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Recofloor announces joint winners of its recycled vinyl flooring product Design Competition

Ideas for an extendable compost bin and a modular roof tile with pre-drilled nail holes share the top £1,000 prize in Recofloor's first-ever design competition to find an innovative product that will increase the market options for post-consumer vinyl flooring.

The two winning group submissions from Hertfordshire University students will each receive £500. One of the winners will also get the opportunity to work with Recofloor's founders, flooring manufacturers Altro and Polyflor, to produce a prototype of their winning products.

Launched in March by the UK's award-winning national vinyl flooring recycling scheme, the competition was open to product design students at several Universities.

With more than 40,000 tonnes of vinyl flooring waste arising each year in the UK, Recofloor wanted to identify and progress new applications that can accept more of this material type and utilise its specific properties to generate a higher return than existing recycling options.

The designers of the compost bin - Matthew Lodge, James Lyttle, Shivani Majithia and Stephen Rothwell and the roof tile – Cem Gulcen, Sufyan Akram, Anchal Goel and Ang Waye Shyang will receive their prizes at the annual Recofloor Awards event in March 2015.

Recofloor's mentor for the project Nichola Mundy praised the students' inspiration and creative designs, which included a plant pot, bicycle helmet, relief shelter and a survival tool. She said: "This impressive and varied selection made the decision for our judging panel very difficult."

She added: "We will combine the technical knowledge of the flooring and recycling industries with the university's and students' design expertise to progress this work further and hope to work with other Universities in the future."

For more information, contact Recofloor on 0161 355 7618, email recofloor@axionconsulting.co.uk or visit the website at www.recofloor.org.