

USFloors® Environmental Responsibility



“USFloors® commitment is to provide consumers and specifiers with beautiful and durable floors at a good value, while minimizing our impact on the environment and enhancing and improving it whenever possible.”

As part of our Eco-Mission, USFloors® is committed to:

Sourcing and utilizing sustainable resources for its flooring products whenever possible. The key pillars of our company are cork flooring, bamboo flooring, oil finished hardwood, and LVT. Cork and bamboo are two of the most sustainable and renewable resources in the flooring industry today. Our Natural Cork products satisfy LEED credits for Rapidly Renewable Materials, Recycled Content, and Low Emitting Materials.

Lacey Act Compliance

In 2008, the U.S. Congress passed the Lacey Act prohibiting the import of illegally harvested wood and wood products into the United States. *All products sold by USFloors®, Inc. are Lacey Act compliant.*

Reducing our environmental and energy footprint

USFloors® will be applying for LEED Certification for its facility in Dalton, GA. The process to LEED certify an existing facility is a much more stringent and lengthy process than for a new building. Some of the steps which USFloors® is currently or will be undertaking towards this goal:

Solar photovoltaic panels have been installed on the rooftops of the multiple USFloors® facilities generating over 1/2

MegaWatt of energy making USFloors® one the largest solar energy harvesters in Georgia. All dust created is collected in containment silos and re-used as waste-to-energy fuel. All lights in the facility have been replaced with energy efficient T5 lights and are managed by a zone-control system that automatically turns off lights when not in use. Cork and bamboo flooring are installed as floating floors in office areas eliminating the use of glues. Existing toilets are being replaced with low flow toilets to reduce water usage. Trash in all facilities is sorted and recycled.

Creating Better Indoor Air Quality

USFloors® Natural Bamboo, Natural Cork and COREtec® Plus products are third-party certified by UL's Greenguard Environmental Institute as GREENGUARD GOLD, satisfy LEED credits for EQ: Low Emitting Floors, AND meet the European E0 Standard, a strict test that measures the amount of formaldehyde in a product. Formaldehyde can be found in the glues and adhesives used to make bamboo and cork floors, but USFloors® specifies zero to low formaldehyde content in all of its Natural Bamboo and Natural Cork floors to exceed health standards established in the United States, Europe, and Japan. 100% formaldehyde-free products are our ultimate goal. In addition, HDF core boards used for our floors have no added formaldehyde.

California Air Resources Board (CARB) requirements for formaldehyde emissions

The state of California, in an effort to create a healthier breathing environment, has enacted new limits for formaldehyde emitted from composite wood products, including hardwood flooring. Prior to January 2009, 0.20 parts per million emission of formaldehyde was permitted. Beginning January 2009, 0.18 ppm became the standard with final limits in place by 2012 at 0.09 ppm. The California Air Resources Board (CARB), a department of the California Environmental Protection Agency, reviewed and implemented the new acceptable rating and is often the reference for this new standard. All products sold by USFloors®, Inc. are CARB compliant.

Promoting Green Building

USFloors® is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council and most of USFloors® products contribute to 1 or more credits in the USGBC LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System.

Through our own example, USFloors® promotes the green building not only for new construction, but in the remodeling of existing buildings to lessen their environmental impact.