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The Mohawk Group believes that sustainability is essential in today's global economy

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With both tenants and stock holders looking to reduce their carbon footprint, with competition accelerating the demand for more sustainable building practices, and with all levels of government, even the mayor of Boston mandating greener building practices, building owners are searching for practical ways to make both their leased and owned work spaces greener.

The carpet industry is responsible for over 4% of the materials being put into our landfills, which is estimated to be over 6 billion pounds annually. As an industry leader, Mohawk Industries passionately believes that sustainability is an essential business practice in today's global economy. We want to be the leader in the areas of sustainability and environmental stewardship.

To accomplish this, we are constantly seeking systems and technologies that have already made us a net recycler (we purchase more waste and recycle it into reusable products than we take in of virgin raw materials) and we have become the most efficient recycler in the industry with over 90% of the materials collected being recycled into re-usable products. That's 3 times what our nearest competitors currently are able to do. This work has been recognized by the General Services Administration's (GSA's) Evergreen Award which has been awarded to Mohawk Industries twice in the last 4 years. Here were some of the initiatives that we have put into practice:

- * PET plastic bottles- for several years, we have recycled 1 in every 4 plastic bottles in North America and converted it to 170 million pounds of carpet fiber annually, diverting 3 billion bottles a year from the landfills.
- * rubber tires -We recycle 30 million pounds of crumb rubber from car tires to door mats.
- * automobile glass- We use post consumer glass in the backing systems of many of our broadloom carpets.
- * green works center is a state-of-the-art facility developed to recycle 90% of the fiber in the current waste stream including Type 6.6 (40%), Type 6 (30%) and Polypropylene (20%) with an unprecedented recovery rate of 90%.
- * recover program- We have made recycling the old carpet a simple and fast process with our recover program. We recycle the existing carpet through our network of recycling partners throughout North America.
- * Permalink - We offer a unique adhesive film which allows new modular carpet to be installed directly on to of the existing carpet, making the old carpet a pad for the newly installed modular carpet.
- * Self- Lock- We provide a pre-applied releasable adhesive on the back of carpet tiles which eliminates the need for spreading adhesive and improves the indoor air quality in occupied spaces. It also can provide owners with a way to protect existing hardwood or terrazzo floors should the next tenant want to change the space that wanted to use carpet.

* Encycle Modular Tile- we have created the world's first non-PVC modular carpet tile that is completely recyclable back into itself. When you're finished with these tiles, they can be recycled into new tiles without separating the face yarn and backing. This backing system took us 5 years to develop and boasts a 35% pre-consumer recycled content by total weight.

Some of the higher education projects we are currently working on or specified on include:

- * MIT's Media Lab- Bigelow Modular Tile and Karastan Broadloom
- * Harvard's Kennedy School of Government- Karastan Broadloom
- * Emerson College -The Colonial Bldgs. New dormitories at 100 Boylston St. Lee's Broadloom
- * Northeastern University's- New Dormitories- (seeking LEED Silver Certification) Lee's Modular and Lee's Broadloom

Each year, an estimated 6 billion pounds of carpet waste is sent to the landfill across North America. We have been working hard over the years to reduce and reuse as much of this waste as possible. The newest element in our continuing efforts is our GreenWorks Center. This center is unique in the industry because it can not only process nylon 6 waste material but all major types of synthetic carpet fiber – Nylon 6, Nylon 6.6, and Polypropylene. This accounts for 90% of the national post-consumer carpet waste stream. The center processes 100% of the carpet’s fiber, backing, and latex and recovers about 90% of all materials into usable products. This is the highest recovery rate in the industry, three times that of the next-best carpet recycling program. The facility is also portable, so it can go to the carpet, which makes recycling more feasible and environmentally efficient.

Part of every type of post-consumer carpet that enters the center will always go "carpet to carpet" – face fiber to face fiber, face fiber to backing, or backing to backing – with the remaining materials resulting in engineered resins that can be shipped to the plastics industry for use in consumer products. This means that the majority of materials processed at the center are part of a "closed-loop" system. The center can also process certain thermoplastic non-carpet recyclables, which makes it even more attractive to recycling companies.

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