

PVC Free Milliken Equals 757 Million Pound Green Gain

(LaGrange, Georgia) Milliken Carpet, the leader in cushion backed commercial carpet, celebrates 19 years as a PVC free pioneer. The early elimination of PVC from Milliken's manufacturing represents a green gain of more than 757 million pounds of PVC removed from the production cycle and ultimately from landfill.

If equivalent quantities of carpet tiles were installed end-to-end, the path would equal almost 15 round trips between San Francisco and Boston or encircle the equator about 4 times.

“Changing chemistries from a PVC backing was the right step environmentally, and it challenged Milliken to develop more sustainable innovations,” said Bill Gregory, director of Sustainable Strategies for Milliken Carpet.

Milliken introduced Comfort Plus®, the first polyurethane cushion backing for modular carpet, in 1989. This green solution extends carpet life up to 50 percent by absorbing wear, protecting the carpet face and ensuring that it will look better and perform longer. Comfort Plus, now with ES (Engineered for Sustainability) backing continues to show sustainable qualities that include: 1) improving the appearance retention and durability of all carpet grades up to 50 percent; 2) reducing noise; 3) providing non-slip flooring, lowering the likelihood of accidents and cushioning against injury in the event of a fall; 4) adding insulation to help control temperature and conserve energy; and 5) offering the industry's first and only Lifetime Floor Compatibility Warranty as inert backings will not interact with adhesives from previous installations. The latter was not possible with PVC content, which is prone to react with old adhesives.

Milliken Carpet maintains an unparalleled heritage of sustainable leadership, having begun operations with a formal environmental policy more than four decades ago. It continues the tradition established by Milliken & Company, respected for more than a century of environmental stewardship. With more than 2,000 patents, Milliken maintains the world's largest textile research facility encouraging green innovations and exploring regenerative performance to improve working and living conditions for our associates, customers and communities around the globe.

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