Tel: +43 (0)72 29/70 800-0  
Fax: +43 (0)72 29/70 800-218  
e-mail: austria@gerflor.com  
switzerland@gerflor.com

## BELGIUM / LUXEMBURG

Gerflor Benelux  
Tel: +32 (0)3 766 42 82  
Fax: +32 (0)3 766 29 14  
e-mail: gerflorbelgium@gerflor.com

## CANADA

Gerflor Canada  
Tel: +1 819 812 7310  
e-mail: gerflorcanada@gerflor.com

## CHINA

Gerflor China  
Tel: +86 21 6357 8818  
Fax: +86 21 6357 8998  
e-mail: gerflorchina@gerflor.com

## FINLAND

Gerflor Oy  
Tel: +358 (0) 10 6 17 5150  
Fax: +358 (0) 10 617 5152  
e-mail: info@gerflor.fi

## FRANCE

Gerflor – Service Express  
N°Azur : 0 810 569 569  
N°Azur fax : 0 810 569 570  
e-mail: contactfrance@gerflor.com

## GERMANY

Gerflor Mipolam GmbH  
Tel: +49 (0)22 41-25 30 0  
Fax: +49 (0)22 41-25 30 100  
e-mail: gerflormipolam@gerflor.com

## IRELAND

Gerflor Ltd  
Tel: +353 (0) 42 966 1431  
Fax: +353 (0) 42 966 1759  
e-mail: gerflorirl@gerflor.com

## ITALY

Gerflor S.p.A.  
Tel: +39 02 90 78 60 12 r.a.  
Fax: +39 02 90 42 74 84  
e-mail: gerfloritalia@gerflor.com

## LATIN AMERICA

(Brazil)  
Gerflor América Latina  
Tel: +55 11 3848 2020  
Fax: +55 11 3848 2023  
e-mail: gerflor@gerflor.com.br

## MIDDLE EAST

Gerflor Middle East  
Tel: +966 3 847 1779  
Fax: +966 3 847 1781  
e-mail: gerflorME@gerflor.com

## GERFLOR UAE

Tel.: +971 4 2954443  
Fax: +971 4 2954566  
e-mail: jumandxb@emirates.net.ae

## NETHERLANDS

Gerflor BV  
Tel: +31 (0)40 266 17 00  
Fax: +31 (0)40 257 46 89  
e-mail: gerflorNL@gerflor.com

## POLAND

Gerflor Polska Sp z o.o.  
Tel: + 48 61 823 34 01  
Fax: + 48 61 823 34 33  
e-mail: info@gerflor.pl

## PORTUGAL

Gerflor Iberia, SA  
Tel: +351 21 843 95 49  
Fax: +351 21 846 55 44  
e-mail: gerflorportugal@gerflor.com

## RUSSIA

Gerflor Moscow Office  
Tel: + 7 495 430-86-54 / 65  
Fax: + 7 495 430-85-46  
e-mail: gerflorrus@mospk.east.ru

## SCANDINAVIA

Gerflor Scandinavia  
Tel: + 47 64 95 60 70  
Fax: + 47 64 95 60 80  
e-mail: gerflorscand@gerflor.no

## SPAIN

Gerflor Iberia, SA  
Tel: +34 91 653 50 11  
Fax: +34 91 653 25 85  
e-mail: gerfloriberia@gerflor.com

## UNITED KINGDOM

Gerflor Ltd  
Tel: +44 (0)1926 622 600  
Fax: + 44 (0) 1926 622 616  
e-mail: contractuk@gerflor.com

## USA

Gerflor USA  
Tel: 877 GERFLOR (437 3567)  
Fax: 847 394 3753  
e-mail: info@gerflorusa.com

## OTHER COUNTRIES

Gerflor International  
Tel: +33 (0)4 74 05 40 00  
Fax: +33 (0)4 74 05 03 13  
e-mail: gerflor@gerflor.com

[gerflor.com](http://gerflor.com)

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