

UNIVERSAL TEXTILE TECHNOLOGIES ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

Overview

In October of 1998 Universal Textile Technologies formed a committee with the objective of improving our manufacturing process to create environmentally friendly products without compromising the high performance backing systems we already produced.

Our Mission Statement

Prevent the unnecessary expenditure of raw materials and energy.

To recover material and energy which has been expended by reuse or recycling.

To develop products and processes which use and promote sustainability of our natural resources.

Since That Time

- a. Our office of Environmental Compliance for the local, state and federal agencies has been enhanced.
- b. Raw material waste has been decreased by efficiently managing our processes.
- c. A process for recycling post manufacturing waste has been developed that significantly reduces the poundage going to the landfill.
- d. Programs are in place for the development of raw materials that are recycled or have recycled content.
- e. An active program has been in place for the development of BioBased products for sustainability of products and processes which meet the U.S. Farm bill previously known as Executive Order 13101.
- f. Universal has ongoing participation in conferences and dialogue with industry leaders on recycling and reclamation of finished products as it relates to carpet with polyurethane content.
- g. The impact of polyurethane backed carpet on the environment is limited. Polyurethane is a totally reacted product, thus it will not adversely affect the quality of water or air. According to the test method SW-846 for the Georgia Priority Pollutants List, Universal produced polyurethane contains no detectable volatile organic compounds. Polyurethane is not biodegradable, leaving options including reuse or recycle for the disposition of the reacted product.
- h. Polyurethane offers increased R-value, therefore conserving energy, no 4-PCH, Low VOC'S and Improved Life-Cycle costing due to improved life of the carpet installation.

2009 Update

Universal Textile Technologies has had tremendous progress since 1998 in establishing benchmarks for the backing industry. We are known as an industry leader in sustainability due to our development of several key components in our processes.

- a. Universal's staff has assisted the GSA and USDA in implementing BioBased strategies for the Federal Government as outlined in the U.S. Farm Bill.
- b. Universal worked with the GSA and United States Soybean Board to create SIN31-601 for environmentally preferred products. This is a new product category for procurement used by all federal agencies today.
- c. Universal received environmental product of the year at NEOCON Chicago.
- d. Universal's brand of BioCel* and EnviroCel* backing systems are recognized by the synthetic turf industry and carpet industry as a reliable source in offering a green alternative to their customers.
- e. Universal has developed a 100% recycled secondary that incorporated plastic bottles in its process. This process improved our product and has prevented over 100 million from going into landfills.
- f. Universal displaced millions of gallons of petroleum based polyol with polyol created with domestically grown soybeans. This assisted the U.S. economy, improved air quality and reduced energy consumption. This also reduced our carbon footprint.
- g. Universal uses coal fly ash, a recovered material from electric power plants, keeping millions of tons from our landfills while improving the quality of our products.
- h. Universal has created light weight high performance backing systems to assist in the reduction of fuel for transportation.

Future Goals Moving Forward Include

- a. Recycling options for synthetic turf and carpets.
- b. Creating by products from our waste streams.
- c. Reducing the energy used in processing.
- d. Reduction in water use.
- e. Seeking alternatives to all petro based products.



For additional information:
In the U.S. and Canada
Contact Universal Textile Technologies (UTT)
204 W Industrial Blvd, Dalton, GA 30720
706.277.3778 Fax: 706.277.1837

www.universal-textile.net
info@universal-textile.net

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