



Tarkett Australia Advances Sustainability Goals with first Vinyl Flooring Recycling Shipment

Tarkett Australia proudly announces a pivotal achievement in its sustainability initiative, as the company successfully dispatched its first container of granulated Homogeneous Vinyl flooring material to their manufacturing plant in Ronneby, Sweden, on December 18th, 2023. This milestone underscores Tarkett's steadfast commitment to fostering a circular economy and reducing environmental impact through innovative recycling practices.

Overcoming significant challenges, including stringent government regulations, Tarkett Australia persevered for more than 12 months to establish a robust recycling infrastructure. The journey commenced with the development of a custom-built granulator tailored for processing Vinyl flooring, ensuring optimal container space utilisation and minimising the carbon footprint of transportation.

Critical to the program's success was the collaboration with selected contractors who helped refine collection methods and establish a working system for the local ReStart® program.

The final system incorporates a custom frame and bulker bags for storing Homogeneous Vinyl off-cuts on-site and efficient transport of granulated materials back to Europe.

Another key step was working with our Logistics & Warehousing partner GMK, to sort out the operational side of the local ReStart® program. As Tarkett's national distribution partner, it made sense to house our recycling operations on GMK's site to avoid double handling. The team setup a dedicated space for the Granulator and have on-site resource to support the sorting of product, and granulation into the future.



The coordinated efforts of Dag Duberg, ReStart® Manager, and Jimmy Svensson, Inbound & Recycling Coordinator at Ronneby, were instrumental in orchestrating the preparation and dispatch of the historic container, which arrived in Ronneby in early March, heralding a moment of pride for all involved.

“We look forward to expanding ReStart® in Australia in 2024, increasing our ReStart® volumes and helping the global team achieve our 2030 targets, of using 30% recycled material in the production of our products, whilst most importantly continuing to lower our carbon footprint” says Paul Roberts, Technical Manager, Tarkett Australia.

The local Australian team is diligently working on the granulation of an additional 20 tonnes of Homogeneous Sheet Vinyl. This process involves breaking down the Vinyl into smaller, manageable pieces that can be repurposed or recycled. The granulated Vinyl is part of a significant shipment scheduled to depart for Ronneby, Sweden, in August 2024.

In 2024, Tarkett Australia is set to expand its ReStart program to include selected DESSO Carpet Tiles. This strategic move underscores the company's dedication to sustainability and responsible manufacturing practices.

The ReStart® program is designed to facilitate the collection and recycling of used flooring materials, thereby reducing waste and promoting a circular economy. By integrating DESSO Carpet Tiles into this initiative, Tarkett Australia is not only enhancing its environmental stewardship but also offering its customers more sustainable flooring options. The inclusion of DESSO Carpet Tiles in the ReStart® program is a testament to the company's proactive approach in addressing environmental challenges and its commitment to innovation in sustainable practices.

For more information about Tarkett Australia's sustainability initiatives and the ReStart® program, please visit www.tarkett.com.au