Cert. ENP 477

# BREEAM

## Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology

**Interface**®

First published by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) in 1990, is the world's leading and most widely used environmental assessment method for buildings.

BREEAM works to raise awareness amongst developers and creators of the benefits of taking a sustainable approach to building design. The focus on sustainable value and efficiency makes BREEAM certified developments attractive property investments and generates sustainable environments that enhance the well-being of the people who live and work in them.

The BREEAM assessment process evaluates the procurement, design, construction and operation of a development against targets that are based on performance benchmarks. Assessments are carried out by independent, licensed assessors, and developments rated and certified on a scale of Pass, Good, Very Good, Excellent and Outstanding.

BREEAM measures sustainable value through a range of categories that evaluate energy and water use, health and well being, pollution, transport, materials, waste, ecology and management processes. Each of these categories addresses the most influential factors, including low impact design and carbon emissions reduction; design durability and resilience; adaption to climate change; and ecological value and bio-diversity protection. Within every category, developments score points – called credits – for achieving targets, and their final total determines the buildings rating.

During the assessment process, each category is sub-divided into a range of issues, which promotes the use of new benchmarks, aims and targets.  When a target is reached credits are awarded.  Once the development has been fully assessed, depending upon the total number of credits awarded, a final performance rating is achieved.

A number of BREEAM schemes actually exist to address a range of buildings and a number of different life cycle changes such as new construction, refurbishment and in-use. For the UK BREEAM New Construction is mainly used which is for new construction assessments of non-domestic buildings and aims to mitigate the life cycle impacts of new buildings on the environment. This is the scheme that is considered below.

So now that BREEAM has been explained how can Interface carpets contribute towards achieving a BREEAM rating?.

To measure, evaluate and rate the environmental performance of new buildings there are 49 assessment issues categorised in 9 environmental sections of sustainability. Each issues defines a level of performance (assessment criteria) against which the assessed building must demonstrate compliance, using evidence, in order to achieve the corresponding number of available BREEAM credits. It is in the category 'Materials' and issue 'Life cycle impacts' where Interface carpets mainly contribute through their Green Guide ratings. Carpets can also contribute to category 'Health & well being' and issue 'Indoor air quality'. Both of these are described in more detail below:

# Mat 01 Life cycle impacts.

Aim: To recognise and encourage the use of construction materials with a low environmental impact over the full life cycle of the building.

This credit is assessed via a calculator tool whereby the assessor inputs the area (m$^2$) of each of the elements assessed (i.e. floor finishes is one element, external walls, roof etc are other elements) and the Green Guide rating that is achieved for each element. The calculator tool then calculates the number of points awarded based on the area of each element (so that the elements are weighted). The number of points awarded then translates directly in to the number of credits available for each building type.

The Green Guide ratings could either be generic ratings, taken off the Green Guide to Specification, or may be certified ratings where a manufacturer has had their products assessed against the BRE Environmental Profiles certification scheme. In total Interface have had 139 products certified to this scheme as per Environmental Profile 477. All Interface certified products are rated either A+ or A according to building type. For offices alone Interface have 75 products which are rated A+ whereas the generic rating for a carpet tile for offices is B. Green Guide ratings actually vary from A+ to E with products rated A+ having the lowest impact and so contributing more points within Mat 01:

| Green Guide Rating | Mat 01 Points |
|---|---|
| A+ | 3.00 |
| A | 2.00 |
| B | 1.00 |
| C | 0.50 |
| D | 0.25 |
| E | 0.00 |

Please see page 5 for a full list of the Green Guide ratings for Interface products:

Full Environmental Profiles can be down loaded from the BRE website www.greenbooklive.com.

NB: Where an independently verified third party Environmental Product Declaration, covering part of or the whole life cycle, is available for a material/product that forms part of an assessed building element, this can be used to potentially increase the contribution of that element to the buildings Mat 01 performance. Depending upon the EPD type it could theoretically be possible to uplift the points for a generic B rated product by 1 point to 2 – i.e. the same points as for an A rated product.

# Hea 02 Indoor air quality.

Aim: To recognise and encourage a healthy internal environment through the specification and installation of appropriate ventilation, equipment and finishes.

This issue is split in to three parts and it's under minimising sources of air pollution where floor finishes contribute. To achieve 1 credit then at least 5 out of 8 product categories listed must have met the testing requirements and emission levels for VOC's and for flooring this means compliance with the emission requirements of BS EN 14041:2011. This covers the emission of formaldehyde which should meet the Class E1 emission criteria.

The test requirement does not apply to floor coverings to which no formaldehyde containing materials were added during the production process and Interface products fall in to this category. These products need not be classified, but may, without any testing, be declared as E1-compliant.

All Interface products are therefore E1 and as we don't add Formaldehyde then there is no requirement to have our products tested. However we still had some products tested by BRE to ENV 717-1 "Wood-based panels - Determination of formaldehyde release - Part:1 Formaldehyde emission by chamber method" to verify this was the case and the test report is available upon request.

Flooring adhesives, and TacTiles fall in to this category, should conform to the BS EN 13999 series of standards to ensure that carcinogenic or sensitising volatile substances are absent.

Again TacTiles would comply with such requirements.

# Mat 03 Responsible sourcing of materials.

Aim: To recognise and encourage the specification of responsibly sourced materials for key building elements. For fit-out this includes 'any other significant ' which could include floor finishes.

# Mat 05 Designing for robustness.

Aim: To recognise and encourage adequate protection of exposed elements of the building and landscape, therefore minimising the frequency of replacement and maximising materials optimisation.

# WST 01 Construction waste management.

Aim: To promote resource efficiency via the effective management and reduction of construction waste. Together with other construction, refurbishment or fit-out waste, floor covering waste needs to be minimised, separated and diverted from landfill.

# WST 04 Speculative floor and ceiling finishes.

Aim: To encourage the specification and fitting of floor and ceiling finishes selected by the building occupant and therefore avoid unnecessary waste of materials.

For any further information on the Green Guide ratings of Interface products or their contribution towards the different BREEAM schemes, please contact your local Interface Technical department

# Green Guide ratings

| Product | Element Number | Retail (Durability) | Domestic | Education | Offices | Healthcare | Retail (Fashion) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aiki Kamala | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Biosfera I Boucle | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Cap & Blazer | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Cellular | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Chenille Warp | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Collect | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Collins Cottage | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Composure | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Concrete Mix: Blended | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Concrete Mix: Broomed | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Concrete Mix: Brushed | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Concrete Mix: Lined | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| CT 101 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| CT 102 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| CT 103 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| CT 104 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Duet | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Elevation III | 1621570083 | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Entropy II | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Equal Meassure 551 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Equal Meassure 552 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Equal Meassure 553 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Equilibrium | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Etruria | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Fastforward | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Floorscape | 1621570086 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Fotosfera Micro | 1621570091 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Fotosfera Structured | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Furrows II | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| H723 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Heuga 493 | 1621570095 | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Heuga 530 | 1621570093 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Heuga 580 | 1621570093 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Heuga 725 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Heuga 727 piece dyed | 1621570087 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Heuga 727 solution dyed | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Heuga 753 | 1621570089 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| High Rise | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| HN 810 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| HN 820 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| HN 830 | 1621570088 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| HN 840 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| HN 850 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Hydropolis | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Infuse | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Intaglio | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Key Features | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Knit One Purl One | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Lima | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Linear Tonal | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |

# Green Guide ratings

| Product | Element Number | Retail (Durability) | Domestic | Education | Offices | Healthcare | Retail (Fashion) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Londinium | 1621570092 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Lutetia | 1621570092 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Luxury Living | 1621570085 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Mellopolis | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Menagerie | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Metallic Weave | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Mineral | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Mod Café | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Monochrome | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Narratives 230 | 1621570092 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Narratives 231 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Near and Far 400 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Near and Far 401 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Nebbia | 1621570092 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Net Effect B601 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Net Effect B602 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Net Effect B603 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Net Effect B701 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Net Effect B702 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Net Effect B703 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| New Dimension | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| New Dimension II | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| New Horizons II | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Northern Light | 1621570083 | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Oblique | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Off line | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| On line | 1621570088 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Ornate | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Output Lines | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Output Loop | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Output Micro | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Polichrome | 1621570086 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Polichrome (SD) | 1621570089 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Razzle Dazzle: Bright Spark | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Razzle Dazzle: Flare | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Razzle Dazzle: Strike A Light | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Refine | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Restore | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Sabi II | 1621570083 | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Sashiko | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Scottish Sett | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Scribble | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Series. 1. 101 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Series. 1. 102 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Series. 1. 103 | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Shadowland | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Sherbet Fizz | 1621570086 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| SL910 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| SL920 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |

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| Product | Element Number | Retail (Durability) | Domestic | Education | Offices | Healthcare | Retail (Fashion) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SL930 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Straightforward | 1621570091 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Superflor | 1621570082 | A | A | A | A | A+ | A+ |
| Syncopation II | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Tapestry | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Tatami | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Tatami II | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| The Scandinavian Collection | 1621570091 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Timeless Blend | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Tonal | 1621570092 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Touch & Tones 101 | 1621570085 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Touch & Tones 102 | 1621570085 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Touch & Tones 103 | 1621570086 | A | A | A | A | A | A+ |
| Touch of Timber | 1621570083 | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Transformation | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Twist & Shine Loop | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Twist & Shine Micro | 1621570083 | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Unify | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Unity | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 101 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 102 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 103 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 201 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 202 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 203 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 301 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 302 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 303 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Urban Retreat 501 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Vermont | 1621570097 | A | A | A+ | A | A+ | A+ |
| Walk The Plank | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| WW860 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| WW865 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| WW870 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| WW880 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| WW890 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| WW895 | 1621570096 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Yuton 104 | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |
| Yuton 105 | 1621570090 | A+ | A | A+ | A+ | A+ | A+ |

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mission
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**Mission Zero:**
our promise to eliminate any
negative impact our company
may have on the environment
by the year 2020.