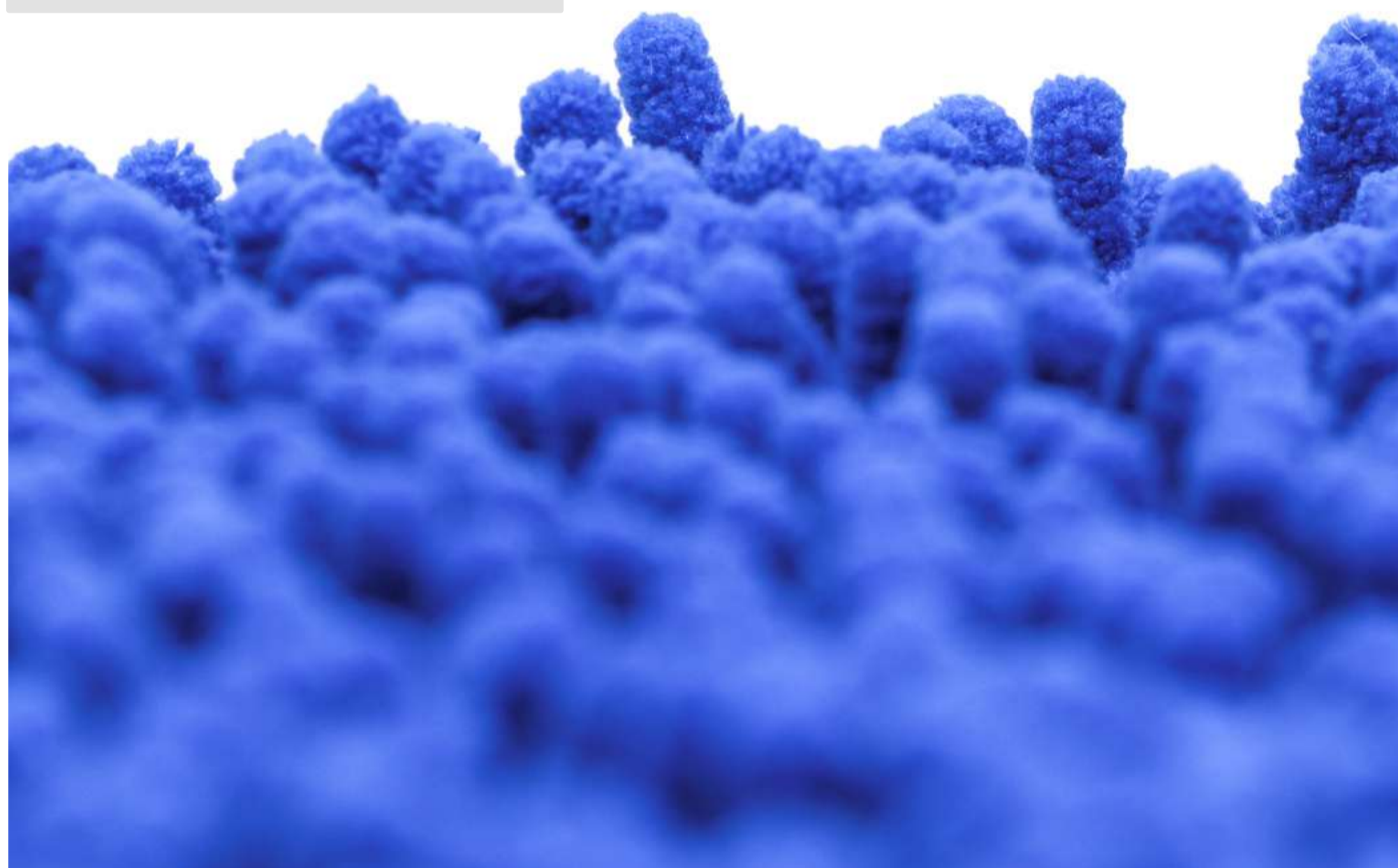




MENA CARPET NEWS



**WE HAVE SOME
NOVEL TIES AT ITMA
-INTERVIEW WITH
MRS. VERENA
RUCKH- BRÜCKNER
TEXTILE CO.**

**CRADLE TO CRADLE:
MODULYSS
PIONEERS BOLD,
SUSTAINABLE
FLOORING
SOLUTIONS**

**DOMOTEX HOME OF
FLOORING PRESENTS
A COUNTRY FOCUS
FOR THE FIRST TIME**

READY TO SUPPORT YOU

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COLARIS and CHROMOET printing systems are the first choice for a wide range of applications, especially when it comes to textile-based substrates. To guarantee high quality results, ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems is structured into five business segments to ensure maximum attention to the individual need of each end-product.



TEXTILE PRINTING

Especially medium to heavy weight textile substrates in woven and knitted construction are targets of ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems. The product range covers bedding, furnishing, terry towels, curtains, various velour substrates, as well as heavy weight knit fabrics for the fashion industry.

FLOOR COVERING

COLARIS and CHROMOJET printers cover the complete range of textile-based floor covering from nonwoven, flock, tufted and woven base material.

ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems covers the complete range from contract, automotive, promotional, residential and function carpets incl. mats and rugs fine-tuned to the needs of each segment.

NARROW FABRICS

COLARIS-NF is a single pass printing and dyeing solution for narrow fabrics to be used in technical applications as well as for decorative tapes or even zippers. The wide range of application includes tapes for military carrying systems or hook & loop tapes incl. IRR control function. Printing and dyeing can either be single or double sided simultaneously. It is also possible to print heavy tape constructions on one side and to dye the substrate on the backside in a single pass through the line.

TECHNICAL TEXTILE

Functionalization chemicals can be applied on various substrates. Additionally, printing on fabrics used for military applications incl. uniforms, rain protection, ponchos, netting, tents, tarpaulins, carrying systems, sleeping bags, bulletproof vests, or parachute fabrics, all including IRR functionality are covered by COLARIS digital printing equipment.

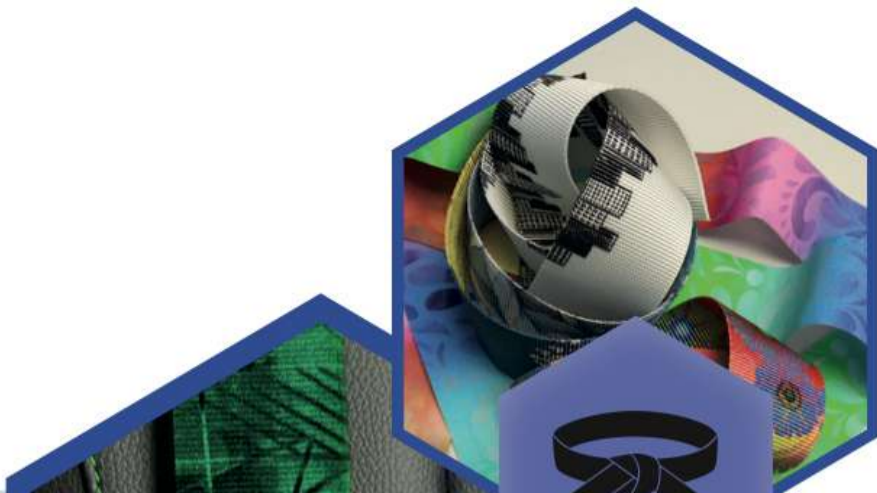


SPECIALTY GOODS

Special applications are end-products which are not covered by the a.m. product ranges. Such applications include additive manufacturing, such as Selective Cement Activation, thermophore coatings, security prints, or electroconductive printing – to mention some of the special applications.


ZIMMER AUSTRIA Digital Printing Systems is the competent partner to your success in printing and finishing of textile-based substrates and specialty goods.

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manufacturing and implementation of industrial printing and coating systems.

We Have Some Novel Ties at ITMA



Interview with Mrs. Verena Ruckh, Head of Marketing at BRÜCKNER Textile Technologies, Germany

During ITMA, BRÜCKNER Textile present another new simulation tool that is called ExperTex. This system collects a wide variety of information and knowledge sources and brings them together in an expert system. With the help of artificial intelligence, the ExperTex system determines the optimum process control and machine recipe for each application, taking into account all the basic conditions (type of fabric, number of drying compartments, exhaust air volume, temperature, etc.). This minimizes energy consumption and at the same time increases production output. Our ExperTex system is available for all dryer types and can also be retrofitted on request.

First of all please let us know about Bruckner Textile participation at ITMA milano 2023. Do you have any new technology to exhibit in ITMA for first time?

Of course, we have some novelties at ITMA! The first thing to mention here are our innovations in the area of sustainability. Due to the extreme increase in energy costs and the supply bottlenecks in some markets, the subject of saving resources is currently absolutely in our focus. We will be exhibiting a dryer at the trade show that features various combined heating options.

In combination with our advanced heat recovery and exhaust air purification systems, a lot of energy can already be saved here. We have also invested a lot in the area of digitalization and will be presenting our new digital products and services at the show. Furthermore, we will exhibit a coating unit that offers customers in the field of technical textiles many advantages.

In addition, we will of course promote some highlights from other fields, such as coating and finishing of carpets, bonding and finishing of nonwovens, a new belt dryer for knitted fabric as well as new products and services from our After Sales department.

What is Bruckner's range of products and machinery in the textile and carpet industry in ITMA? Share



Stenter_for_woven_fabric / BRÜCKNER Textile Technologies, Germany

with us the most important properties of Bruckner machinery in ITMA.

In addition to our live exhibits, we also display various machine models. Our product portfolio is so broad that we unfortunately cannot exhibit machines from all areas live. These machine models are therefore the perfect way for us to be able to illustrate our technologies from all areas.

Among other things, we will be showing our DUO-THERM carpet dryer, which is ideally suited for the back coating and finishing of carpets and other floor coverings. In addition, a model of a double belt oven will be on display, which is used for the production of high-loft nonwovens or compressed fiberboards made of natural, synthetic or even recycled fibers.

Typical end products include mattresses, upholstery, dry and wet wipes, insulation materials or automotive components. As a further model, we will show a continuous dyeing line with a dyeing padder and an infrared radiation dryer. With this machine, all woven fabrics can be dyed without migration and creases and then be dried absolutely uniformly.

Mostly such a line is used by our customers

for the production of shirting fabrics or bed linen made of striped satin. Our customers can expect the highest quality in all equipment. Our machines are durable, robust and energy-efficient and are made 100% in our own production site in Bavaria, Southern Germany.

Sustainability and recycling is an important subjects for textile manufacturers all around the world, what is Bruckner Textile sustainability policy?

Sustainability is probably the buzzword of the year, or even the decade. We all have to do something to save resources and protect our environment. This is mainly about saving energy, chemicals and water. Heating a textile dryer inevitably means using energy, whether gas, oil or electricity.

We can't outsmart physics. But we can do some things to make heating our machines more efficient or use green or even renewable energy sources. Some of this is certainly still a vision of the future, but many things can be implemented today.

In addition to the heat recovery and exhaust air purification systems that I have already

mentioned, we also offer, for example, minimum application units that consume significantly fewer chemicals and water, thus ensuring efficient application. Furthermore, our machinery is equipped with state-of-the-art assistance systems that support the machine operator in selecting the optimum and most efficient setting for each process.

Reducing production costs is a priority for all textile factories, how your machinery can help manufacturers in this field?

Since the pandemic, many raw material costs have risen extremely high. This is felt not only by consumers but also by textile manufacturers all over the globe. In addition, there are high requirements imposed by governments as well as bottlenecks in supply chains.

Cutting costs in as many areas as possible has therefore become essential for every company. As described earlier, customers can save energy and other resources in many ways with our equipment. Ultimately, this also leads to cost savings. Our technology team offers expert advice on precisely such issues. We are happy to check all parameters and settings on our customers' machines and optimize them individually. In the process, the



Coating_line_for_artificial_grass / BRUCKNER Textile Technologies, Germany

equipment is measured and suggestions are made for eliminating “efficiency killers”.

Digitalization is a great step to create a common language to achieve more productivity and simplicity. How does Brückner textile implement digitalization in textile machinery production? And why it is important?

Digitalization is helpful in many ways. Our machines are equipped with many intelligent tools and assistance systems. The maintenance manager, for example, informs the machine operator when wear parts need to be reordered or cleaning work is due.

Another tool enables customers to exchange data with higher-level operating and production control systems. Integration of third-party units is also possible here. In addition, our Dashboard Manager provides an overview of the most important production data of our machines at any time, e.g. recipe number, batch length, remaining time, etc. This data can also be accessed via connected mobile devices.

At ITMA, we will present another new simulation tool that is called ExperTex. ExperTex collects a wide variety of information and knowledge sources and brings them together



Electrically heated BRÜCKNER DUO-THERM carpet dryer at INTERCARPET

in an expert system. With the help of artificial intelligence, the ExperTex system determines the optimum process control and machine recipe for each application, taking into account all the basic conditions (type of fabric, number of drying compartments, exhaust air volume, temperature, etc.).

This minimizes energy consumption and at the same time increases production output. Our ExperTex system is available for all dryer types and can also be retrofitted on request.

How do you predict the textile machinery export market after ITMA 2023?

Unfortunately, the current mood in the global economy is still one of “wait-and-see”. The war in Europe, inflation and the associated rise in prices in many areas are keeping us busier than ever. Added to this are the financial imbalances in many markets. In the textile industry, we are used to fluctuations, and ITMA has always been a signal of an upward trend in the past. So this year, too, we are hoping for the positive spirit of the world’s largest textile machinery exhibition and we are looking forward to Milan with great anticipation.

At the end, you can add any other information that you think is interesting for readers in EMEA region.

The EMEA region has always played an important role for us. Currently, for example, we have major projects in Africa. Many textile countries there are coming back after uncertain times. There is a lot of know-how on this continent and the labor costs make the location attractive.

On the other hand, Türkiye and its surrounding countries are also indispensable for textile production and will continue to be an important pillar for us in the future. We very much hope that we will be able to welcome many visitors from the EMEA region to our stand at ITMA in June. We are looking forward to interesting conversations and a constructive exchange!



Continuous_dyeing_line / BRÜCKNER Textile Technologies, Germany

DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR

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26 - 28 July, 2023

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1600 exhibitors are expected to exhibit in 200,000 sqm of space

at show's 25th edition, scheduled to take place from 26 to 28 July 2023

at the National Exhibition and Convention Center in Shanghai.

The Visitor Registration Platform for Attending **DOMOTEX asia/CHINAFLOOR 2023** Is Now Open to All Worldwide Flooring Professionals

After the loosening of COVID 19 restrictions and the resumption of international flight connections in March, China is strengthening its commercial ties with the world at fast speed. In the first quarter of 2023, China's total import and export volume reached 9.89 trillion RMB, a year-on-year increase of 4.8%.

The always more favorable trading environment since the opening of China, is being reflected also on the development of the show, which continues receiving numerous requests for participation from both domestic and international companies. To name a few, brands such as COC, DONGSHENG, HAIMA, KAILI, OFC, RUIXIN (Carpet), ARREDIA, BAUWERK, BEAMY, LAMETT, LUONNE, VÄLINGE (Wood), DAJULONG, GEMMAFLOOR, GOGWA, MONDO, POWER DEKOR, RIKETT (Resilient), AZUMI, BOYU, HOMAG, HOTJIN, KHOM, KINGSHINE (Floortech) have already confirmed their presence at the show.

Participants will have the opportunity to network, exchange ideas, information and experience the latest industry trends both

physically and digitally through online platforms. To ensure a smooth return to China after a long time for many, the organizer has put in place the "Welcome back to Shanghai" campaign which includes a set of hospitality services such as assistance to apply for the Chinese visa, hotel & restaurants discounts, entertainment and sightseeing activities and much more.

Visitors can also combine the business trip to Domotex asia with a summer holiday trip to some of Southeast Asia's most attractive destinations, benefiting from preferred packages that the organizer has established with various travel agencies.

The show will also host several buyers' delegations from all the different flooring segments. The selected buyers will enjoy free accommodation, free shuttle service from the hotel to the fairground, matchmaking opportunities with selected exhibitors that fulfill their outsourcing requirements, free access to all onsite events and seminars, access to VIP lounge and many more.

This year Domotex asia is expected to further strengthen its positioning as the largest industry's international gathering in Asia Pacific and a not-to-be-missed event for re-discovering untapped opportunities in the region.

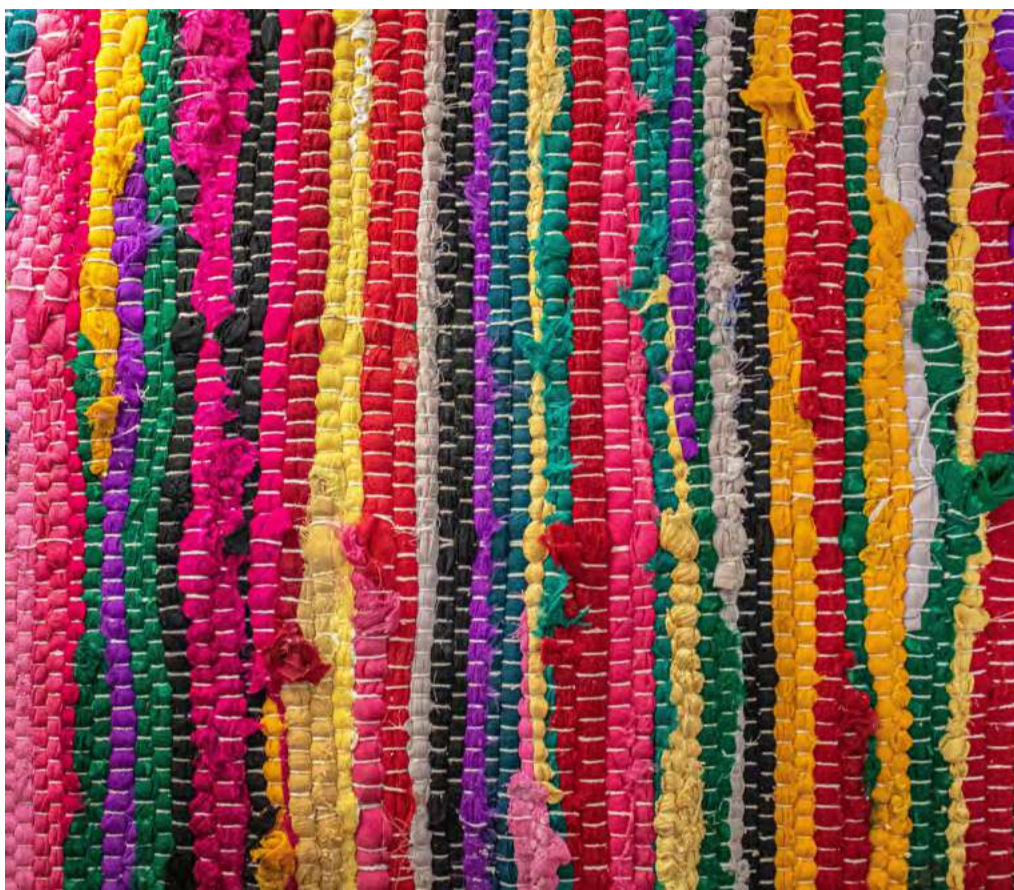
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How Kenya's Carpet Market has Evolved



There was a time when carpet prices were ludicrous. Homeowners had to wait for months for a specific carpet to be imported and buy it at very high prices. Others had to shop abroad.

But now prices of floor rugs and carpets have fallen sharply as many importers join the business, bringing in from Turkey, Indonesia, and China, the main suppliers.

More Kenyans are also weaving carpets, giving consumers variety from handwoven tribal prints to jute.

Prices in most markets have started to fall lately as technology evolves. A burst bubble, maybe?

Some buyers simply want a decorative covering and there are those who collect out of passion.

Therefore the old-fashioned designs may be cheaper but shoppers who favour pieces dating from the 16th and 17th centuries or handwoven may still be buying at high prices.

Joseph Mutie from Nasimi Interiors, a shop on Nairobi's Mombasa Road that has classy furnishings and home décor, says there are many types of carpets including deep piles [those with long, tall fibres and have a plush appearance and texture], cut-loop piles which were very fashionable during the 70s and 80s but lost popularity through the 90s], and woven carpets.

"Deep-pile carpets, such as saxonies, are favoured at the moment and offer excellent comfort and warmth," he says.

Mr Mutie pegs the price drop to new weaving technologies.

"As technology progresses, carpet production evolves. Rather than woven by hand, most carpets today are made through tufting. Tufting machines are faster and more efficient, making mass-produced carpets more affordable than ever before," he says.

A wider range of materials is also becoming more common in carpet

production.

"Initially, synthetic materials and dyeing methods were used to meet the rising demand for different types of carpets, with nylon and acrylic proving popular choices," he says.

Synthetic carpet fibres, Mr Mutie says, allow for more durability, are easier cleaning, and give a better overall product. They also have advantages like being waterproof and pet-proof.

Mr Mutie is quick to add that Nasimi Interiors stocks purely hand-woven carpets sourced from India.

"They include jute rugs, vintage and woollen carpets, which range from Sh58,000 to Sh89,000 for a 6 by 12 ft," says Mr Mutie, adding "they are so comfortable to walk on and also provide unique style options and add that designer touch that many people are gravitating to."





The complex patterns and subtle hues in colours make the design choices far more exciting as well."

AFFORDABILITY

James Macharia, another seller has been in the business for 12 years now.

He says one of the reasons for the drop in prices is the use of synthetic materials which mimic the look and feel of traditional wool.

"Wool is considered a classic and timeless choice," says Mr Macharia, adding that however, buyers are also opting for stain-resistant pieces.

"Chemical treatments are used in production to ensure carpets become resistant to stains and wear and tear. This is reflected in the longer warranties that are increasingly being offered by many carpet manufacturers," he says, adding "Most of my customers buy Turkey carpets [priced from Sh7,500] because of their beauty and complex patterns and rich colours."

Millan Ouma who has been in interior design for seven years also says when he started the business not many Kenyans could afford carpets.

"The sales were quite low as most people could not afford them. Carpets were considered a luxury, but the story has changed over time. Prices have dropped to between Sh10,500 and Sh35,000, and now we even stock hypo-allergic carpets," he says.

CARPET EXPORTS

Kenyans are also exporting carpets. In value terms, research shows the largest markets for carpet exported from Kenya are Israel, South Sudan, and the US, with a combined 67 percent share of total exports.

Somalia, Rwanda, Ghana, Uganda, India, and Tanzania are the other export markets.

In 2021, shipments abroad of carpets and other textile floor coverings increased by 212 percent, rising for the third year in a row after two years of decline, research from Index-Box, a global market research firm shows.

EASTLEIGH FACTOR

The availability of affordable and quality carpets in Eastleigh and Kamukunji has also contributed to the drop in prices in upmarket malls.

Jennifer Rabuor is among those who have seen a shift to these downtown markets. She

started selling carpets at Kamukunji market in Nairobi's downtown seven years ago.

She is among the tens of carpet traders at the market, similar to Eastleigh, now seen as the carpet hub in the city.

"My prices range from Sh6,500 to Sh13,000," she says.

With lots of available styles in the market, Kenyans are now spoilt for choice.

"How you would wish to layer your home with different effects from luxury carpeting, either with warm, rich hardwood flooring or back-to-texture sustainable carpeting is now at your disposal," says George Mosesti, who has been in the business for five years.

"Let's face it, nowadays if you can dream of a look of your home, you can create it. People no longer shy away from carpets due to the possibility of trapping stains and dirt. Carpets have massively advanced that we have those for high traffic areas, spill, and moisture magnet zones, or even often-used family rooms."

SOURCE: BUSINESSDAILYAFRICA

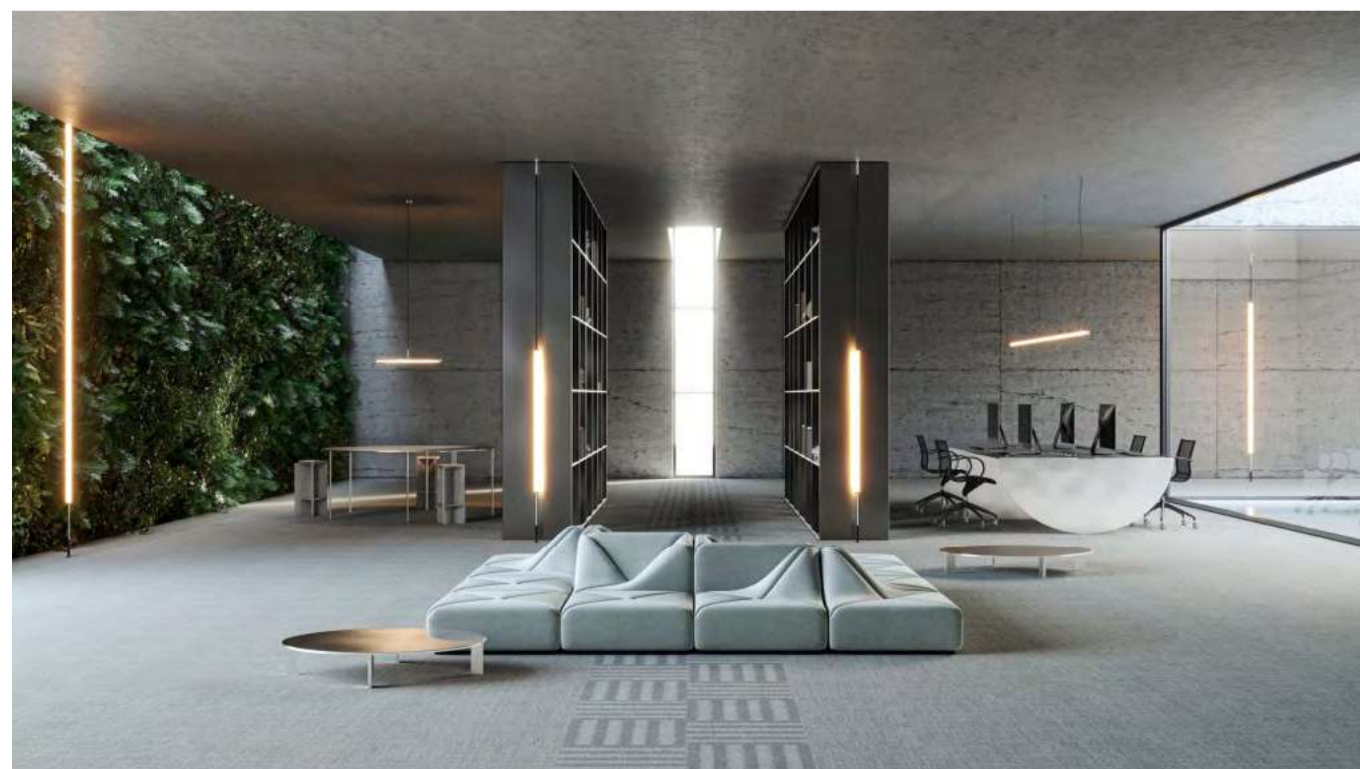
Cradle to Cradle: Modulyss Pioneers bold, sustainable Flooring solutions

Sustainability matters. And modulyss knows it. Architects and interior designers worldwide embrace Cradle to Cradle Certified® (C2C) practices to make a lasting impact on our environment. Leading the pack, modulyss incorporates C2C certification in its Heritage and Artcore collections, proving that flooring can be both sustainable and visually striking.

The World's Most Sustainable Carpet Sustainable Forever

Summit International Flooring, representing OBJECT CARPET who is working hand in hand with Niaga ("Again" spelled backward) to develop an entirely innovative carpet design. *drum roll* Introducing NEOO, "designed for endless life", a mono-material carpet and the very first of its kind. NEOO can be recycled into a new carpet – over and over again – until the end of time.

Both the carpet and the backing are made of PET Polyester. The backing is attached through a heat process, which results in a latex-free carpet that does not require the backing to be removed or other processing



in order for the materials to be recycled. Today's polyester yarn is not like yesterday. Polyester yarn is twisted and heat set and will perform very well, with the added benefit of being naturally resistant to staining and fading.

AWARD-WINNING SUSTAINABILITY

This innovative carpet has already won several awards, including the ICONIC AWARD 2023: Innovative Interior "Best of Best":

"OBJECT CARPET has closed the material cycle with the NEOO carpet made entirely of mono-material polyester and therefore

fully recyclable. The carpet is impressive because of its high-quality aesthetics and high degree of durability and dirt resistance. A great example of perfectly combined aesthetics, functionality and environmental protection."

You will absolutely love the quality of this 100% recyclable carpet, and you will also



love being a steward of the Earth.

We are confident that NEOO by OBJECT CARPET is leading the way for all carpet manufacturers to transition to more eco-friendly practices, but for now, we are first!

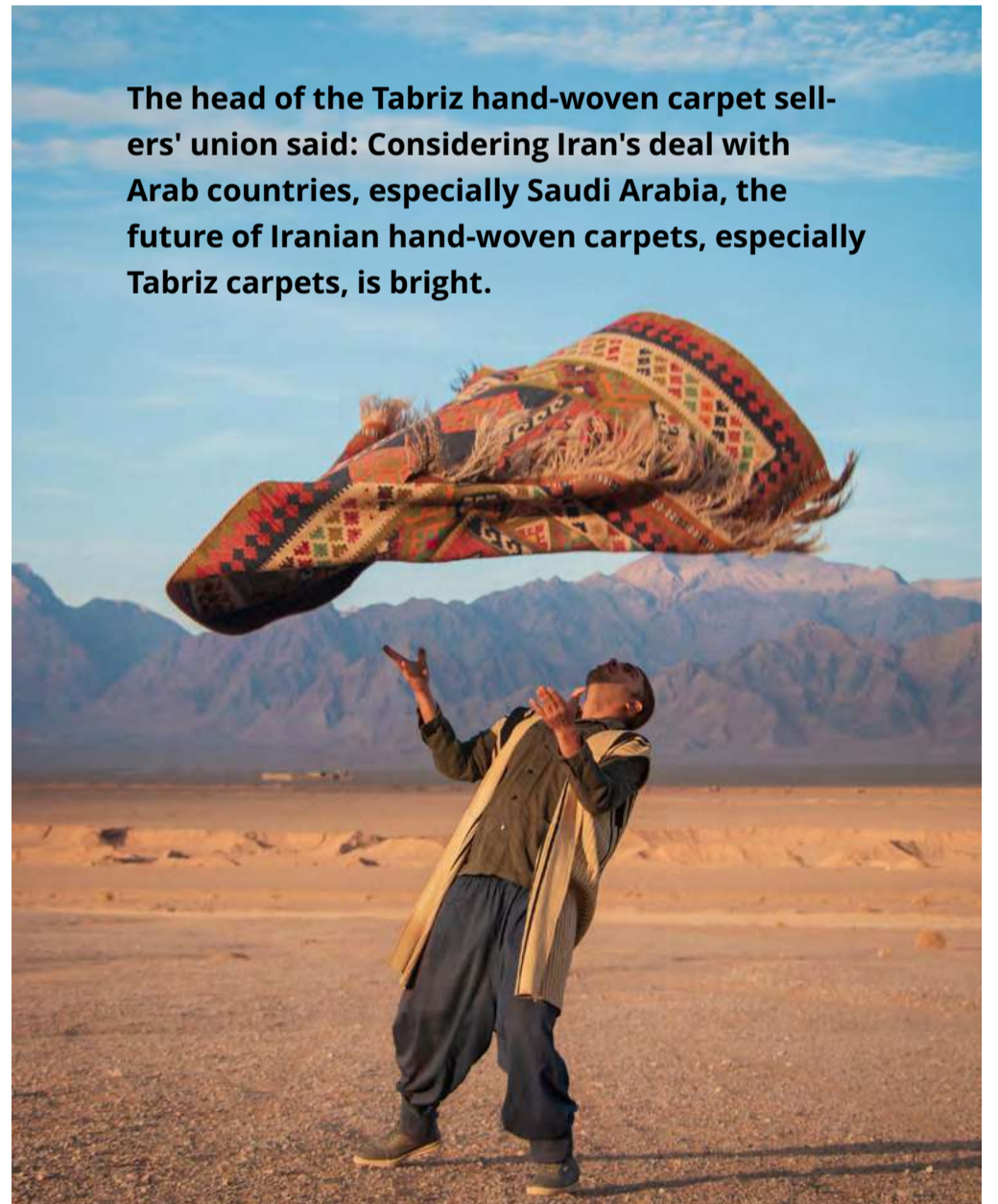
Bright Future of Iran's Carpet Exports

In an interview with Azimzade Carpet in Tabriz, Ahad Azimzadeh stated that the agreement between Iran and Saudi Arabia has a positive effect on the export market of Iranian carpets and stated: Currently, carpet exports to the UAE and Russia are good and considering that in the last eight years, Iranian carpets have not been exported to Saudi Arabia, but with the agreement of the two countries, the future market of Iranian carpets is expected to be positive.

Due to the decrease in carpet production in the world and the simultaneous increase in global demand, the demand for Iran's carpets is improving, added Azimzadeh.

"China started producing carpets for a while, but it was not successful, then, 98% of Chinese brands were discontinued, and now China has become one of the customers of Iranian carpets," he said at the end.

The head of the Tabriz hand-woven carpet sellers' union said: Considering Iran's deal with Arab countries, especially Saudi Arabia, the future of Iranian hand-woven carpets, especially Tabriz carpets, is bright.



The World's Most Sustainable Carpet



Sustainable Forever

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Flooring Industry News: Shaw's ReWorx

Hybrid Flooring Receives 2023 Edison Award



Shaw Industries' ReWorx flooring is a 2023 Edison Award winning product. During the awards ceremony, ReWorx will be recognized as either a gold, silver or bronze winner in the post-consumer recycled material category.

The Edison Award winning ReWorx hybrid flooring is made with 100% PET fiber, including a minimum of 20 post-consumer plastic bottles per 12 x 48 plank. With the durability of a hard surface and the comfort of a soft surface, it is designed to meet the performance expectations of a variety of end-use applications.

"This new product innovation for Shaw emphasizes our commitment to designing for a circular economy, and providing new, innovative product solutions that meet the demands of our customers," said Kellie Ballew, Shaw vice president of global sustainability and Innovation. "It is an honor to have our innovative use of post-consumer material in this hybrid flooring solution be recognized by The Edison Awards."

Available via all of Shaw's commercial brands, Patcraft, Philadelphia Commercial and Shaw Contract, ReWorx is Cradle to Cradle Certified Bronze (v3.1) having been assessed for material health, product circularity, clean air and climate protection, water and soil stewardship and social fairness. And as part of Shaw's Environmental Guarantee, the product can be picked up at no charge to the customer at the end of its life on the floor through the re[TURN] Reclamation Program to be recycled into the next generation of ReWorx flooring.

Designing safe and circular products is embedded throughout the company. Shaw launched the first PVC-free, recyclable carpet tile, EcoWorx, in 1999, using the Cradle to Cradle design principles. ReWorx is the latest example of Shaw's drive to innovate new product solutions that meet the performance requirements of customers, while also addressing the global plastic-waste challenge using both clear and the often-undesirable color plastic waste.

"At Shaw, we use the term sustain[HUMAN] ability as our guide for ensuring we put people at the heart of our sustainability efforts," Ballew said. "This product introduction was an incredible cross-collaboration of teams throughout our company and through feedback and insights gained directly from customers. The end result is a brand-new product platform that is verified as safe for people and the environment. We are helping to divert landfill waste both by use of post-consumer plastic and through our reclamation of ReWorx at the end of its life on the floor. It's an innovation for the planet and its people."

Now in its 36th year, The Edison Awards is an annual competition honoring excellence in new product and service development, marketing, human-centered design and innovation. ReWorx was selected from almost 400 nominations.

The post Shaw's ReWorx hybrid flooring receives 2023 Edison Award appeared first on Floor Covering News.

Smart solutions for Egyptian textile Industry

YOUR GATEWAY TO TEXTILE

Nobeltext experience goes back to more than 60 years in the field of machinery for spinning, weaving, dyeing, embroidery, twisting, doubling and re-winding, as well as humidification, ventilation and waste removal systems. In addition, we supply, install and maintain fire protection systems.

For many years, we have been capable of providing comprehensive and integrated services as we have the greatest experience and the biggest team, as well as being the exclusive agents in Egypt for the best machine manufacturer.



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DOMOTEX will take place from 11 to 14 January 2024 at the Hannover exhibition grounds with several new features. In addition to a presentation area for wholesalers and more Mood Spaces, the leading trade fair will also present an exciting new country focus for the first time.



DOMOTEX Home of Flooring Presents a Country Focus for the First Time

After a successful comeback in 2023, preparations for the 34th edition of the world's leading trade fair for carpets and floor coverings are once again in full swing. As a source of inspiration and a global marketplace, DOMOTEX is constantly evolving – with a presentation area for wholesalers, mood spaces for residential and contracting, new formats for contractors and architects, and for the first time an exciting country focus.

"Together with partners, we are going to present a country focus in the future. The focus is on trends and designs, colors and innovations from the particular country. However, naturally, manufacturers and designers from the respective country will also be highlighted.

In addition, we are happy to focus on other distinctive aspects, such as marketing concepts from the country. In 2024, Italy will be the focus of the event, marking its kick-off," explains Sonia Wedell-Castellano, Global Director DOMOTEX, Deutsche Messe AG. Among other things, "Insight Italy" will be staged with a new special display. It offers a global stage on which companies and partners can effectively present innovations,

trends and designs and deepen business relationships.

"Our goal is not only to unite the worlds of carpets and floor coverings in one place. Rather, we want to give the industry a place where it feels comfortable, which they can make their own platform and where individuals can meet who have one thing in common: a passion for flooring and carpets. A strong and united home for floor coverings of all kinds!" announces Wedell-Castellano.

STRONG SUPPORT FROM THE FLOORING INDUSTRY

Numerous international flooring brands have already confirmed their participation at the upcoming DOMOTEX – including: Amorim, Balta Industries, Bhadohi Carpets, Corkart, Design Parquet, Exportdrvo, Falquon, Fedustria, Golze, Homag, i4F, Infloor Girloon, Ipek, ITC Natural Luxury Flooring, Brink & Campmann Jaipur Rugs, Javi Home, , MASSIVE HOLDING, Merinos, Neuhofer, NK Sales, Oriental Weavers, Paulig, PPS-Galekovic, Power Dekor Group, Selit, STP, ter Hürne, Tisca Textil, Unifam, Välinge, Windmüller and many more.

For Annika Windmüller, Chief Marketing Of-

ficer at Windmüller, participation in the upcoming event is a matter of course: „DOMOTEX is not only a place to show up with innovative flooring but also the best stage for national and especially international contacts. This has been Domotex for decades for us and will continue to be so in the future. We are looking forward to Domotex 2024!"

Yasmine Khamis, President of Oriental Group, considers DOMOTEX a mandatory event: "Our products are there to be touched. No online event can replace personal contact. We look forward to being at DOMOTEX 2024 and meeting with our partners in person."

On the visitor side, the response to the event taking place in January 2024 is equally positive. Jürgen Stockhammer, buyer for carpets and floor coverings at XXXLutz, looks forward to experience "the full range of the Carpet & Rugs community at DOMOTEX 2024, in order to derive even greater benefit from this already indispensable trade show." Michael Roithner, central buyer for floor coverings and carpets at POCO Einrichtungsmärkte GmbH, has also announced his plans to attend DOMOTEX again as a visitor in 2024.



Designer Altenburger Stephan Hürlemann with the Ruckstuhl carpets. Image: Stefan Altenburger/Ruckstuhl

Ruckstuhl Presents Sustainable Rug concept

The carpet manufacturer Ruckstuhl from the canton of Bern has undertaken a sustainable rug concept with Fellow – Metamorphosis of a Rug. The project was presented at Milan Design Week 2023.

The carpet manufacturer Ruckstuhl AG, the architect and designer Stephan Hürlemann, and the online media company DAAily have presented the project “Fellow – Metamorphosis of a Rug” at this year’s Milan Design Week. According to a press release, the aim is to make rug design, manufacture, distribution, and use more environmentally friendly.

The Fellow rugs designed by Hürlemann are to be produced and traded in a decentralized process to minimize freight transport with shorter delivery routes. Ruckstuhl plans to work with other carpet manufacturers for this to build up a network of production facilities. Decentralized production would be pursued at the partner manufacturers: they will produce the rugs to order where they will be used and according to Ruckstuhl’s specifications.

Stephan Hürlemann has designed each and every Fellow rug as a one-off to create a closer bond between users and the product. The life story and value appreciation of each rug will be stored in its own online diary and resale will be organized via NFTs (nonfungible tokens).

Adrian Berchtold, CEO of the carpet manufacturer Ruckstuhl, comments in the press release: “Ruckstuhl has been producing carpets from natural fibers since 1881. Sustainability is ingrained in our DNA. However, we must also challenge our established methods, recognize the need for action, and seek improvement. The Fellow project serves as a roadmap for us.” The project participants hope that their new ideas for processes, services, and rituals may be transferred to other goods.

Merinos Carpet: The Wise Man of Besni's children are at the top of the Forbes

The Wise Man of Besni's children are at the top of the Forbes league

Two bosses of Gaziantep-based Erdemoğlu Holding made their mark on Forbes' rich league list this year. With a surprise, İbrahim Erdemoğlu took the 1st place and Ali Erdemoğlu took the 3rd place on the list that included 26 people from Turkey. The world-famous economics publication Forbes has published the list of the world’s richest. While Bernard Arnault, President of luxury consumer goods giant LVMH, ranked first on Forbes' list, two bosses of Gaziantep-based Erdemoğlu Holding made their mark when it comes to Turkey. This year, on the 'billionaire list' that included 26 people from Turkey, İbrahim Erdemoğlu ranked 1st and Ali Erdemoğlu ranked 3rd in the in Turkey ranking of the list.

İbrahim Erdemoğlu, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Erdemoğlu Holding that also includes SASA, which had a wealth of 1,8 billion dollars in 2022, became the world's 497th and Turkey's first richest person with 5,3 billion dollars this year. Murat Ülker, who was the banner-bearer of the list in previous years, became the 534th richest person in the world and second in Turkey with a wealth of 5 billion dollars this year. Third on the list is also from the Erdemoğlu family. Ali Erdemoğlu, another executive of SASA, ranked 580th in the world with his wealth of 4,7 billion dollars. 6,7 BILLION DOLLARS INCREASE

While the total wealth of the Erdemoğlu brothers was 10 billion dollars, they stood out as the richest names in the world in the "carpet industry" category on the basis of the sectors, with which they took place on the list. İbrahim Erdemoğlu was 8th on the list with 1,8 billion dollars last year, while Ali Erdemoğlu's place was 12th with \$1,5 billion dollars. The wealth of the two brothers increased by \$6,7 billion in one year. The total wealth of the 26 Turkish billionaires on the list was 57,8 billion dollars. Owned by Erdemoğlu Holding, SASA attracted attention with its rise in the stock market last year.





B.I.G. Acquires Australian B2B Flooring Wholesaler Signature Floors, Strengthening its Position in The **Australian and New Zealand Market**

With this statement, B.I.G. is pleased to announce that it has signed an agreement with Australian B2B flooring wholesaler to acquire its complete range of activities. Through this acquisition, both companies will strengthen their growth opportunities in both soft, resilient and hard flooring in Australia and New Zealand.

As part of B.I.G.'s corporate strategy, the group is actively investing in strategic business segments and geographies.

CEO Pol Deturck comments: "This acquisition will provide great opportunities for all our stakeholders, especially our customers, suppliers and employees. Both B.I.G. and

Signature have solid positions as leaders in the flooring industry and a shared commitment to sustainability, product innovation, design and customer service."

Signature Floors is an Australian B2B flooring wholesaler serving retailers, commercial contractors, architect-designers and end-users in Australia and New Zealand. Founded in 1989, the company has 120 employees and is owned by 2 family shareholders which are both active in the company. Signature has offices, warehouses and showrooms in Melbourne and Auckland spread over 3 locations.

Signature CEO Richard Braic adds: "Joining B.I.G. is an exciting opportunity for Signature

Floors. With their global resources to support us, we will continue to create sustainable and innovative products tailored to the needs of our local market. We look forward to seeing how our synergies can drive future growth."

Together, B.I.G. and Signature will integrate their sales and business activities over the coming months, ensuring business continuity for customers, partners, suppliers and employees.

Both companies expect to close the transaction at the end of April 2023. No financial details will be disclosed.



California Carpet Recycling Rate Increases to 33 Percent



Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) is pleased to announce that the California Carpet Stewardship Program has achieved a carpet recycling rate of 33 percent for 2022. This far exceeds the 27 percent goal set in the Program's Five-Year Plan, and the California carpet recycling rate has more than tripled since 2015.

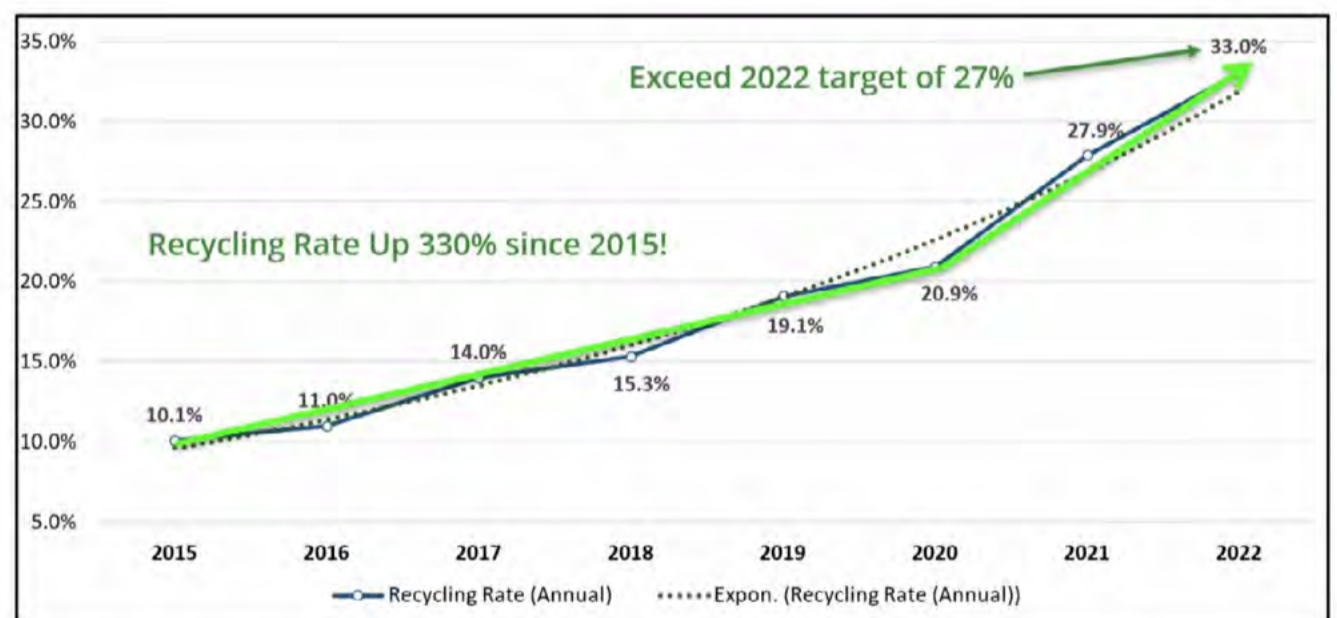
In addition to the recycling rate performance, in 2022 for the first time in its 11-year history, the California Carpet Stewardship Program achieved or surpassed all of the Program's annual goals, including:

- Meeting the carpet reuse goal of two million pounds.
- Achieving 76% recycling efficiency rate, passing the goal of 75%. Recycling efficiency refers to the amount of collected carpet that is transformed into recycled products or feedstock.
- Supporting 131 public drop-off sites with at least ■ one in every California county, in addition to the over 200 private sites across the state.
- Increasing public drop-off site carpet collection by 33% over 2021.
- Supporting some 100 products made from recycled-carpet material.

CARE Executive Director Bob Peoples hailed the success in the face of multiple challenges.

"Less than two years ago, we were in jeopardy of losing the critical carpet recycling infrastructure that had been built by our hard-working and creative recyclers," said Peoples. "As a result of CARE's Emergency Covid Action Plan implemented in April 2020, the Program not only survived, but this amazing growth was made possible. This is thanks to the amazing group of passionate recyclers and a dedicated CARE staff working in partnership."

Carpet can be recycled when properly prepared and brought to a drop-off site that takes carpet for processing and recycling. The challenge is capturing the carpet for recycling before it goes to landfill. The California Carpet Stewardship Program works to increase collection of carpet by enabling and encouraging carpet collection from homeowners, contractors, retailers and collector/sorters. CARE also supports the development of markets for recycled carpet material, which is now included in a variety of products, including automotive parts, house trim and siding, insulation, accessibility ramps, even bullet-resistant walls and doors.



Carpet Imports Depressed in Q1

Carpet imports into the UK have continued their Q1 slump with an double-digit reduction and notable declines from Belgium and Turkey.

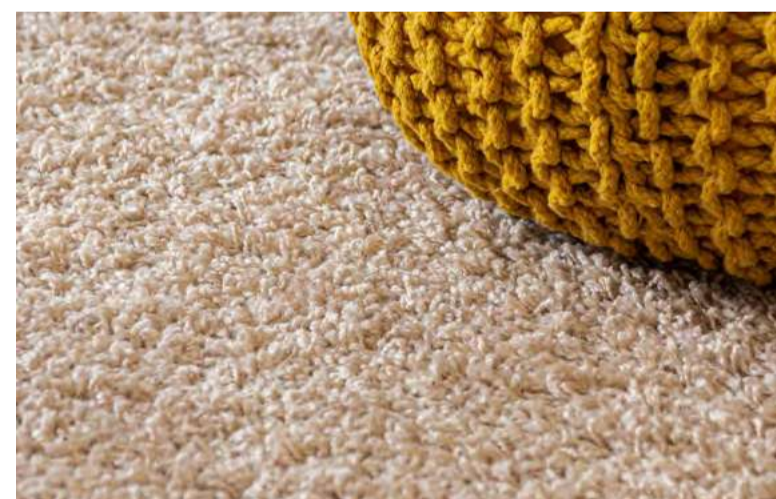
The latest figures compiled by The Furnishing Report from HMRC data for February show the dip in volumes of 11% to 11.6m sqm and while inflation has boosted prices, even the value of imported goods slipped nearly 1% to £75m.

The results follow January data which showed a decline in volumes of 6.5% and a most striking is the 4.3% drop in values to a total

of £73.2m.

February was positive only for The Netherlands which saw carpet exports to the UK up over 5% on the same month last year but Belgium continued its very sluggish performance with the value of its exports falling 12%.

The earthquake in Turkey had a major impact in a country that had seen value growth of nearly 20% in UK exports in January (and over 10% in December) but even with inflation, values for February reversed with a 3% decline.



Turkish trade body ITHIB reported last week that textile exports to Europe were 21.2% down in volume following the earthquake but UK manufacturers have said there have been only minor interruptions to the supply chain for polypropylene yarn for which Turkey is a key supplier.

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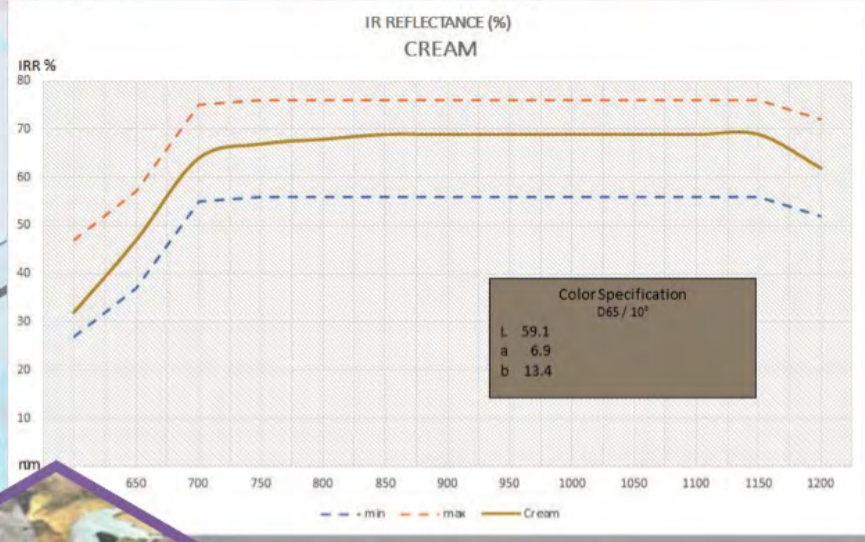
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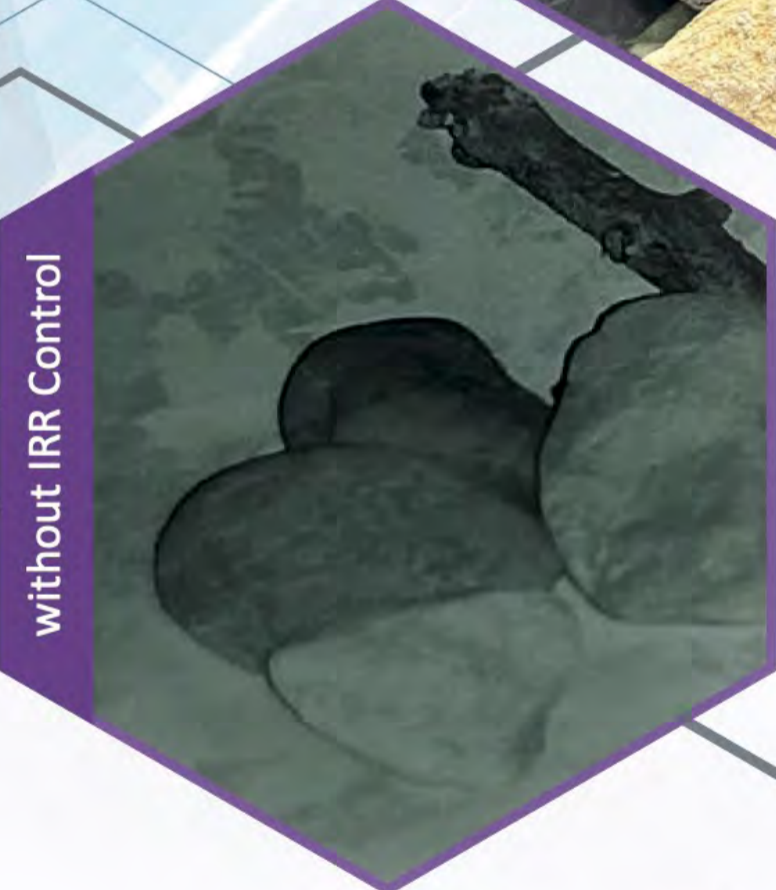
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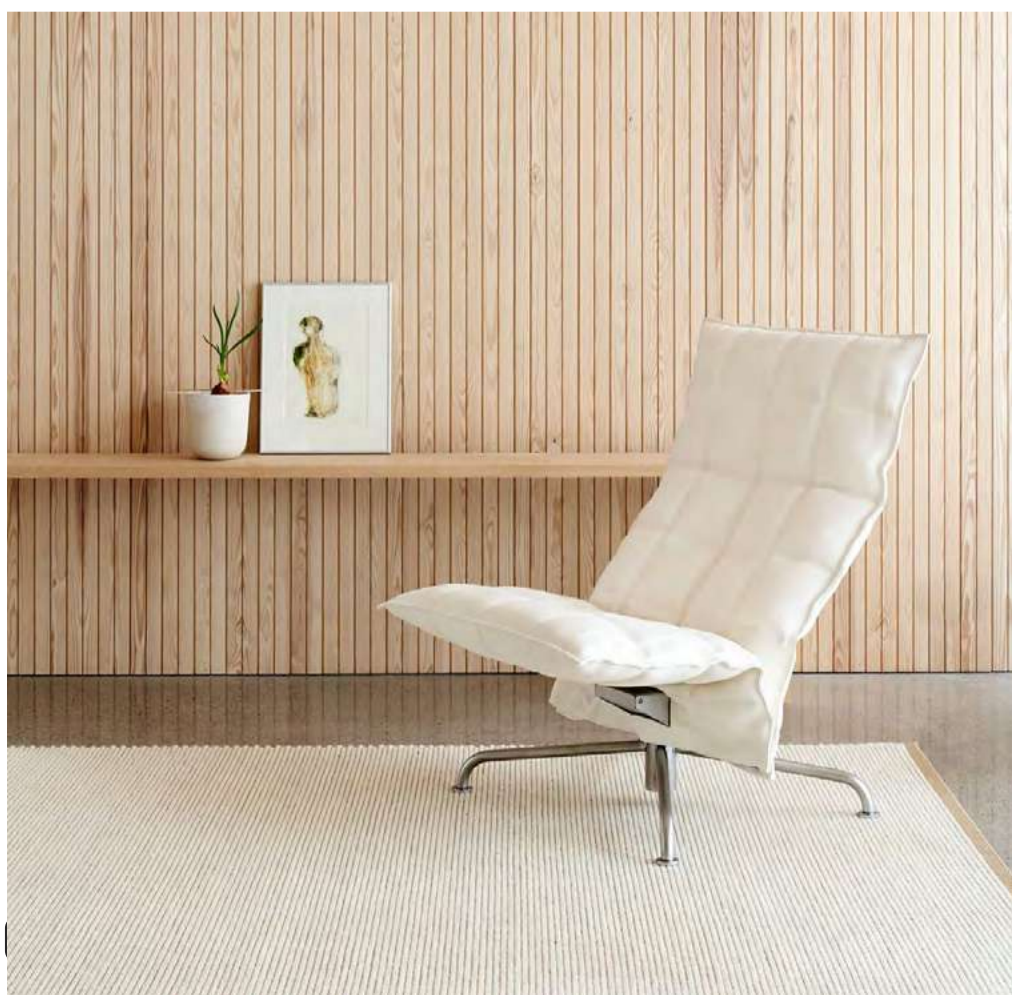


Hand Woven Carpet of New Wool and Paper Yarn Minore Combines the Best Qualities by Hanna Korvela – Woodnotes

Hand woven carpet of new wool and paper yarn Minore combines the best qualities of wool and paper yarn. Paper yarn gives the rug body and rhythm, wool brings warmth softness. Rug's three-dimensional surface is lively and feels firm to touch.

The colour palette is earthy, colours are natural sheep wool colours that have not been chemically dyed. The colours of the wool have shades of tones that add to the natural charm and liveliness of the rug.

Genuine wool colour makes each Minore carpet unique. It is therefore to be understood that colour variation is not a mistake: it is an important point that indicates the true earthy origin of the material. Wool is mulesing free New Zealand wool. Thanks to the smooth surface, an excellent rug for allergic homes. The Minore carpets are designed for reversible use. Made in Finland.



South Africa Wool Sales Market

The 2022/23 wool selling season continued, with a total of 6 837 bales on offer on catalogue 29.

Nearly 51% of the merino wools on offer was certified as sustainable and 60% of the offering tested 20 micron and finer.

It was the fine wools that performed well today and lifted the overall sales clearance to 91,8%

The market returned positive results across all micron categories, with some assistance from a weaker SA currency against the US\$. The non-certified indicator increased by 1,2% to close on R172,20 p/kg, whilst the certified indicator gained 1,6% to close on R187,56 p/kg

The Australian market closed marginally up today by 0,1% (AU\$), from the previous sale on Thursday 20 April, but continued to deliver negative results in US\$ terms.

The major buyers on today's sale were: G Modiano SA (2 079), Standard Wool SA (1 100), BKB Pinnacle Fibres (684) and Segard Masurel SA (676).

The next sale will take place on 3 May 2023.



Carpet Flooring Market 2023-2028

The global carpet market size was valued at \$45,003.94 million in 2019 and is projected to reach \$53,276.73 million by 2026, registering a CAGR of 2.44% from 2020 to 2026.

Carpet Yarn Market 2022-2027

Carpet Yarn market was valued at US\$ 16.61 Billion in 2021, It is estimated that the Market is to grow at a CAGR of 5.14% over the forecast period.

Market Size in 2021: US \$16.61 Billion

Market Size in 2027: US \$22.44 Billion



Yarn specialist Bonar Yarns has gone into administration (Image: FRP Advisory)

Bonar Yarns Goes into Administration Blaming 'Unsustainable Cash Flow Issues'

A high-tech yarns business in Dundee has gone into administration after suffering "unsustainable cash flow issues".

Bonar Yarns, which was founded more than a century ago, makes advanced polypropylene yarns used in carpets, floor coverings and even sports pitches.

Michelle Elliot and Callum Carmichael, partners with FRP Advisory, have now been appointed joint administrators and say they are looking to trade it in the short term with all staff until a buyer is found.

Bonar Yarns, which is based at the Caldrum Works in Dundee, was acquired by a management buyout team in 2020. It has a turnover of around £6.5m and employs 61 people.

Its products include flame retardant yarns for the travel flooring market, UV stabilised yarns for the outdoor flooring market and yarns made from recycled polypropylene for the artificial sports turf market.

Joint administrator Michelle Elliott said: "Bonar Yarns Limited can trace its history back to the foundation in 1903 of the famous Low & Bonar business that specialised in the manufacture of technical textiles.

"Following a management buyout, the business focused on developing and marketing innovative yarns for a variety of different floor covering and artificial sports turf markets.

"We will continue to trade the business in the short term whilst marketing the business and assets for sale with immediate effect and would urge interested parties to contact us as soon as possible.

"Bonar Yarns is highly regarded for its excellence in carpet yarns innovation, so we are hopeful that the business will be of interest to a company already operating in the broad coverings market or an entrepreneur keen to enter the market by acquiring an established brand."

Tapi Launches New Sustainable Carpet Collection

Searches for 'sustainable home décor' have increased by 125% in the last 12 months, indicating a clear demand for eco-friendly products as we all look for our way to contribute to helping the planet.

With this in mind, carpet and flooring retailer Tapi has announced its new flooring collection, called TreadKindly, using sustainably sourced materials and methods.

Now available to purchase, TreadKindly has been curated to be affordable, with carpet prices starting from £22.99 per m²,

Tapi has sourced carpet and underlay designed to look and feel amazing, while still withstanding the business of everyday life. The first carpets in the collection include Flow, Balance, and Rhythm, all of which are created from 100% recycled polyester, sustainably derived from reclaimed plastic bottles. The carpet backing is also made from recycled polyester.

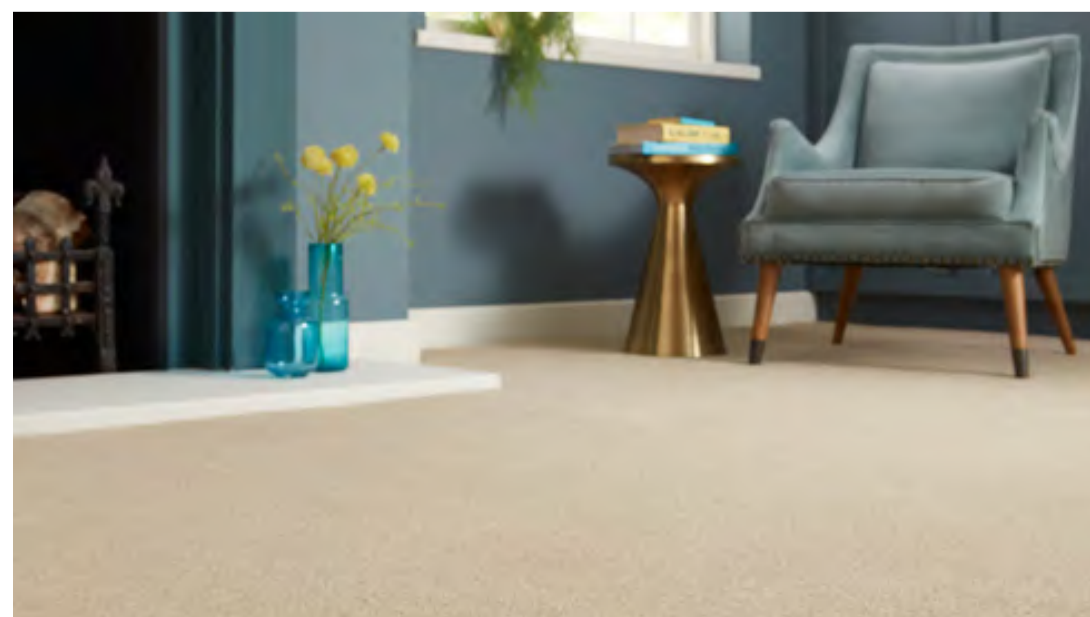
Horizon underlay, as part of TreadKindly, is made in the UK in Yorkshire. This underlay has a low carbon footprint, is 100% recyclable, and has been created from 85% of recycled materials, giving precious resources a second lease of life. Each roll stops 150 single-use plastic bottles from going into landfill and at the end of its life, it can simply be cut up and put straight into the recycling bin, including the bag it comes in.

In the near future, the collection will also feature carpets made from sisal and wool as well as wood-based flooring and vinyl created from reclaimed and sustainable materials.

Johanna Constantinou, brand and communications director at Tapi, comments: "Now more than ever it's important we're all considering how we can be more sustainable in our everyday practices and do our bit for the planet. We knew we needed to look at how we could create a carpet collection suitable for every budget, that also supports efforts to make the home we all share a greener one.

"The carpets and underlay we've sourced for the TreadKindly collection are just as long-lasting and beautiful as any other flooring, with the additional benefit that they've been curated with sustainability in mind. By using existing materials, such as recycled or reclaimed fibres, we're able to reduce our carbon emissions and avoid wasting precious resources.

"With further products already in the pipeline, we're extremely proud to be able to bring this collection to the flooring industry and help shape it into a more sustainable one."



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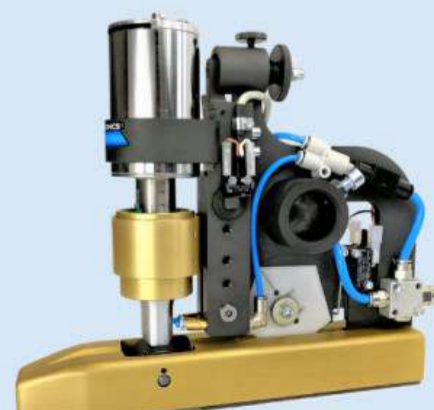


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