TANDUS FLOORING®
OUR ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
For more than 20 years, Tandus Flooring® has been actively researching, developing, and bringing to market innovative and environmentally preferable products.

Our journey began in the early 1990s when we set out to develop the world’s first closed-loop recycling operation for floorcoverings. Since then, our focus has evolved into a comprehensive corporate strategy that guides all of our business practices.

We call our quest the Infinity Initiative and it is the driving force behind our efforts to develop more sustainable products and efficient processes. The Infinity Initiative also encourages the forward thinking and risk taking that leads to the breakthrough technology that will fix the problems of today and serve as the springboard to answer the problems of tomorrow. Tandus Flooring puts emphasis on Infinity—this process continues beyond the next advancement; the process is infinite; it is a continuous journey.

Today, we employ a multi-faceted approach that focuses on four key areas:

1. Waste-Stream diversion & Closed-Loop Recycling
2. Material Selection & Source Reduction
3. Energy Use and Carbon Reduction
4. Promoting Accountability and the use of Third-Party Certification

WASTE-STREAM DIVERSION & CLOSED-LOOP RECYCLING

During the early 1990s, we began to notice increasing customer concerns about the impact of floorcoverings on waste disposal and landfills. Although the technology and infrastructure did not exist at that time, Tandus Flooring associates were inspired by the potential and a common vision: achieving a closed-loop recycling program for floorcoverings.

This vision came to fruition in 1994 with the launch of the industry’s first reclamation and recycling program for commercial floorcoverings. Since 1994, Tandus Flooring has recycled more than 225 million pounds of carpet and waste into new floorcoverings. The recycled material is returned back into our products that contain up to 100% recycled content cushion construction for Powerbond® (Tandus Flooring’s unique hybrid resilient flooring) and a 100% recycled content backing for our modular styles.

Tandus Flooring’s Center for Environmental Innovation, a half-million square foot facility, became the world’s first third-party certified reclamation and recycling operation in 2010.
MATERIAL SELECTION & SOURCE REDUCTION

The research and development work of Tandus Technologies has opened an exciting new door. Through our unique partnership with Cargill, Tandus Flooring is on the forefront of promising new technology that incorporates bio-based polymers as a replacement for petroleum-based raw materials.

We are the first flooring company to partner with Cargill to use a bio-based polyol cushion for our ErgoStep product. Developed by Cargill, BioOH™ production uses ingredients from soybean oil, which results in 36% less global warming emissions and uses 61% less non-renewable energy than traditional polyols.

Our Genesis® fiber technology employs a unique “sheath-core” construction of nylon and bio-based polymer that achieves a yarn system with 15% rapidly renewable material with no compromise in performance.

Tandus Flooring’s invention of the RS Installation System (mill-applied “peel and stick” process that eliminated the need for wet glues) in 1988 revolutionized the industry. In addition to virtually eliminating the VOCs associated with new flooring installation and improving the indoor air quality for building occupants, the RS system has prevented the introduction of more than three million glue buckets to local landfills and saved thousands of gallons of fuel for transportation.

REduced ENERGY USE AND CARbon EMISSIONS

While recycling can make a difference in reducing pressure on landfills, it also can make meaningful contributions to reducing embodied energy. The production of Powerbond and modular styles constructed with ethos or ER3 requires a fraction of the energy that it takes to make products from virgin materials.

**BEES Chart**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMBODIED ENERGY FOOTPRINT</th>
<th>FEEDSTOCK ENERGY (MJ/sq.ft.)</th>
<th>FUEL ENERGY (MJ/sq.ft.)</th>
<th>TOTAL PRIMARY ENERGY (MJ/sq.ft.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Powerbond® ethos® Cushion</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>21.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ethos® Modular</td>
<td>9.9</td>
<td>29.3</td>
<td>39.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powerbond® Cushion</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>41.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ER3® Modular</td>
<td>21.0</td>
<td>41.0</td>
<td>62.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flex-Aire™ Cushion Modular</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>53.6</td>
<td>85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virgin Modular Carpet</td>
<td>45.0</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>106.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Feedstock energy: the calorific value of the polymers in the carpet
** Fuel energy: energy to manufacture and transport the raw material and product, and energy for installation

All Powerbond and modular products are available with Climate Neutral third-party certification by the Carbonfund.org upon request.

Tandus Flooring conducted cradle-to-grave Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) to assess the environmental impacts associated with all the stages of a product’s life. Tandus Flooring published third party certified Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) which report the product’s LCA results as well as other relevant product information. ethos EPD’s are available on Tandus Flooring’s web site www.tandus.com as well as in the Sustainable Product Database on UL Environment’s web site www.ul.com.
PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY AND THE USE OF THIRD-PARTY CERTIFICATION

Tandus Flooring pioneered the use of third-party certification to verify product environmental attributes in the floorcoverings industry. We engaged Scientific Certification Systems, one of the leading environmental auditing agencies, more than a decade ago to certify the recycled content amounts in our products. While maintaining and renewing third-party certification programs are costly and require significant staff time, we believe it provides invaluable assurance to customers and specifiers that the environmental information they are receiving is accurate and leads to more informed decisions.

NSF 140

No other manufacturer can provide depth and breadth of products that have been certified at the NSF 140 Platinum level.

All Tandus Flooring ER3 and ethos modular and Powerbond products are certified Platinum. No special orders required, no up-charges, no last minute substitutions – ever.

ISO14001 Certification of our Environmental Management System

Tandus Flooring’s US and Asia operations are ISO 14001 certified. Through our Environmental Management System (EMS), we are able to measure reductions in the environmental impacts of our operations and increase operating efficiency with a goal of continuous improvement. The EMS has company-wide involvement and participation. All Tandus Flooring employees are involved in environmental initiatives, such as recycling, reducing material usage, waste, water, energy and emissions.

The fields of sustainable design, building operations and product manufacturing are dynamic and constantly evolving. A concept, building technique or product that once was “state-of-the-art” can quickly become outdated as methods and technology improve and the demand for more responsive solutions increases. As awareness has increased, so have the expectations placed upon design professionals, facility managers and manufacturers.

We at Tandus Flooring invite you to rely upon us to provide you timely and factual information about the environmental attributes of our products and their relevance to your overall environmental objectives. We enjoy the privilege of working with thousands of diverse customers in the corporate, education, healthcare, government and hospitality sectors throughout the world in solving their flooring needs and have developed a well of experience that we’re happy to share.