

Economic Sustainability

Founded in 1915, James Halstead PLC, the parent company of Polyflor Ltd. was originally a northern textile company until the 1950s, when it pioneered the development of homogeneous vinyl floor coverings. Nearly one hundred years later and still a major manufacturer and employer in Manchester, England, the company continues to go from strength to strength. Polyflor is a global organisation with a dominant market share in the UK and is listed on the AIM stock exchange with a nine figure turnover. From 2000 to 2010 turnover doubled and Polyflor continues to increase dividends to shareholders year on year.

Polyflor's economic sustainability, growth and success are largely attributed to the depth of our customer focus. Polyflor's ongoing commitment to Research and Development through the use of advanced technology has resulted in the creation of innovative and market leading products, with New Product Development at the core of Polyflor's business philosophy.

Substantial investment has been made in long term projects to enable further growth and employment, notably an additional 165,000m² manufacturing site in Teesside, which continues to expand Polyflor's production and warehousing capability in the UK. Sales, marketing and distribution also relocated into a new 20,000m² facility in Oldham, several years ago, increasing and improving its warehouse facility and customer service. Cumulatively, these new sites allow us to produce and hold even more stock, as well as employing more people and boosting the local economies in which we operate.

In 2009 Polyflor made a significant investment with the establishment of Recofloor, the UK's pioneering and leading recycling scheme for waste vinyl flooring. As one of two founder and funding members, our continuing dedication and investment in this important and innovative initiative is implemented through financial and operational support across the scheme. This includes management and logistics, our onsite recycling facility and marketing communications to actively promote the scheme and engage with our customers. Recofloor's popularity has seen a continual increase in reclaimed post consumer waste vinyl year on year, while providing efficient and cost effective solutions for the flooring contractor. Where landfill costs are increasing, disposing vinyl flooring waste through Recofloor can be free if waste is taken to one of our distributors' drop-off sites. Alternatively, if the waste material is collected a cost is applied which offers a saving of up to 60% when compared to landfill, offering a considerable and positive impact on our customers.

Polyflor is a major employer in Manchester, employing 500 people - 478 of whom are full time, 18 are part-time with permanent contracts and 7 are temporary. Employment is provided within sales and marketing, graphic design, human resources, I.T, purchasing and finance, as well as production, engineering, technical, warehousing and distribution. Our uncompromised business ethics ensure that we minimise risk wherever possible, given the responsibility we have within the supply chain and to our employees. As a supplier we try to ensure timely deliveries and as a customer, timely payments, without imposing unrealistic payment terms. As a medium sized UK manufacturing company, we continue to pay tax in the UK, therefore fully supporting the UK economy.

continuing to go from strength to strength



Customer Focus



Expanding Capability



Sustainability