

eco<sub>2</sub>matters®



**burmatex®**



## OUR SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

We are committed to achieving Net Zero through the continual removal of carbon from our products and our processes.

We believe that what we do matters, that the ecology of our planet matters, and that **eco<sub>2</sub>matters**®

We value our people, our customers, and our partners. This drives our approach to social values & well being.

## OUR HERITAGE

Originally established in the UK in 1917 as J&F Burrows, we have been recycling for over 100 years. We began by recycling wool and cotton textile waste for resale to the textile industry, for use in the manufacturer of clothing.



Established in 1917 as J&F Burrows, in West Yorkshire, UK



We recycled textile waste for resale and eventually used it to make our own carpet tiles

With the advent of synthetic fibres, we quickly adapted to also recycle synthetic waste, eventually focusing solely on the recycling of nylon and polypropylene. With the development of a new type of carpet, needlefelt (now called fibre bonded), we saw an opportunity to use this recycled material to produce our own finished products.

J&F Burrows was renamed **burmatex**® in 1973. For over 40 years, the careful selection, reprocessing and recycling of industrial synthetic waste, enabled use it to produce sustainable fibre bonded sheet and carpet tiles.

Today burmatex manufactures a much broader range of products, including designer loop and low level loop nylon carpet tiles. Still the fundamental principles of recycling and reuse remain at the core of our operation, and form the foundations of the **eco<sub>2</sub>matters**® sustainability ecosystem.

## The eco<sub>2</sub>matters® sustainability ecosystem

“Sustainability is part of our History”

With a company history founded on recycling, sustainability is at the heart of what we do.

Our **eco<sub>2</sub>matters**® sustainability ecosystem is our commitment to helping deliver a sustainable future. At its core are our sustainability goals.



## Journey to Net Zero

### CARBON NEGATIVE RECYCLED YARN

In 2021 Burmatex committed to making all new products from low carbon yarn.

By working with our partners, and through advances in material science, we now have a range of low carbon yarns, including a carbon negative yarn, which we use to reduce the amount of carbon in our products.

Working in partnership with **Universal Fibers<sup>®</sup>**, they developed **Thrive<sup>®</sup>** matter, the world's first carbon negative recycled yarn.

### CARBON NEGATIVE YARN IS A TRULY GROUND BREAKING DEVELOPMENT

Carbon negative yarn removed both the carbon associated with yarn, as well as offsetting at source, the remaining carbon in a carpet tile.

“By reducing our carbon emissions, and ultimately achieving Net Zero, we can help tackle global warming and climate change”

Yarn is the single biggest source of carbon in a carpet tile



## Journey to Net Zero

### BioBase™ RECYCLED BACKING SYSTEM

Unique to Burmatex, **BioBase™** is a low carbon backing system, made using locally sourced recycled organic materials.

Developed as part of a joint research project with Huddersfield University, **BioBase™** includes recycled industrial waste, previously destined for landfill, which we use in our backing system.

Combined with 100% organic, non-vinyl polymer binders and fillers, **BioBase™** contains a minimum of 75% recycled content.

This combination of material science and process technology means **BioBase™** requires less energy during the production process.

All our products use our **BioBase™** recycled backing system. As well as being low carbon, this innovative backing system ensures we achieve class 33 heavy commercial and class Bfl s1 fire safety performance across all our products, and enables us to offer a 15 year warranty as standard.

## BioBase™

“It should be obvious that we cannot solve a crisis with the same methods that got us into it in the first place”

GRETA THUNBERG



## CARBON NEUTRAL CARPET TILES

On our journey to Net Zero we must find new ways of reducing our carbon emissions, to help tackle climate change, and reduce global warming.

Ultimately, all our products will be third party independently verified as embodied carbon neutral.

This vital goal drives us to develop such innovations as our unique **BioBase™** low carbon backing system, and to invest in products such as the world's first carbon negative recycled yarn.

By combining these innovations, alongside our improvements in energy and waste management, we are now able to produce carpet carbon neutral ranges.

Using carbon negative recycled yarn enables us to offset at source, any remaining low levels of carbon that remain in the carpet tile. This simplifies the often unclear picture of carbon offsetting.

## Journey to Net Zero

“It cannot  
be right to  
manufacture  
billions of  
objects that  
are used for  
a matter of  
minutes,  
and then are  
with us for  
centuries”

ROZ SAVAGE



## Journey to Net Zero

### ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCT DECLARATION'S AND INDEPENDENT THIRD PARTY VERIFICATION

Aligned with our business values of being honest and transparent, EPD's and independent third party verification are an integral part of the ecosystem.

We have therefore significantly invested in product specific EPD's.

Rather than use generic or product category EPD's, we believe it is important to provide the reassurance of product specific, independently third party verified, Environmental Product Declaration's.

This ensures you know the exact carbon footprint and can make an informed decision when deciding which product to use.

All our EPD's are available on both our website and on the International EPD system database - [www.environdec.com](http://www.environdec.com)

“Transparently  
reports  
objective,  
comparable  
and third-party  
verified data  
about products  
and services’  
environmental  
performances  
from a lifecycle  
perspective”



## WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We understand that our actions impact the environment, and we are committed to acting responsibly.

100% of our electricity is from certified renewable sources. We continue to make significant progress in reducing our waste through Project Zero Landfill. Our recovery take back service, provides a no landfill option for used carpet tiles.

## 100% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY

In 2010, Burmatex made the commitment to only use 100% certified renewable electricity. we are comitted to both reducing our energy usage, but also in investing in our own renewable energy generation.

In 2022, Burmatex committed to invest £0.75 million in solarelectricity, through the installation of solar panels at our 11 acre site in Osset, United Kingdom.

This will generate green energy equivalent to being able to run over 6,000 UK homes for a year\*

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## Positive Environmental Impact

“The Earth  
is what we  
all have in  
common”

WENDELL BERRY

\*Source: Ofgem's typical domestic consumption values 2021 decision letter. Based on average UK homes annual electricity consumption of 2,900 Kwh.



## Positive Environmental Impact

### PROJECT – ZERO LANDFILL

In 2021 we commenced Project – Zero Landfill, a company-wide initiative, to further the reduction of waste generation, and to find ways to sustainably process what waste remained. Our ultimate goal was to ensure that no waste went to landfill.

We were able to significantly increase the amount of waste we recycled, as well as diverting 32.7% of our waste from landfill to other streams such as energy from waste (EfW). Importantly, this waste is used to provide energy for local social housing for low income families.

During 2022 Burmatex reached a key sustainability milestone by diverting all waste from landfill. We achieved this by increasing our recycling to almost 50%, with the remainder continuing to be used to provide energy for local social housing.

In 2023, with the actions we already taken, there will be no waste sent to landfill, achieving our goal of Zero Landfill.

A small amount of waste (3%) will continue to be used to generate energy for local social housing, with 97% of our waste will be recycled.

Continuing to further reduce waste remains one of our key objectives.

“In 2023,  
97% of our  
waste will be  
recycled, and  
we will have  
Zero Landfill”