

Interface[®]

Interface Europe reaches sustainability milestones, achieving 90% carbon reduction

World's largest carpet tile manufacturer achieves 100% renewable energy, virtually zero water in manufacturing and zero waste to landfill at its European manufacturing facility in The Netherlands

Interface, a leading carpet tile manufacturer and environmental pioneer, has reached a series of major sustainability milestones at its European manufacturing facility in Scherpenzeel, The Netherlands. As of January 2014 the company has been operating with 100% renewable energy (both electricity and gas), using virtually zero water in its manufacturing processes and has attained zero waste to landfill. This is a key achievement for the facility and a significant step forward for the company as it strives towards Mission Zero – Interface's pledge to eliminate any negative impact it has on the environment by 2020 and by doing so, become a restorative enterprise.

Interface started its Mission Zero journey in 1996 and by 2013 had reduced its GHG emissions by 80% and water use by 87% in Europe. The company has recently introduced several innovations that are significantly reducing its impact on the environment further still, achieving 95% water reduction and 90% carbon reduction from January 2014. One example is the company's recent switch to green gas at its facility in Scherpenzeel. The gas is created by anaerobic digestion of fish waste, which is filtered to natural gas and pumped into the grid. The other main innovation implemented has been a water recirculation system through closed loop piping.

Commenting on Interface's achievement, Rob Boogaard, CEO of Interface in Europe said, "In the past three years we have taken huge strides towards our Mission Zero goal. To put it in context, as per January 2014, we are operating our European factories with a 90% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions compared to 1996 while the EU Commission has set an EU carbon reduction target of 40% by 2030. 2014 is a landmark year for us in many ways as we celebrate 20 years of Mission Zero, and these figures from our European manufacturing operations show just how far we've come and what can be achieved with the right mind set and ambition.

"However, while our achievements are to be celebrated, this is certainly not a time to be complacent. For us, Mission Zero is not simply about reducing our own direct impacts – it's also about taking full responsibility for the entire lifecycle of our products. Our goal is to cut the umbilical cord to oil, with the result that 44% of our raw materials in Europe are already recycled or bio-based. We've come a long way but our Mission continues."

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About Interface

Interface is a global leader in the design and production of carpet tiles. Its products combine style and innovation with functionality and environmental credentials to help customers bring their design vision to life.

Interface was one of the first companies to publicly commit to sustainability, when it made a pledge in the mid-nineties to eliminate its impact on the environment by 2020. Known as Mission Zero[®], it influences every aspect of the business and inspires the company to continually push the boundaries in order to achieve its goal.

Supporting media

Download a copy of our supporting infographic here:

http://www.interfaceflor.co.uk/web/about_us/media_centre_landing_page/press_releases/press-Interface-Europe-reaches-sustainability-milestones-achieving-90-carbon-reduction-

Watch our video "*A better way: Interface Europe achieves 90% carbon reduction*" here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEcyjL7ldFE&feature=youtu.be>

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