

Challenges:

In terms of sustainability within the UK division, this is driven throughout the Global Business and is a key focus of everything we innovate and support.

Targets include doubling the amount of recycled materials collected over a decade.

In order to meet these, Tarkett have introduced eco-innovation programme with the aim of providing more comfortable, healthy and people-friendly indoor spaces without compromising performance and design experience.

Tarkett aim to bring tangible environmental and health benefits to flooring users and have focused on two eco-innovations in the UK specifically...

Eco-Innovations

- **Phthalate Free Technology:** Tarkett New Generation Vinyl is a phthalate-free flooring. The phthalate-free plasticizers selected by Tarkett are approved for food contact containers and can be used for toys intended to be placed in the mouth by children.
- **Low VOC Emissions:** Tarkett's new flooring collection has a VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) emissions level that is ten times lower than the strictest standards in Europe, thus contributing to better indoor air quality.

Circular Economy Focus: ReStart Recycling Programme



Tarkett is committed to the transition from a linear to a circular economy model and have developed their ReStart recycling programme to support this.

This is being fully utilised by Willmott Dixon on their sites in the UK and Tarkett are invited onto site for the works commencement meetings to ensure early engagement of site workers and that circularity is written into product agreements.

The process includes:

- **Eco-designing:** Tarkett develops products using recycled materials and flooring which can be disassembled and recycled at the end of use.
- **Take back scheme:** Tarkett collect flooring waste (also from competitors) from site which can either be re-used or granulated down to provide the backing for new raw materials.

Between 2010 – 2018 102,000 tonnes of flooring were recycled and 10% of their purchased raw materials consisted of recycled materials.

FACT BOX



Company

Tarkett Ltd

Founded

1997

HQ

Paris, France

Website

www.tarkett.co.uk

www.tarkett.com

Main contact

Ross Dight, Technical Director

Services

Floor and wall coverings

About

Worldwide, Tarkett employ over 13,000 people and have sales in over 100 countries with over 1,3M square metres of flooring sold every day.

Tarkett also utilise 24 research laboratories, 4 design centres, 7 recycling centres, 1 research and innovation centre and 36 industrial sites across the world.

Tarkett works with many of the School's Partners, including Willmott Dixon and recently won their "Better Together" Award (September 2019).



Value gained:

- **Enhanced learning:** With sustainability being driven on a global scale, Tarkett can utilise the School's resources to allow UK based colleagues to focus on topical issues, as well as company specified ones.
- **Improved comms / PR:** Tarkett have used the School to understand how to showcase what they do, not what they sell, improving their message to current and potential clients.
- **Competitive advantage:** Tarkett find that membership of the School aids their tenders and gives them a competitive advantage in tenders and helps their primary point of sale.
- **Improved reputation:** Tarkett are increasingly finding that their clients demand engagement with the School and have found that their commitment to achieving Gold status reassures their customers and acts as an informal "pre-check", showing that Tarkett are continuously working to improve their sustainability credentials.

