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Shaw Industries Receives Cradle to Cradle Certification

Cradle to Cradle Certified products address broad definition of environmental quality and contribute to LEED Innovation in Design Credit

DALTON, Ga. – June 11, 2007 – Three products pioneered by Shaw Industries have been recognized with Cradle to Cradle Certification, contributing to U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED® Green Building Rating System™. Shaw EcoWorx tile, EcoWorx Performance Broadloom and Eco Solution Q premium branded nylon are the only carpet products to receive Cradle to Cradle Silver Certification from MBDC (McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry), a third-party consultancy founded by the world-renowned architect William McDonough and innovative chemist Dr. Michael Braungart.

The Cradle to Cradle certification evaluates building and interior products for their human health, environmental and life cycle attributes. Recognizing the significance of this evaluation, the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) announced in May that Cradle to Cradle Certification will be included within USGBC's LEED® Green Building Rating System™ and eligible for earning Innovation in Design points.

“Cradle to Cradle Certification is in harmony with our guiding principle of reconciling human activities with nature, and cuts a trail for exciting new directions in LEED to address the impacts of materials in the building industry in a much more sophisticated scientific manner,” said Tom Hicks, Vice President of LEED.

EcoWorx tile, EcoWorx Performance Broadloom and Eco Solution Q are among the first products in the world with fully-operating systems to collect and return materials to the manufacturing process after use, keeping carpet from landfills. Shaw EcoWorx recovery system in Cartersville, Ga. and Evergreen nylon recycling facility in Augusta Ga., the only ones of their kind in the world, maintain these materials in continuous loops, reducing the energy and raw materials needed to manufacture new product. Shaw will recycle 100 million pounds of post consumer nylon 6 carpet at Evergreen in 2007.

“Shaw is setting new standards for sustainability by designing its products as technical nutrients that can be recirculated in the manufacturing cycle of renewal,” said McDonough. “This helps expand the environmental focus to what’s being used, reused or recycled and not just on the amount of recycled content.”

EcoWorx tile, EcoWorx Performance Broadloom and Eco Solution Q received Cradle to Cradle Silver Certification for the use of environmentally safe and healthy materials; design for material reutilization; use of renewable energy and energy efficiency; efficient use of water and maximum water quality associated with production; and instituting strategies for social responsibility.

About Shaw Industries

Shaw Industries Group, Inc., a subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc., is the world's largest carpet manufacturer and a leading floor covering provider with more than \$5 billion in annual sales and approximately 31,000 associates. Headquartered in Dalton, Ga., the company manufactures and distributes carpeting, rugs, hardwood, laminate and ceramic tile for residential and commercial applications worldwide. A recognized leader in environmental stewardship, Shaw has implemented hundreds of sustainability initiatives and cradle to cradle design solutions, collectively termed Shaw Green Edge. For more information, visit www.shawfloors.com.

Shaw Industries Cradle-to-Cradle Processes and Certified Products

About Evergreen Nylon Recycling Facility

Evergreen is the only post-consumer cradle-to-cradle, closed loop nylon 6 recovery facility of its kind in the world and is an important factor in reducing carpet landfilling. Post consumer residential and commercial carpets arrive at Evergreen through Shaw's recycling collection system. Through innovative proprietary technology, the nylon 6 fiber in the carpet is broken down and reconstituted into its original building block material called caprolactam. The caprolactam is then used to make "new" nylon 6, including Shaw's branded Eco Solution Q® nylon, which is used in carpet products again and again, without product degradation. This innovative process utilizes less energy and saves millions of gallons of fuel and crude oil annually.

About EcoWorx® Recovery Technology

Shaw EcoWorx recovery technology is an innovative process specifically designed to deconstruct carpet tile made with EcoWorx backing into two separate cradle-to-cradle recycling streams: one for EcoWorx backing and one for EcoSolution Q nylon. All post-industrial (pre-consumer) waste generated during the process is used in the recycling process, eliminating any waste components from going to a landfill. In fact, every pound of carpet coming into the plant (located in Cartersville, Ga.) yields one pound of output in the form of backing or fiber composites.

About EcoWorx Tile

Introduced in 1999, EcoWorx is a technologically-advanced closed-loop, cradle-to-cradle product and the industry's first sustainable, non-PVC tile backing system. Greatly outperforming traditional PVC backing products with 5x greater tensile strength, 8x greater tear strength, and 2x greater delamination strength, EcoWorx uses only a third of the supply chain energy embodied in Shaw's previous PVC backing product. EcoWorx is Cradle to Cradle Silver Certified, contains 40 percent recycled content and contributes to USGBC's LEED certification standards. EcoWorx is the only carpet backing to include a guarantee which states that Shaw will pick the carpet tile up at the end of its life, at no charge to the customer, and recycle it into more EcoWorx. EcoWorx backing has been tested and optimized through the McDonough Braungart Design Chemistry (MBDC) protocol and is a recipient of the U.S. Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Award.

About EcoWorx® Performance Broadloom

EcoWorx Performance Broadloom is the industry's first fully-sustainable, cradle-to-cradle carpet backing for broadloom carpet. Among its many performance attributes, EcoWorx Performance Broadloom is 40 percent lighter and has a delamination strength 10x stronger than backing used on traditional broadloom commercial carpet products. As a Cradle to Cradle Silver Certified product, EcoWorx Performance Broadloom contributes to USGBC's LEED certification standards. In third quarter 2007, it will be available as a standard backing on approximately 50 styles as well as available as a custom backing on any product.

About Eco Solution Q®

Eco Solution Q is a premium branded type 6 nylon from Shaw Fibers, the world's largest manufacturer of solution-dyed nylon. Eco Solution Q contains 25 percent recycled content, is Cradle to Cradle Silver Certified, and contributes to USGBC's LEED certification standards. It can be recycled in a closed-loop cradle-to-cradle process at Shaw's Evergreen Nylon Recycling Facility in Augusta, Georgia. Eco Solution Q offers exceptional performance, a comprehensive warranty and is available in a palette of more than 200 colors.