



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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InterfaceFLOR Makes Progress Toward Detaching from the Well Head

Conservation and innovation key to getting off oil

PHOENIX – InterfaceFLOR, LLC, (www.interfaceflor.com) the world’s leading manufacturer of commercial modular carpet, is making progress toward reducing its reliance on oil through a combination of energy conservation and technical innovation. Updates on this progress were revealed today at the U.S. Green Building Council’s (USGBC) Greenbuild Expo.

This progress comes in conjunction with InterfaceFLOR’s Mission Zero™ promise of no environmental impact by the year 2020. Today, the company is 15 years into that mission and is halfway toward its goal.

“We recognize that we are on a long journey to getting off oil completely and remain focused on the goal,” said John Wells, president of Interface Americas, Inc. “In the last 15 years we have reduced total raw materials in our products by 15% and virgin materials by 46%. In the interim, we recognize the critical need to not only find alternative resources, but also to manage the materials we are using responsibly. Our track record shows measurable progress.”

Energy consumption reduced

InterfaceFLOR has reduced energy use by 38% since 1996. Initial progress was made through more efficient processes. Beyond efficiency, the company has employed renewable energy sources, including a landmark partnership with the city of LaGrange, Georgia that harnesses methane gas from a landfill. The process not only enables InterfaceFLOR and other local businesses to utilize a renewable resource, it also provides a previously un-tapped revenue stream for the city, a true win-win. Today, 44% of the company’s total energy use is from renewable sources.

Industry-leading Innovation

InterfaceFLOR has achieved significant progress via innovation of manufacturing processes, many of them focused on getting off oil. In 2005, the company launched its Cool Blue™ backing line, a flexible-inputs line that allows the company to use reclaimed carpet backing to make new backing. It also has the ability to incorporate other plastics and polymers into the backing material, thus keeping even more petroleum-based

waste in the technical stream. Today, our GlasBac[®] RE backing is made of 51% post-consumer material. The Cool Blue line is powered by landfill gas.

Using reclaimed carpet as “Cool Blue food” took a significant leap forward in 2007 with the onset of ReEntry[®] 2.0, a patent-pending process that cleanly separates carpet face fiber and backing from nearly any carpet type. This process led to the creation of the industry’s first post-consumer content recycled Nylon type 6,6, the most prevalent nylon used in commercial carpet. Today, the company also recycles Nylon type 6 into new fiber. Recycled nylon fiber is manufactured in conjunction with two InterfaceFLOR suppliers, Universal and Aquafil. By- products of the recycling process not used by InterfaceFLOR are provided to third-party sources for other use in the plastics industry. To date the ReEntry 2.0 process has diverted more than 170 million pounds of carpet from the landfill and kept it in the technical stream.

Product Innovation

The first products from our ReEntry 2.0 process are known as Convert[™], and feature a minimum of 32% post-consumer *recycled carpet content* and a total recycled content ranging from 64 to 75%. More than 60 Convert styles are available with a color palette of as many as 64 color options, all via improved technology that allows InterfaceFLOR to achieve vibrant colors never before seen in a recycled product. All Convert styles hold an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD[®]) based on rigorous and transparent lifecycle analysis.

InterfaceFLOR’s commitment to get off oil and reduce any harm to the environment by 2020 will come through continued progress on multiple fronts: energy and materials, renewable sources, transportation, and greening our supply chain.

About InterfaceFLOR

InterfaceFLOR, LLC is a subsidiary of Interface, Inc., the world’s largest manufacturer of commercial modular carpet. For 36 years, the company has consistently led the industry through innovation and now leads the industry in environmental sustainability. InterfaceFLOR is setting the pace for development of modular carpet using materials and processes that take less from the environment, and is well along the path to “Mission Zero[™],” the company’s promise to eliminate any negative impact it has on the environment by the year 2020. Interface's worldwide carpet manufacturing facilities maintain third party registration to the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System, and the company is recognized globally for its commitment to build environmental considerations into its business decisions. More information: www.interfaceflor.com.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Photography of EPD verified products available by request to Steve.Arbaugh@FLOR.com.



Mission Zero:
our promise to eliminate
any negative impact our company
may have on the environment
by the year 2020.