

## 1.0 CARPET CUSHION

Carpet cushion, also known as carpet underlay, is padding placed beneath carpet. Carpet cushion improves the insulation properties of carpet, reduces the impact of foot traffic or furniture indentation, enhances comfort, and prolongs appearance. It is available in a variety of thicknesses, the most common being ¼- and ½-inch and used in both residential and commercial settings. Carpet cushions made from bonded urethane, jute, synthetic fiber, and rubber can be made from recovered materials.

## 2.0 EPA'S RECOMMENDED CONTENT LEVELS

EPA's recommended Recovered Materials Content Levels for Carpet Cushion.

Product	Material	% Of Post Consumer Materials	% Of Total Recovered Materials
Bonded Polyurethane	Old carpet cushion	15 - 50	15 - 50
Jute	Burlap	40	40
Synthetic Fibers	Carpet Fabrication Scrap		100
Rubber	Tire	60 – 90	60 - 90

If the Architect/Engineer determines that use of certain materials meeting the CPG content standards and guidelines would result in inadequate competition, do not meet quality/ performance specifications, are available at an unreasonable price or are not available within a reasonable time frame, the Architect/ Engineer may submit to AF Contracting a written justification and supporting documentation for not procuring designated items containing recovered material using the Recovered Materials Determination Form.

## 3.0 DEFINITIONS

**Post Consumer Materials:** A material or finished product that has served its intended use and has been diverted or recovered from waste destined for disposal, having completed its life as a consumer item. Post consumer materials are part of the broader category of recovered material.

**Recovered Materials:** Waste materials and byproducts that have been recovered or diverted from solid waste, but do not include materials and byproducts generated from, and commonly reused within, an original manufacturing process.

## **4.0 SPECIFICATIONS**

NASA Division 09 – Finishes section 09680 Carpet.

Engineering Technical Letter (ETL) 00-6: Air Force Carpet Standard  
<http://www.afcesa.af.mil/Publications/ETLs/ETL00-6Final.pdf>

This ETL provides technical and aesthetic selection criteria for acquisition, installation, maintenance, and eventual disposal of broadloom carpet, carpet tiles, and carpet pad. It supersedes ETL 94-3, 10 June 1994

EPA is not aware of carpet cushion specifications unique to carpet cushions containing recovered materials. Therefore, EPA recommends that procuring agencies use any appropriate standards set by the Carpet and Rug Institute and the Carpet Cushion Council when purchasing bonded polyurethane, jute, synthetic fiber, or rubber carpet cushion containing recovered materials.

General Services Administration National Furniture Center, Technical Requirement Booklet for Carpet, Carpet Tiles and Carpet Cushion. Document 3FNE-00-591.

[GSA\\_PUBLICATIONS/pub/00-591\\_1.PDF](http://www.gsa.gov/PUBLICATIONS/pub/00-591_1.PDF)

This booklet provides technical instructions, inspection, and product requirements

## **5.0 PRODUCTS**

### **5.1 Bonded Polyurethane**

Leggett and Platt, Inc

Leggett & Platt has produced a recyclable bonded urethane cushion “Dublebac”. Designed for both residential and commercial use. Bonded cushion is produced by grinding recycled flexible polyurethane foam into small particles and bonding them together. DubleBac series carpet cushion is made from bonded 100% recycled polyurethane foam from post-industrial and post-consumer sources. This meets the EPA’s total recovered material requirement.

Dubl-Bac is also produced under the following names: Pad-Loc and Uni-Loc.

This cushion is manufactured in a large array of gauges and densities. These products are stocked throughout the United States within the Leggett & Platt distribution network. The link below details Leggett and Platt locations.

<http://www.lpurethane.com/Locations/index.html>

## **Hickory Springs Carpet Cushion Division**

Hickory Springs produces a flexible polyurethane foam carpet cushion. Instead of land-filling excess trim from their foam fabrication facilities, Hickory Springs processes this scrap, along with purchased domestic and imported scrap foam, into rebond carpet cushion. Recycling provides a market for virtually 100 percent of all flexible polyurethane foam scrap generated during foam product fabrication. This meets the EPA's total recovered material requirement.

### **Hickory Springs Manufacturing Co.**

P.O. Box 128

Hickory, NC 28603

Toll Free: 1-800-251-6766

Fax: 1-931-528-5340

e-mail [info@carpetcushion.com](mailto:info@carpetcushion.com)

<http://www.carpetcushion.com>

See Carpet Cushion Appendix for further information.

## **5.2 Jute**

While conducting this investigation it was not possible to find a supplier/vendor using Jute to the EPA's recommended Recovered Materials Content Levels.

## **5.3 Synthetic Fiber**

### **DuPont Commercial Flooring**

DuPont™ EchoSoft™ Carpet Cushion is made of 100% recycled fiber materials, with half the recycled content coming from reclaimed commercial carpet. This meets the EPA's total recovered material requirement.

DuPont Commercial Flooring

175 TownPark Dr. NW, Ste. 400

Kennesaw, GA 30144

Toll Free: 800-438-7668

Tel: 770-420-7791

Fax: 770-420-7900

<http://flooring.dupont.com/>

## **Reliance Carpet Cushion**

Reliance Carpet Cushion products Marathon and Diamond Bond are made from 100% post-industrial recycled textile waste fibers and recycled carpet fibers. This meets the EPA's total recovered material requirement.

Reliance Carpet Cushion  
P.O. Box 329  
15902 S. Main St  
Gardena, CA 90248  
Toll Free: 800-522-5252  
Tel: 323-321-2300  
Fax: 3103242363

## **Leggett and Platt, Inc**

Leggett & Platt engineers a complete line of cushion for both residential and commercial markets. Their products are manufactured from recycled synthetic carpet fibers. These are made from 100% post-industrial recycled fiber from carpet manufacturing bonded to a polypropylene interliner.

<http://www.lpurethane.com/index.htm>

100 Leggett Drive  
Villa Rica, GA 30180  
Tel: 770-459-1800

See Carpet Cushion Appendix for further information.

## **5.4 Rubber**

### **Dura Undercushions Ltd.**

**DURACOUSTIC**® sound control underlayment, manufactured by Dura Undercushions Ltd is a solution to creating floor systems, which meet stringent sound ratings in multiple-story dwellings, private homes and business applications. Duracoustic® is made from 90% recycled tire rubber bonded with latex, this meets the EPA's total recovered material content requirement.

Dura Undercushions Ltd  
8525 Delmeade Rd  
Montreal, Canada, QC H4T 1M1  
Tel: (514) 737-6561  
Fax: (514) 342-7940  
E-Mail [mwilson@attcanada.ca](mailto:mwilson@attcanada.ca),  
<http://www.duracoustic.com/>

See Carpet Cushion Appendix for further information.

## **5 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Recommend using one of these companies when circumstances dictate. See affirmative procurement requirements.

See Carpet Cushion Appendix for further information.