



Media Contact:
Emma Williams
423.653.1095

SHAW RECEIVES CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD FROM GEORGIA AIR AND WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

Dalton, Ga (October 23) -- Shaw Industries has received a Corporate Environmental Award from the Georgia chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association (AWMA). The air and waste management award, one of two presented, was accepted by Shaw during the chapter's annual fall conference October 9th.

Presented annually to Georgia organizations for their work towards reducing the environmental impact of companies within the state of Georgia, the award recognizes Shaw's deep commitment to sustainability, according Georgia Chapter AWMA Board Directors, Al Edwards and Rick Turner.

"Shaw received this award based in part on its embrace of Cradle to Cradle recycling and waste to energy recycling practices," Edwards and Turner said. "Their efforts to move towards complete sustainability and their work to design innovative solutions and technologies to continue along that path exemplify the goals of the Air and Waste Management Association."

"We fully support AWMA's efforts to help businesses throughout our state reduce their environmental impacts, and we appreciate the recognition of our ongoing commitment to achieving environmental excellence as a core element of our Shaw Green Edge™ Corporate sustainability business platform."

"We are honored to receive the award from the Georgia AWMA for our continued commitment to environmental excellence and achieving sustainability through innovation; it's what we refer to as the Shaw Green Edge." said Shaw Vice President of Sustainability Rick Ramirez. "We fully support AWMA's mission is to promote a cleaner, safer environment in Georgia by focusing on air and waste issues through information transfer, technology exchange, education, and environmental leadership."

The award recognizes Shaw's embrace of Cradle to Cradle design, especially with regard to the company's EcoWorx, Eco Solution Q and Anso products, as well as its dedication to continuously improving processes to further reduce waste and limit the use of virgin raw materials.

"Taking responsibility for a product at the end of its useful life is a fundamental tenet of Cradle to Cradle design," said Ramirez. "In addition to manufacturing products that can be collected, deconstructed and remanufactured back into themselves time and again, we are also working to close the loop on the recycling process through our Evergreen nylon recycling facility in Augusta, Georgia."

The only facility of its kind in the world, Evergreen enables Shaw to recover caprolactam monomer, the "building block" of Type 6 nylon, from post-consumer carpet, then repolymerize the caprolactam for use in the generation of new Eco Solution Q fiber. Shaw has recycled more than 100 million pounds of post-consumer carpet through Evergreen since opening the facility in 2007 - an equivalent savings of more than 80,000 barrels of crude oil.

About Cradle to Cradle

The book *Cradle to Cradle* by William McDonough and Michael Braungart outlines the case for designing products that are safe for human beings and the environment, and can be broken down and recycled back into the same products over and over again. The Cradle to Cradle theory eliminates the concept of waste while drastically reducing the use of virgin raw materials and preventing resources from entering landfills. In Shaw's Cradle to Cradle system, EcoWorx carpet backing and Eco Solution Q fiber are separated, broken down and recycled in a closed loop process, returning those materials back to their original state as backing and fiber that are virtually indistinguishable from virgin products.

About the Georgia Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association

The Georgia Chapter of the Air and Waste Management Association (GAAWMA) is dedicated to preserving the quality of our environment for generations to come. The organization's mission is to promote a cleaner, safer environment in Georgia by focusing on air and waste issues. GAAWMA works to achieve this mission through information transfer, technology exchange, education and environmental leadership.

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, Georgia, 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 the Shaw Green Edge. For more information, visit www.shawfloors.com.