

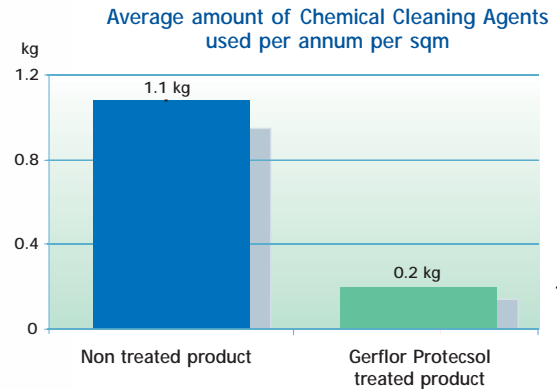
Gerflor PVC Floors: proven technical resources for

Economy and easy maintenance

In keeping with our environmental approach and reducing the use of chemical cleaning agents, our R&D laboratory has consistently worked towards improving the cleanability of our products by developing specialist surface treatments.

All our products are now factory treated with polyurethane (PU, PUR, PUR Protect®, Sparclean®, ProtecSol®) and offer:

- Reduced use of strippers and polish treatments (NB: ProtecSol® and PUR Protect® offer a no polish for life solution for the full life of the product)
- Reduced use of detergents
- Reduced water and energy consumption



Gerflor **Initiative**: ProtecSol® the first UV cured polyurethane surface treatment

- eliminates the need for polish/wax throughout the lifetime of the product
- reduces chemical usage.

Sustainable installation

Gerflor floors are environmentally friendly to install.

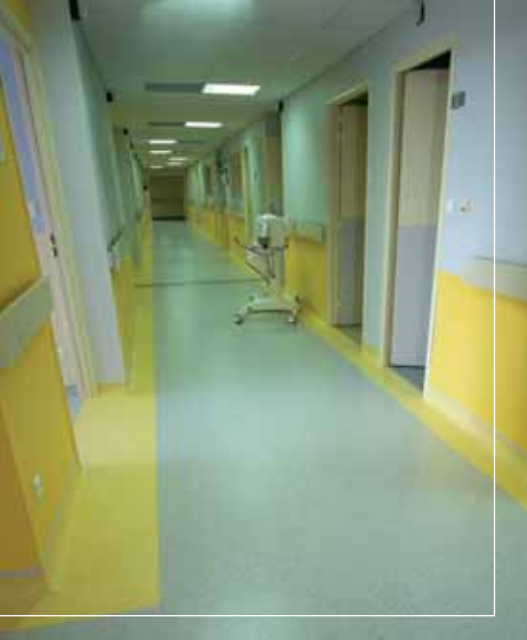
- All recommended acrylic adhesives are solvent free
- Site waste and all used materials are fully recyclable



Gerflor **Initiative**: product concepts promoting sustainable development, such as:

- Attraction™:
 - no adhesives required, quick and easy installation, clean removal, easy to recycle
- Texline:
 - no adhesives required, easy installation over existing floor covering

performance - conserving precious a sustainable future



Hygienic floors

Gerflor floors are easy to maintain and offer a fully hygienic solution for all areas:

- Inhibits the growth of mould and mildew
- Water proof
- Non-porous

Seams can be welded and coved to form an integral skirting to ensure easy, hygienic maintenance.



Gerflor *Initiative*: the Sanosol[®] treatment developed by our laboratory is anti-bacterial and fungicidal, and actively inhibits the growth of micro organisms.

Safety

■ Fire behaviour

PVC floorings are inherently fire safe because:

- PVC does not readily burn
- PVC floors are self extinguishing: they cease to burn once the source of combustion is removed

■ Acoustic and comfort performance

In order to provide underfoot and acoustic comfort for users, Gerflor offers a comprehensive range of acoustic flooring to ensure:

- underfoot comfort: provides anti-fatigue, muscle support and energy return ideal for areas where users stand for long periods
- acoustic comfort from 17-18dB sound insulation. Tests have shown that Gerflor's unique VHD (Very High Density) foam backing reduces impact noise transmission by up to 10 times when compared to solid floors.

■ Slip resistance

In keeping with all local and international standards, Gerflor has a full range of slip resistant floorcoverings designed to minimise the chance of slip accidents and litigation. All comply with the DIN 51130 standard and pendulum test results. For areas where high levels of contamination are likely to be present e.g. an industrial kitchen, Gerflor also has a range of R11 rated safety floors.



Gerflor: investing in new raw materials building a sustainable

Our global approach spans the entire business, from top management, through to marketing, R&D, production, quality control, customer services and sales has resulted in Gerflor attaining ISO 14001 certification for our industrial sites.



Environmentally friendly raw materials

■ Elimination of heavy metals

Aware of the effects on the environment, Gerflor has excluded the use of all heavy metals for over a decade including:

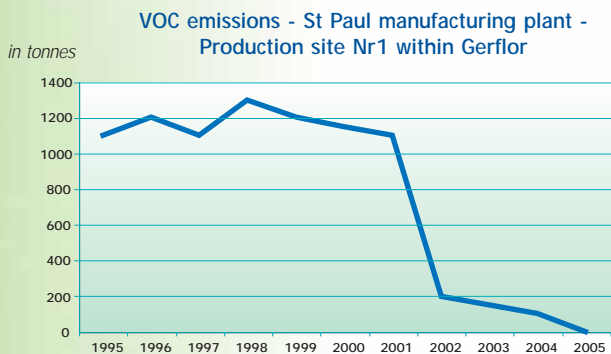
- Lead
- Cadmium
- Tin

These metals were replaced by **calcium and zinc based stabilisers**, which have a limited impact on the environment.

■ Reduction of VOCs

Gerflor is actively participating in European efforts to implement standards on "air quality inside buildings", and offers products that comply with the most stringent requirements.

The results obtained are below the threshold requirements of the pr EN 15052 standard.



■ Withdrawal of solvent based inks

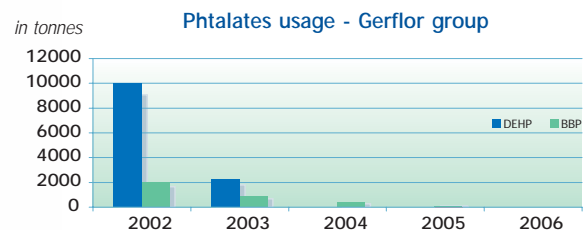
When solvents evaporate into the atmosphere, they trigger chemical reactions that reduce the ozone layer essential for filtering the sun's rays and a major contributor to climate change.

Given this major environmental hazard, Gerflor uses **water-based** inks in its designs.

■ Phthalates

Gerflor only uses EU approved plasticisers and has excluded all BBP and DEHP phthalates from its production processes due to concerns raised over their long term safety.

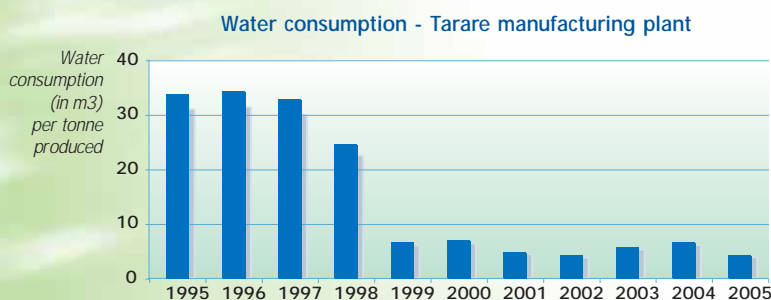
Gerflor PVC floors are inert and have no impact on health and the environment.



Environmentally friendly production processes

■ Preservation of water resources

The implementation of a closed-loop cooling system has substantially reduced our water consumption.



■ Air protection

Our production lines are equipped to treat all emissions prior to being released.



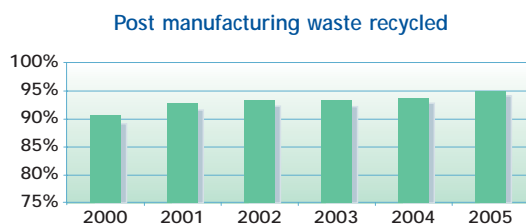
and production processes, future

■ Industrial waste management

Industrial waste management is an integral part of our daily environmental action plan.

We collect all our waste (ultimate waste, chemical products, paper, carton, metal scrap, etc.) and ensure that it is clearly identified and sorted for either re-use or disposal.

We also recycle nearly 100% of our post manufacturing waste in new production runs.



■ Transport

Unlike many other floor coverings, PVC floors are light, and consume less energy during transportation.

Moreover, Gerflor prefers to use local raw material and logistics suppliers to help reduce transport costs and minimise the impact upon the environment.

In addition, Gerflor has installed videoconference facilities in all its major subsidiaries and uses the technology to help minimise environmentally costly air travel between sites and offices.

Furthermore, the cylinder capacity has been limited on all company vehicles within the Gerflor fleet to reduce the emission of pollutants on the road.

Recycling

One of the main advantages of our PVC floors is that they can be fully recycled: at the production or end of life stage, they can be recovered, and used to produce new floor coverings.

■ Gerflor's commitments

1 First commitment:

In 1988, Gerflor was the one of the founding members of the first PVC floor covering recycling workshop - AgpR.

Based in Troisdorf, Germany, and near our Mipolam industrial site, the AgpR plant recovers and recycles installation waste and end of life floors. Gerflor has been using AgpR recycled products for over a decade.

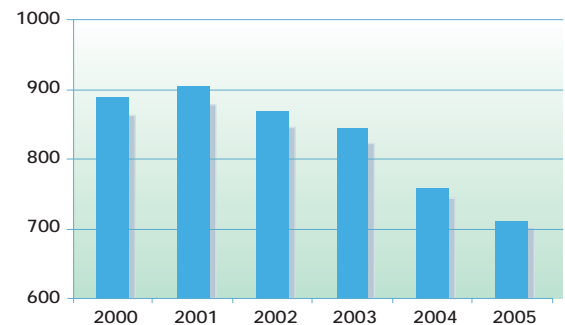
2 Second commitment:

Gerflor recycles nearly 100% of its post manufacturing waste.

■ Reduction of energy consumption

Gerflor's manufacturing processes are designed to optimise energy usage and have resulted in continuous year on year reductions in energy consumption.

Energy consumption - Tarare manufacturing plant
Kwhr/tonne produced



■ Selection of our packaging

We use only the minimum amount of packaging to protect our products during transport to reduce the amount of costly, installation site waste. We also:

- maximise the use of recycled material in all our packaging
- use only materials that can be, in their turn, recycled

3 Third commitment:

Gerflor is involved in **Vinyl 2010** within the EPFLOOR organisation.

Vinyl 2010 is a voluntary commitment of the European PVC industry.

One of the main aims of the approach is to increase the recycling of end of life PVC products. The target for 2020 is 10,000 tonnes per annum - currently the industry is well on the way to achieving that goal.

Vinyl 2010 publishes its progress report every year.

For more information: www.vinyl2010.com

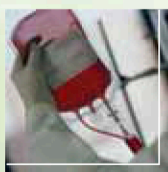
Questions & ANSWERS

What is PVC made of?

PVC is a harmless and safe material made of 57% salt and 43% oil. By comparison to all other plastics, PVC requires the least oil and consumes the least energy during production.

Is PVC toxic?

No. PVC is a harmless and safe material both for users and the environment. It is a material used on a daily basis by each of us at home and at work.



PVC is used extensively in hygienic, clinical areas and for tools and storage vessels which come into close and intimate contact with humans and animals, e.g.: blood storage bags, catheters, dialysis tubes etc ...

Are PVC floorcoverings environmentally friendly?

Yes. Gerflor's decision to exclude heavy metals, to meet and exceed all local and international safety standards and to continually strive to improve its sustainable processes, has proven its commitment to deliver environmentally friendly PVC floor coverings.

Does PVC affect air quality?

All materials emit volatile substances called VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) during their lifetime. Some products release excessive amounts, resulting in air pollution inside buildings.

This is not the case with Gerflor floors. Our products have been assessed in accordance with the proposed European standard (pr EN15052) at both 3 and 28 days and are proven to emit VOC's well below the agreed acceptable standard.

Gerflor only recommends the use of solvent free acrylic adhesives for installation.

Can PVC be recycled?

Gerflor floorcoverings can be fully recycled and are therefore often described as a sustainable product. Gerflor recycles nearly 100% of its post manufacturing waste. We also buy in further recycled PVC material thereby actively reducing the amount of used PVC sent to landfill.

For more information, please contact us at : info@g2ii.com

You can also visit our web site on : www.gerflortaraflex.com



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Floors to match your imagination