

Environmental Initiatives

In seeking to enhance our clients' environments we create our products from the bounty of our natural environment. As the carpet industry's most vertically integrated company, Beaulieu of America mines its own raw materials, produces its own fibers, and manufactures its own carpets and rugs.

Since the founding of Beaulieu of America in 1978, we have adhered company wide to a commitment to protect and improve the environment. As a product that relies on raw materials and manufactures products with enduring chemical bonds, we consider it our obligation to go beyond compliance with federal regulations to innovate processes for pollutant-free products and recycling.

It has always been our goal and commitment to lead our industry in being environmentally friendly. Beaulieu's chief environmental chemist Ken Fountaine, the first chairman of the Carpet and Rug Industry's Environment Committee, helped establish standards for "maximum achievable controls" for the industry. This process is good business. The systems we have developed to keep pollutants from contaminating the air and water and strategies we have implemented to recycle waste materials save Beaulieu hundreds of thousands of dollars annually as well as protect the environment.

Along with Beaulieu's commitments to clean air and water in our communities:

- We work closely with state and federal agencies to develop environmental standards.
- We are unique among manufacturers in using natural gas as our primary fuel, the cleanest fuel source which is significantly cleaner than more commonly employed fuel oils.
- We protect against water pollution by routing all discharges to government operated water treatment facilities.
- We recycle waste materials from the thermo fluids that fuel our production to the byproducts of our development.

- We recycle old carpet and pad to manufacture new carpet pad.
- Our Marglen manufacturing facility features one of the industry's most innovative recycling concepts: making carpet from recycled plastic bottles and petrochemicals. The manufacturing plant produces no scrap materials and no emissions.
- In our nylon production plant in Aiken, SC, we added "scrubbers" to further reduce nylon pollutants by 92 percent, virtually eliminating airborne emissions.
- We are developing new technology to produce primary and secondary carpet backings that may allow us to make backings with all recycled materials. The resulting products would be lighter, lowering shipping costs and thus prices on our products.
- We worked with others in the industry to test caprolactam for hazardous air pollutants and ease concerns about its potential hazards.
- Our fiber production facilities minimize the use of hazardous materials. Each facility has a best-practices management plan to ensure an environmentally safe operation, including cleanup and other response measures for environmental accidents.
- We purify and reuse all water in our fiber production plants in Bridgeport, AL. The only water lost in the process is from condensation.
- We have a clear directive from Beaulieu of America Founder, President and CEO, Carl Bouckaert, to protect and improve our environment. As a result of all our measures, Beaulieu is the industry's most responsible citizen.