

## CONTINUOUSLY CIRCULAR: DESSO EcoBase® halves fossil-derived material thanks to new cross-industry collaboration



Waalwijk, The Netherlands, July 2024 - DESSO by Tarkett has halved the use of petroleum-based material in its DESSO EcoBase® carpet tile backing, by replacing it with a by-product from the Scandinavian paper industry. EcoBase backing now uses bio-based pine rosin, a by-product from Swedish paper mills, in the latest improvement to reduce EcoBase's environmental footprint and give second life to other industries' 'waste' materials.

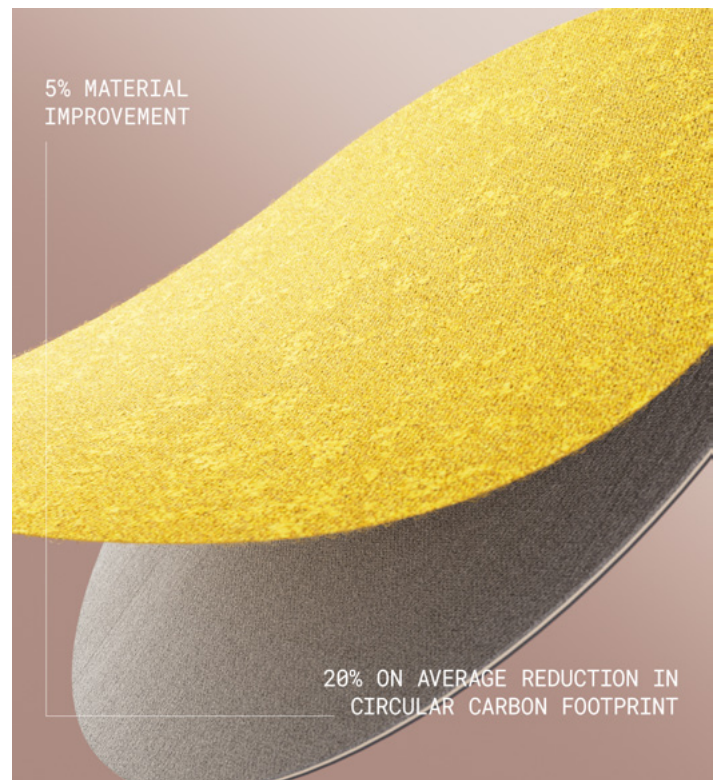
Using a bio-based ingredient from a cross-industry partnership is the latest example of Tarkett's commitment to being continuously circular: constantly exploring ways to improve materials, collaborate across industries, and create products that reduce environmental impact. It follows a world-first partnership with drinking water companies in the Netherlands to upcycle waste chalk into stabiliser, which has been used in all EcoBase backing since 2014.

EcoBase backing is already 100% recyclable and Cradle to Cradle Gold-certified. It now has a substantially reduced carbon footprint thanks to the replacement of 50% of its fossil-derived tackifier, instead using a rosin ester sourced from Swedish paper mills working with sustainably managed forests. The material is distilled from rosin (wood saps) which is left over from the wood pulping process.

This 5% material adjustment in EcoBase backing results in an average 20% reduction in each tile's Circular Carbon Footprint<sup>1</sup>, achieving Tarkett's lowest Circular Carbon Footprint yet.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Tarkett calculates the Circular Carbon Footprint based on carbon generated over the full life cycle of its products, covering material extraction, manufacturing, installation, use, and recycling at end of life. Its Circular Carbon Footprint calculations are externally verified by Bureau Veritas

<sup>2</sup> Circular Carbon Footprint: according to the product specific Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) S-P-13143, S-P-05827, S-P-08559, S-P-08561, S-P-09339, S-P-08952. Externally verified by Bureau



**Thomas Leneveu, Vice President Commercial Business Unit of Tarkett EMEA said:**

“We chose to place circularity at the core of our ambitions as a company more than a decade ago, and we see it as an ongoing journey, never complete. We’re continuously seeking ways to improve our products and enhance materials choices, finding new partnerships that will keep more material resources in the loop.

“The latest evolution of EcoBase is a great example of what can be achieved – transforming pine rosin, a by-product of the Scandinavian paper industry, into a bio-based ingredient for our carpet tile backing. Being continuously circular is a mindset, and we’re relentless in our search for new ways to reduce our environmental impact even further and celebrate the beauty of circularity.”

DESSO by Tarkett’s carpet tiles are designed for circularity. The tiles are composed of two main components – yarn and EcoBase backing – that can be taken apart and recycled into quality raw materials for new carpet tiles, through its take-back and recycle programme, ReStart®. Every material used to make EcoBase can be recycled at Tarkett’s own recycling facility at Waalwijk in The Netherlands, with no loss of quality, generating fewer carbon emissions than creating new carpet from scratch.

To find out more about DESSO EcoBase® backing and Tarkett’s commitment to being continuously circular, visit: [https://professionals.tarkett.com/en\\_EU/node/the-evolution-of-desso-ecobase-19890](https://professionals.tarkett.com/en_EU/node/the-evolution-of-desso-ecobase-19890).

Press images are available: [HERE](#)

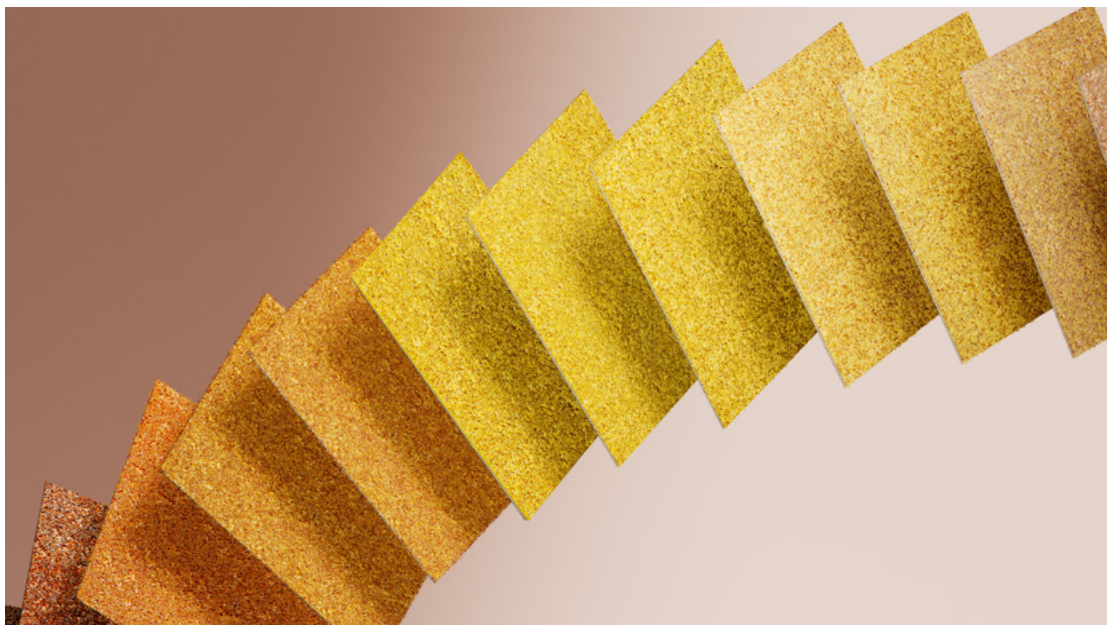
For further press information please contact Fran Rivett-Carnac: [fran@franklintill.com](mailto:fran@franklintill.com) / +44(0)7966227390

**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

- Made with 100% positively defined materials, [Tarkett's DESSO EcoBase®](#) carpet tile backing has achieved Cradle to Cradle [Gold-level certification](#), with Cradle to Cradle Platinum level for material health. Thanks to its unique collaboration with Dutch drinking water companies to upcycle chalk, EcoBase contains up to 91% recycled and bio-based material. Lloyd's Register assured the EcoBase backing as 100% recyclable and the chalk as 100% pre-consumer recycled material.
- The entire EcoBase backing can be separated from the carpet tile and safely recycled at Tarkett's purpose-built production line at Waalwijk in The Netherlands. All DESSO carpet tiles can be fitted with EcoBase backing.

**ABOUT TARKETT**

With a history of more than 140 years, Tarkett is a worldwide leader in innovative and sustainable flooring and sports surface solutions, generating turnover of €3.4 billion in 2023. The Group has close to 12,000 employees, 23 R&D centers, 8 recycling centers and 34 production sites. Tarkett creates and manufactures solutions for hospitals, schools, housing, hotels, offices, stores and sports fields, serving customers in over 100 countries. To build "The Way to Better Floors," the Group is committed to circular economy and sustainability, in line with its Tarkett Human-Conscious Design® approach. Tarkett is listed on the Euronext regulated market (compartment B, ISIN: FR0004188670, ticker: TKTT) [www.tarkett-group.com](http://www.tarkett-group.com)



Veritas, based on the total carbon footprint (Modules A-D) with a closed loop circular recycling scenario. Published March-June 2024