

Rethinking Workplace
Volume 2:

The Changing Workplace



 **Tarkett**

A changing world

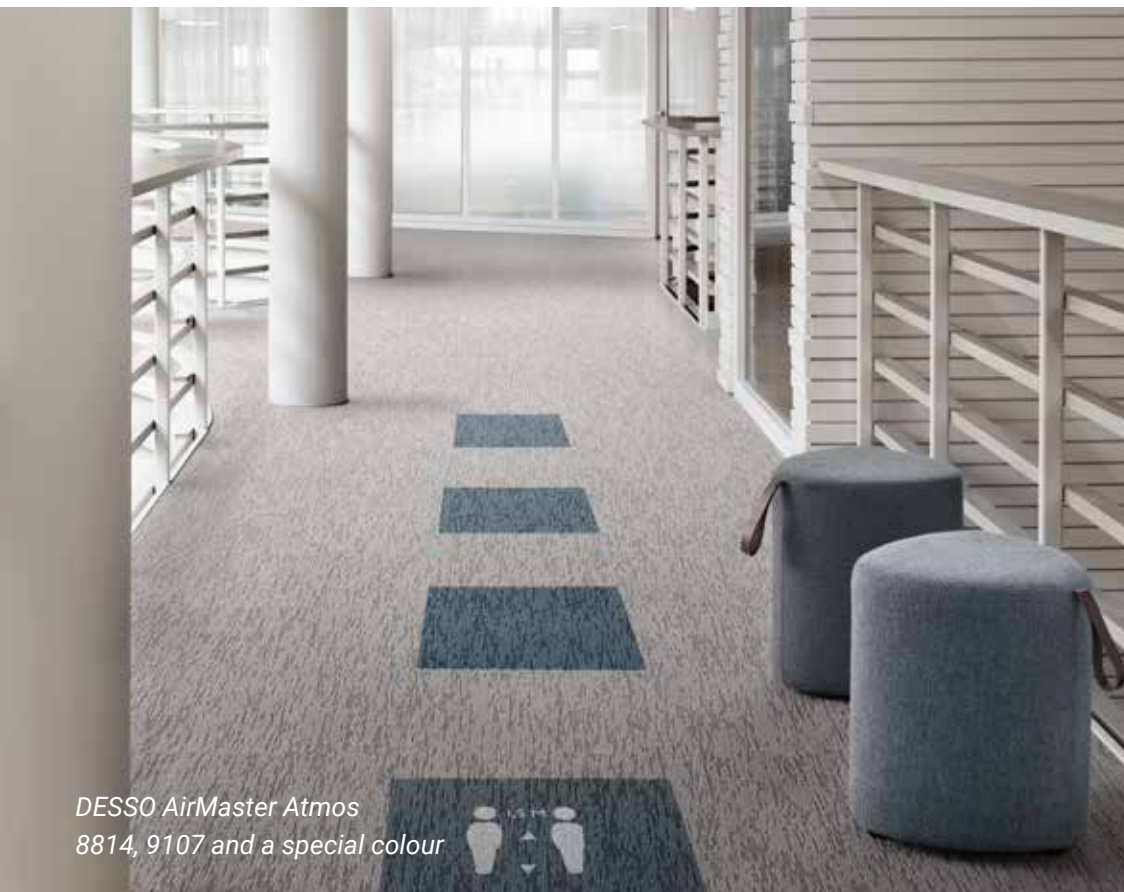
People around the world are still adapting to the 'new normal'. The Covid-19 pandemic continues to rage across the globe, with 'local' lockdowns emerging, and scientists predicting second waves on the horizon.

In this fast-changing world, the way we work has fundamentally changed and Tarkett has been busy finding out what this means for commercial interior design.

In this second volume of our 'Rethinking Workplace' series, we share design ideas and considerations to suit new ways of working based on insights from office users and specifiers across the globe.



DESSO AirMaster Atmos 8814, 9107 and a special colour



DESSO AirMaster Atmos
8814, 9107 and a special colour

The Rethinking Workplace Series

Volume 1:
'Return to the Office'

A guide to
the new normal

Volume 2:
'The Changing Workplace'

Solutions for emerging
ways of working

Volume 3:
'The Workplace of the Future'

Exploration of the office
of tomorrow

Find out more

about our webinars and focus groups [here](#)



DESSO AirMaster Atmos 9096, 6422 and a special colour

A changing workplace

At Tarkett our customers' needs are at the centre of everything we do. To help you navigate this 'new' world, we must start by asking the right questions. That's why when the pandemic emerged, Tarkett launched a global omnibus survey to track how employee's views and experiences of work and the office are changing over time.

Now, we share the latest insights with you and explore new commercial design solutions in response to these evolving trends. Download our full report revealing employee's views and experiences of work and the office in the midst of the global pandemic [here](#).



We surveyed

2,800

office workers
worldwide

Representing

14
countries
across
the globe



We hosted

focus groups
& webinars

with workplace designers and strategists
across Europe to help us interpret the data

Office workers spoke. We listened. [Read here.](#)

Key takeaways.

The Office
is essential



Indoor Air Quality
is the main concern



Office workers want to
Collaborate



A growing desire for
distinctive spaces





90%+

of office workers in Germany, Belgium, Denmark and The Czech Republic say they are most productive in the office.

The office is essential

Across Europe, the majority of respondents believe they are most productive in the office - and this trend has increased post-pandemic.

After months of lockdown forcing us to work from home, office workers are longing for social connections. This explains why 'open plan' offices were the most popular in all the markets (49% overall in Europe in June 2020, vs. 30% pre-Covid).

In open plan areas flooring can help to define spaces and traffic flow. Tarkett can help you use colours and textures to create clear yet flexible zones that encourage social distancing, while providing individuals with a sense of security and comfort as they return to a shared workplace.



87%

of European respondents overall believe they are most efficient in their workplace.

Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) is a key concern

Tarkett's post-pandemic survey revealed that indoor air quality was the thing that worried employees most about their workplace.

And now, [Harvard University researchers](#)¹ have found that even small increases in long-term exposure to air pollution - particulate matter (PM) or fine dust - can heighten the risk of Covid-19 fatalities.

The study revealed that in regions where people breathed in just 1 µg/m3 more fine particulate matter (PM2.5) over time, there was also an 8% rise in the Covid-19 death rate. Clearly, the need for better indoor air quality has never been more urgent.

Particulate matter (PM)

also known as fine dust, poses the greatest health risk², as - once inhaled - it can create or aggravate respiratory or cardiovascular problems and trigger allergic reactions.

Indoor air quality can be affected by factors including:




Particulate Matter



Humidity



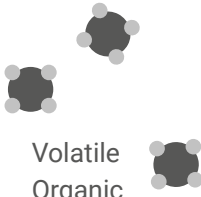
Thermal Comfort



CO₂ levels



Moisture



Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)



Ventilation

Top 3 concerns for EU workers:

- 1. Poor indoor air quality (23%)
- 2. Not environmentally friendly (18%)
- 3. Too noisy (17%)

DESSO Rock 7065, DESSO Salt 7061 and iD Square Patine Anthracite 24564044

We don't just meet indoor air quality standards.

We raise them.

For decades, Tarkett has been pioneering the development of flooring solutions that contribute to better indoor air quality.

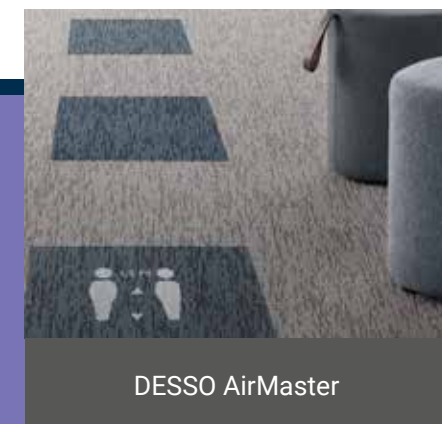
Our products exceed the strictest industry standards for air quality by so much, we've had to set our own standards. Standards that we can prove with science, not just words. It means you can breathe clearer air, knowing you made a conscious choice for your flooring.

In fact, our DESSO AirMaster carpet is the first product in the world to be awarded the GUI Gold Plus label - the highest possible accreditation awarded by Gesellschaft für Umwelt- und Innenraumanalytik (GUI), Germany's leading independent air quality testing organisation.

All our LVT flooring contributes to better indoor air quality too, with low to ultra low VOC emission levels - between 10 and 100 times lower than the most stringent world standards. Levels so low that in some cases they cannot even be quantified.

We've also developed glue-free laying techniques for our click and loose-lay vinyl and modular carpet tiles, further reducing the potential for VOCs.

With our Tarkett Human-Conscious Design™ approach we continue to lead the way to healthier indoor spaces.



DESSO AirMaster

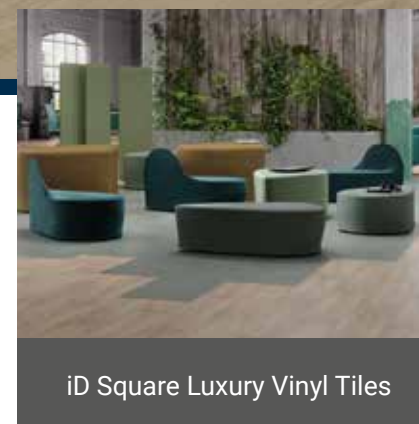
Proven to be
**eight times
more effective**

at capturing and retaining fine dust than smooth flooring solutions - and four times better than any carpet³.

Visit our dedicated [AirMaster website](#) for more information about indoor air quality and solutions.



iD Square Citizen Oak Golden 24593087 and iD Square Chambray green 24563083



iD Square Luxury Vinyl Tiles

Low to ultra low VOCs

(below 10 µg/m³)
and 100% phthalate-free

Explore how **Luxury Vinyl Tiles** can transform your floors. [See all our options here.](#)

Office workers want to collaborate

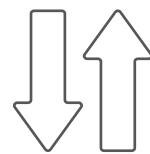
While office workers have enjoyed working from home, they don't want to do this full time - in fact only 7% of Europeans said the home was their 'ideal' workplace.

The office is far from dead. In fact, open plan office settings have grown in popularity: (+76% in Europe overall vs. pre Covid). Open plan workspaces will simply need to be reworked to enable best use of space, while ensuring employee safety.

Create convivial spaces

Now is the time to create 'convivial' spaces that encourage cross-pollination and recognise the vital role collaboration plays in fuelling creativity, culture and community.

Flooring can play a key part here by creating clear - yet flexible - zoning, while outlining safety markings and reminders for social distancing.



Direct traffic by switching tiles out to add icons to the floor to support

wayfinding

[Find out more here.](#)

Encourage movement

by strategically varying areas of the floor for different types of work e.g. active collaboration vs. quiet concentration.

Create

zones

using a mix of different surfaces, colours, patterns and textures



DESSO Stratos 6102, DESSO Stratos Blocks 9945

The rise of distinctive spaces

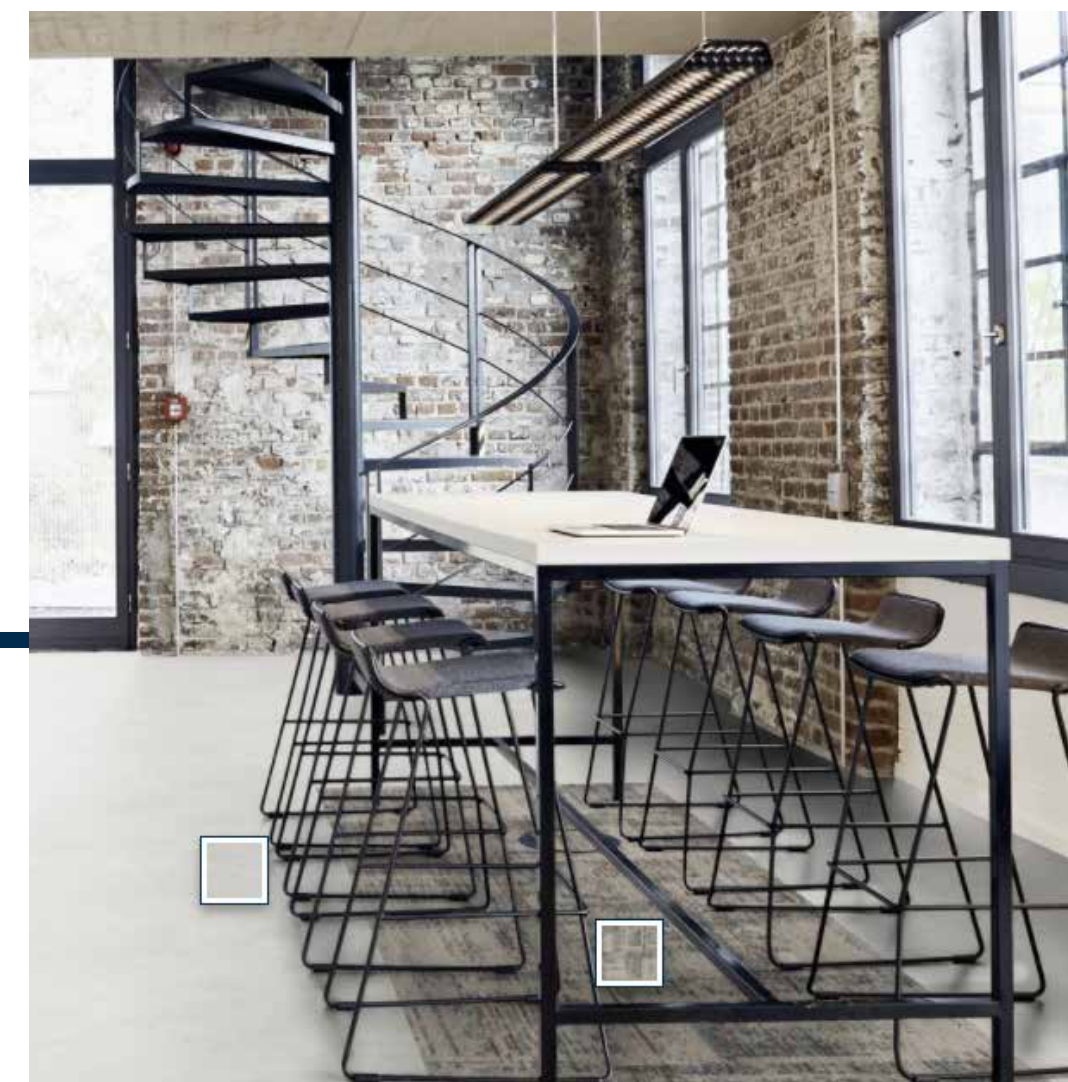
When it comes to style, our post-pandemic research suggests office workers want their workspace to reflect the culture of the business - with distinctively corporate and 'Google-esque' settings growing the most in popularity (up 56% for European workers vs the pre-Coronavirus results).

After spending weeks working from home, the findings suggest many office workers are now desperate for a change in environment.

To help you plan and create distinctive commercial spaces, we've launched new functionalities in our 'Room Designer' (find out more [here](#).) This innovative new web application allows you to quickly visualise and digitally experiment with different flooring solutions in office spaces. [Try it here.](#)

Tarkett's design teams can also create dedicated floor plans to support you with inspiration and layout.

Our 'Room Designer' tool
helps you plan and create distinctive spaces



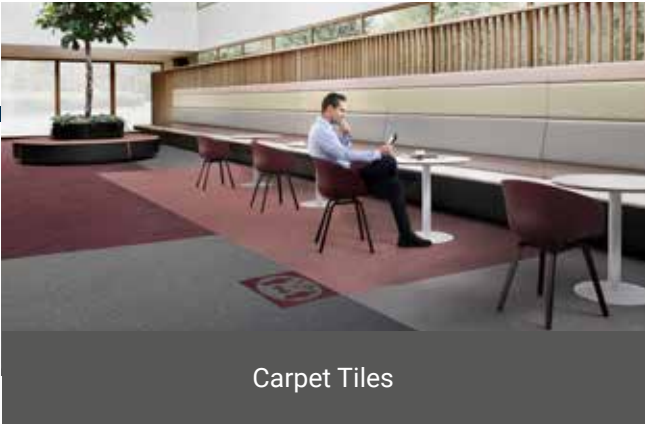
Cleaning & Maintenance

At Tarkett, we put people’s health and wellbeing at the heart of everything we do. In the wake of the Covid-19 virus, providing a safe and clean environment is, of course, more important than ever.

From the moment we start designing a product, we’re thinking about the health of the people who will manufacture, install and use it. That’s why we purposefully create surfaces that are easy to clean, so that as offices reopen those working within the space can continue using standard cleaning methods.

Cleaning and care regimes do vary from surface to surface. You can find our floor cleaning guidelines [here](#).

Approximately 80% of the soil tracked into a building can be trapped by 5m of walk-off material. Placement mats in entrances and transition areas is crucial.



Carpet Tiles

[Go to collections](#)



Luxury Vinyl Tiles (LVT)

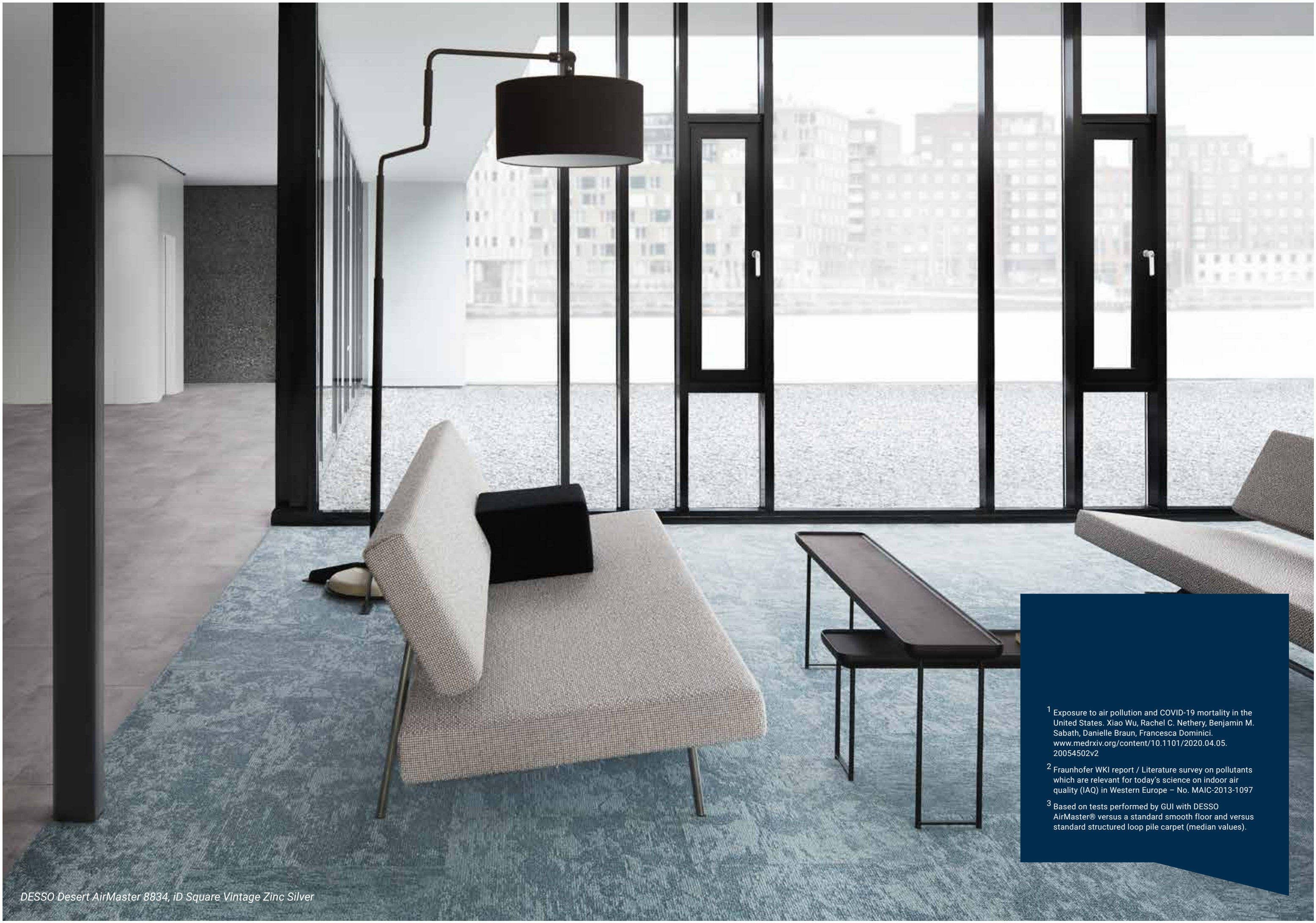
[Go to collections](#)



DESSO Protect

[Go to collections](#)

Surfaces designed
for easy maintenance



DESSO Desert AirMaster 8834, iD Square Vintage Zinc Silver

¹ Exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 mortality in the United States. Xiao Wu, Rachel C. Nethery, Benjamin M. Sabath, Danielle Braun, Francesca Dominici. www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.05.20054502v2

² Fraunhofer WKI report / Literature survey on pollutants which are relevant for today's science on indoor air quality (IAQ) in Western Europe – No. MAIC-2013-1097

³ Based on tests performed by GUI with DESSO AirMaster® versus a standard smooth floor and versus standard structured loop pile carpet (median values).

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About Tarkett

With a history of 140 years, Tarkett is a worldwide leader in innovative flooring and sports surface solutions, with net sales of €3 billion in 2019. Offering a wide range of products including vinyl, linoleum, rubber, carpet, wood, laminate, artificial turf and athletics tracks, the Group serves customers in over 100 countries across the globe. Tarkett has 12,500 employees and 33 industrial sites, and sells 1.3 million square meters of flooring every day, for hospitals, schools, housing, hotels, offices, stores and sports fields. Committed to change the game with circular economy, the Group has implemented an eco-innovation strategy based on Cradle to Cradle® principles, with the ultimate goal of contributing to people's health and wellbeing, and preserving natural capital. Tarkett is listed on Euronext Paris (compartment B, ISIN: FR0004188670, ticker: TKTT) and is included in the following indices: SBF 120 and CAC Mid 60. www.tarkett.com

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