

1.0 CARPET

There are a few definitions of Recycled Carpet. Some manufacturers call their carpet recycled if the backing is recycled, but not the face fiber. Some manufacturers concentrate on the face fiber.

The EPA has designated Carpet as an affirmative procurement item, and defined recycled carpet as having to have at least 25% of the face fiber manufactured from PET (polyethylene terephthalate). The source of PET is soft drink containers and rigid containers.

As fiber, PET requires no additional petrochemicals to be made into carpet. Nylon is dependant on oil resources. Inherently, carpet made from PET is stronger than nylon and out performs nylon in abrasion testing by 50%. The plastic fibers absorb only 0.004% moisture when made into carpet fiber, as opposed to nylon, which absorbs 0.04%. The stain resistant characteristics of carpet made from PET are excellent. The colors are brilliant as the plastic fiber is an excellent conduit of light.

2.0 EPA'S RECOMMENDED CONTENT LEVELS

EPA's recommended Recovered Materials Content Levels for carpet.

Product	Material	% Of Post Consumer Materials	% Of Total Recovered Materials
Polyester carpet faced fiber	PET	25 - 100	25 - 100

EPA recommends that, based on the recovered materials content levels shown in the table above, procuring agencies establish minimum content standards for use in purchasing polyester carpet for light- and moderate-wear applications. This recommendation does not include polyester carpet for use in heavy-wear or severe-wear applications; however, procuring agencies are encouraged to evaluate the suitability of polyester carpet in these applications. These recommendations do not preclude a procuring agency from purchasing carpet made of other materials such as nylon, wool, or polypropylene.

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.

PET: Polyethylene Terephthalate. A thermoplastic material used to manufacture plastic soft drink containers and rigid containers.

4.0 SPECIFICATIONS

NASA Division 09 – Finishes section 09680 Carpet.
NASA Division 09 – Finishes section 09682 Carpet Tile

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 recommends that procuring agencies use the U.S. General Services Administration's (GSA's) contract GS-27F-5069-C, Federal Supply Schedule 72, Part I, Section A, to purchase polyester carpet containing recovered materials and that agencies currently limiting carpet materials to nylon, wool, or other materials consider adding polyester, where appropriate, to enable them to procure carpet containing recovered materials.

4.1 Reference documents

AFCEE Carpet Selection Handbook
<http://www.afcee.brooks.af.mil/dc/dcd/interior/indespubs/carpetselecthndbk.PDF>

This handbook is intended to assist in the selection of carpet and carpet tile for use in all types of Air Force facilities except Military Family Housing. It begins with background information on the types of fibers used in carpet making, and continues with a discussion of the various methods of carpet construction, including appropriate applications for the various types of carpet.

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](#)

This booklet provides technical instructions, inspection, and product requirements

5.0 PRODUCTS

5.1 Talisman Mills

Talisman Mills produces ENVIRELON Commercial Carpet that is extruded and spun from Recycled Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) principally derived from post consumer soft drink bottles. Envirelon commercial carpets are finished entirely with materials containing no formaldehyde. The recycling of PET does not generate nitrous oxide or emit nitrous oxide into the air. Talisman Mills broadloom of solid and patterned carpets and carpet tiles (Solid Color Only) meets the EPA's requirements for recovered material content level.

Talisman Mills Inc
6000 Executive Drive
Mequon, Wisconsin 53092
Toll Free: 1-800-482-5466
Tel: 414-242-6183
Fax: 414-242-6751
E-Mail: Envirelon@aol.com

For further details of Talisman Mills products see Carpet Appendix

5.1 Mohawk Industries

Mohawk Industries manufactures and sells residential & commercial flooring products. Mohawk commercial manufactures ten carpets that feature ColorStrand™, Infinity™ forever-renewable nylon, all with a recycled content of 25%. This meets the EPA's requirements for recovered material content level.

All residential polyester Mohawk carpets have 100% recycled content face fiber from recovery of soda bottle PET.

Mohawk Industries
160 South Industrial Blvd
Calhoun, GA 30701
Toll Free: 1-800-241-4494
Tel: 706-629-7721

E-mail: mohawkind@mohawkind.com

For further details of Mohawk Industries carpet see carpet appendix.

5.2 Shaw Contract Group

The Shaw Contract Group manufactures EcoSolution Q™ that is a durable, solution dyed nylon fiber. This fiber contains a minimum of 25% post industrial and post consumer recycled material. This meets the EPA's requirements for recovered material content level. Ecoworx™ carpet backing is recyclable, chlorine and plasticizer free, with low VOC emissions.

EcoSolution Q™ is a fully recyclable nylon 6 BCF yarn with post-consumer and post-industrial waste content. EcoSolution Q™ is equal in performance and quality to other solution-dyed, branded commercial fibers -- it is colorfast, easily maintained, and resistant to bleach.

EcoWorx™ is a 100% non-PVC, sustainable backing system for modular and 6-foot carpet. It contains no chlorine or chemical plasticizers, is extremely low in VOCs, and is equal to or better than PVC backing in all performance categories. EcoWorx can be recycled repeatedly into more EcoWorx™ backing.

Shaw Contract Group
616 E. Walnut Ave.
P.O. Drawer 2128
Dalton, GA 30722-2128
Toll Free: 1-800-441-7429
Fax: 706-275-3658
[Shaw Contract](#)

For further details of Shaw Contract Group carpet see carpet appendix.

5.4 Collins and Aikman Floorcoverings, Inc

Collins and Aikman are a manufacturer and supplier of commercial carpeting in six-foot rolls and modular tiles for the corporate, healthcare, education, government and retail sectors. The company offers its backing made with 100% reclaimed material in a product called Powerbond® ER3™.

Powerbond®ER3™ modular tile products contains between 31% to 50% overall recycled content (depending on product style chosen) including 7% post consumer recycled carpet. An independent third party, Scientific Certification Systems, has certified the recycled content levels.

[Powerbond Environmental Fact Sheet](#)

Collins and Aikman Floorcoverings,
Inc

311 Smith Industrial Blvd

P.O. Box 1447

Dalton, GA 30720

Toll Free:

1-800-241-4080

1-800-241-4085

Fax: 1-706-259-2102

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SOUTHEAST

C & A Floorcoverings

Building 400, Suite 108

1395 South Marietta Parkway

Marietta, GA 30067

Tel: 770-428-4449

Fax: 770-428-3133

For further details of Collins and Aikman carpet see carpet appendix.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

See Carpet Appendix discussion section for 45th Space Wing recommended carpet materials as standard interior finishes.