# Solutions At Work WORKPLACE SEGMENT

Nature + Nurture

## **O** Tarkett

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#### **PROJECT FACTS:**

Country: USA City: San Francisco, CA

**Type of Project:** Renovation

**Installation Period:** December 2019

**Total Flooring Installed:** 29,000 sq. yds.

**Featured Products:** ethos<sup>®</sup> Modular with Omnicoat Technology<sup>®</sup> Abrasive Action MetalEdge<sup>®</sup>

"The design intent was to build a nurturing office space with a focus on productivity. The client wanted the space to have more of a residential and hospitality feel, instead of a traditional corporate environment."

Lisa Szmurlo, Design Director BCCI

### Caring for staff like they're customers.

This corporate client for BCCI places health and wellness at the heart of everything they do. The company recently updated three floors of the iconic Embarcadero Center on the San Francisco waterfront, making the location its new corporate headquarters. It was important for the space to care for their employees with the same dedication they show their clients.

#### Tarkett Human-Conscious Design™

In keeping with the company's focus on human-centric design, BCCI design director Lisa Szmurlo and senior designer Megan Boesiger created a concept of Nature and Nurture. "The design intent was to build a nurturing office space with a focus on productivity," they shared. "The client wanted the space to have more of a residential and hospitality feel, instead of a traditional corporate environment."

That concept aligns perfectly with Tarkett's commitment to humanconscious design, which guides our product development process and helps us contribute to interior spaces that support, inspire and connect people. The texture, design and color of a flooring material can influence the behavior of the people on it, subtly creating zones that support everything from quiet concentration to active collaboration.

# Converting to an inclusive floorplan.

Embarcadero Center 1 in San Francisco is one of the largest mixed-use complexes in the Western United States, expanding across four buildings with luxury offices space, hundreds of shops, restaurants, services and a state-of-the-art multi-plex cinema. Construction of the property began with Tower One in 1971, led by world-renowned architect John Portman as one of three developers. Portman spent half a century redefining urban landscapes throughout the United States with scores of hotel, office and retail complexes in economic centers like Atlanta, New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston, and more.

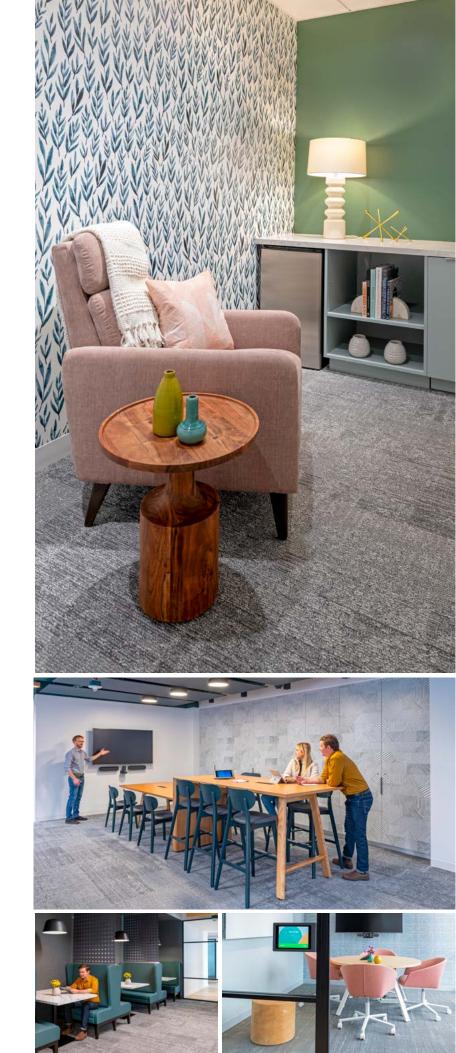
The BCCI team faced a unique challenge in transitioning three floors of this architectural landmark into an open office that would align with thier client's corporate culture. In the final design, personal offices were converted to private spaces that would support the entire team, creating rooms for nursing mothers, daily meditation, and more focused work. "Organic elements blend with geometric shapes to create a dynamic, textured, and well-rounded environment. Repetitive bold colors and dynamic design statements are interspersed throughout the three floors, not only to enhance the visual appeal of the client's work environment, but to unify and interconnect teams across the floors," said Lisa.

## Soft Surfaces

Most of the floorplan features Tarkett's ethos® Modular with Omnicoat Technology®. With a *Cradle to Cradle* Silver certification and Eco-Ensure™ natural stain protection, ethos helps support the space's Nature and Nurture design concept.

Marled Tweed (Gris Tweed) 18" x 36" carpet tiles were the primary soft-surface pattern, installed in a vertical ashlar pattern. "The dynamic texture of this carpet felt less corporate and more residential to meet the client's overall vision," said Lisa. Marled Tweed bridges the gap between organic, handcrafted designs and more rigid geometric patterns. The result is a beautiful juxtaposition between light and shade that adds visual depth and sophistication to a space.

In conference rooms, lounge areas, and open collaboration areas, Elysian (Winter Flannel) 9" x 36" modular carpet planks were chosen, also in a vertical ashlar pattern. "The delicate, tailored stripe provided a perfect contrast to the textured main carpet tile to create a punch of intrigue and distinction upon entering 'accessory' areas."





#### **Resilient Surfaces**

For the café and other areas where a hard surface flooring was needed, the team chose Contour LVT in a Chenille pattern (Peppered). According to Megan, "The durability of the tile [which includes a 32 mil wear layer and Techtonic™ protection] was the primary deciding factor, but the small, delicate pattern added an element of interest across the vast expanse of the café floor."

More than ever, we need interior spaces to support us both as individuals, and as communities. From softer architectural lines to more natural lighting, and feminine color palettes to cozy textures, the transformed space now welcomes staff and visitors with the luxuries of a modern hotel and the familiar warmth of home.



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