



# *Interface* FLOR

Redefining Space  
for Education



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Project: Education Sector  
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# Inspiring, learning and expanding minds

Think of a space where students are inspired to learn, grow and express themselves in defined areas; with places to study, live and socialise; and where the environment is inspirational, clean, and safe...

**think of an InterfaceFLOR space.**

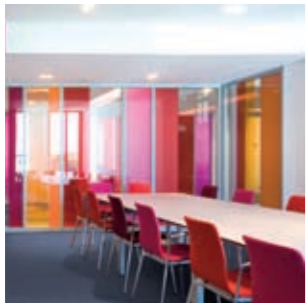
Universities and colleges are vibrant places that need to inspire learning and personal development. It's a proven fact that comfortable, healthy and attractive environments, students enjoy spending time in, encourage positive learning experiences. People feel secure they have made the right choice whilst lecturers and managers find greater enjoyment from their roles; all contributing positively to the overall performance levels.

Carpet tile flooring from InterfaceFLOR creates the opportunity to design a variety of well-defined areas of activity through clever use of style, colour and texture; creating an exciting and visually stimulating environment. Everyone can make the most of all available space for a wide variety of activities in lecture rooms, libraries, halls of residence, social areas, function rooms and refectories.



# Spaces to own

A creative, innovative and robust portfolio of sustainable carpet tiles and flooring services defined for education; with support from dedicated account managers and field designers to create a unique space to compliment your setting.



Our teams are experts in creating superior learning environments to help improve academic performance. Our education portfolio is inspired by our ability to define spaces, improve wellbeing, enhance the surroundings and provide better value.

We understand the Government's vision of a sustainably managed estate which is modern, resource efficient, with low energy usage buildings where the principles of sustainable development are embedded into all working practices.

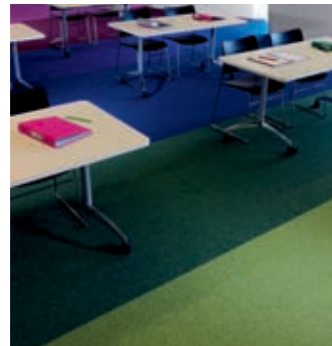
Easy maintenance and durability are also key requirements, along with appropriate products and colour combinations to suit every area of your building. Heavy contract ratings and modularity offer greater return on your investment, and with simple cleaning and maintenance regimes spaces will remain as inspirational as the day they were laid.

Our credentials in education are proven by a distinguished track record over many years. We are a supplier of the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) and are members of the British Council of School Environments; a leading charity dedicated to designing, building and transforming schools and colleges worldwide. Plus InterfaceFLOR has established relationships with government procurement and is an accredited supplier in the UK.

Whether a building is brand new or historic, whether your budget is low or high, our education portfolio and dedicated team of experts will make your selection process as easy as possible, delivering spaces that staff, visitors and students will be proud of, and an establishment they will aspire to be part of.



# Design, innovation and value



Let us take you on a journey of flooring innovation, through a multitude of colour palettes, textures and patterns. Open your mind to the possibility of more sustainable design and see where your journey leads...

InterfaceFLOR is the worldwide leader in commercial modular flooring. We design and manufacture one of the largest and most diverse range of carpet tiles available with an infinite variety of colours, textures and patterns. All of which are suitable for every type of university and college space from corridors, lecture rooms, libraries, halls of residence, social areas, function rooms and refectories.

Sustainability, design and innovation are at the heart of our business with new ranges launched each season to create dynamic ideas for modern environments, always with an eye towards longer lasting, easy maintenance flooring solutions that have less impact on the environment.

All of our tiles are heavy contract rated having undergone rigorous performance testing to ensure the highest standards of quality and durability; hitting commercial certification targets across the whole range from the more basic value products through to pure luxury flooring.



## Innovations and Services that make the difference

### Cool Carpet®

A scheme which makes it possible for our customers to buy products which are climate neutral. This means that any greenhouse gases which are emitted during the full lifecycle of the product are offset, or balanced.

### ReEntry

In Europe 30 million M<sup>2</sup> of carpet tiles are landfilled or incinerated every year. Our ReEntry service allows used carpet tiles to be cleaned, refurbished or recycled providing social and environmental benefits.

### Renovisions®

Our carpet replacement solution uses an ingenious jacking system that instantly lifts up workstations on the spot so that carpet tiles can be removed and replaced without disruption.

### Maintenance Advice

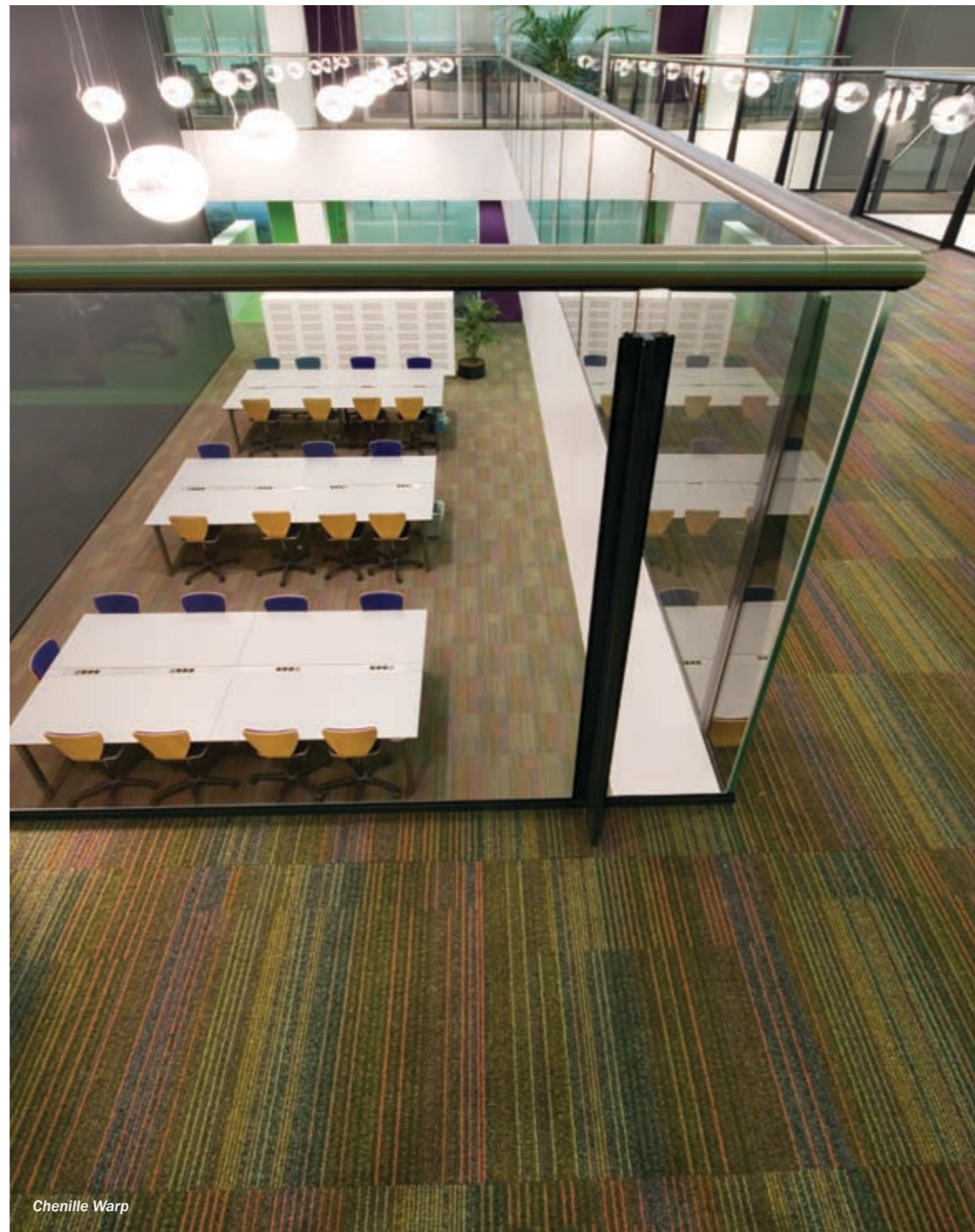
We understand the need to maintain and extend the life of your flooring and offer a comprehensive maintenance plan and advisory service.

### TacTiles

Our unique TacTiles provide a glue-less fixing system made from fully recyclable material. They are a sustainable, efficient and flexible alternative to traditional installation systems.

### Random Design

Inevitably, cutting carpet to fit the shape of a room results in waste. Our random design products can be installed in a non-directional pattern, which can reduce waste to between 1% and 2%, depending on the size and shape of the room compared with up to 12% with broadloom carpet.



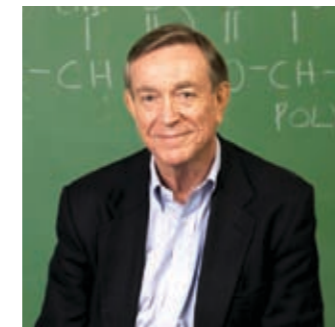
Chenille Warp

**Controlled acoustics**  
When the acoustics are right music sounds so much more tuneful, drama becomes more absorbing and quiet areas provide the perfect spot to concentrate in. Unlike the echo caused by hard flooring, carpeted areas provide pupils with calm, musical and creative environments.

**Reducing noise**  
Noise can be distracting and make it hard to concentrate, and even normal speech levels can echo throughout a large room. Where students need to move quickly from one place to the next, at all hours of the day, it can be a very noisy and busy environment. Where sound reverberates corridor noise can encroach on learning but the soft surface of InterfaceFLOR carpet tiles acts as a sound absorber and makes noise level control simple and economical, creating a more peaceful environment for both students, staff and visitors.

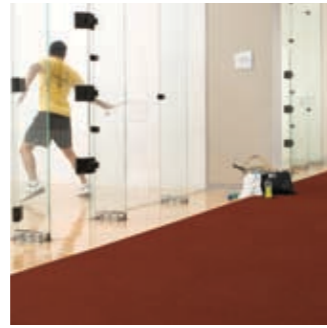
**Space to learn and teach**  
Clean, tidy and attractive environments will encourage a feeling of belonging; public traffic areas can be carpeted with a calming colour to help lower noise levels; learning and living areas can be made conducive to study and calm; and public areas can be inspirational places that attract the best staff, lecturers and students. Styles, colours, surface textures and patterns can create an environment for more effective scholarship and give a "community" feel to an open space, helping students to become more engaged.

**Greater revenue**  
Further education is a very competitive environment with students wanting to choose the best place to learn, live and grow; feeling inspired and nurtured. Creating the right environment will help a university to attract more students as well as having greater appeal as a venue for meetings, weddings and many other functions.



# 1. Better Scholarship





**Easy maintenance**

Carpet cleaning and maintenance is significantly cheaper than hard flooring which needs regular sweeping, mopping, buffing, stripping and polishing.

Our carpet tiles can withstand harsh cleaning and won't shrink or curl in adverse conditions. We offer a maintenance advisory service which will recommend a daily and periodic maintenance programme to suit your needs and improve your return on investment.

Worn or damaged carpet tiles can easily be replaced without having to impact the whole floor area – far easier than hard flooring or broadloom carpet. Patterns and textures can be used in heavy traffic areas to hide general soiling and our random design products give

even greater flexibility and opportunity for change over time; these tiles are designed for non-directional installation, which means there is no right or wrong way to lay them.

InterfaceFLOR carpet tiles are all heavy contract rated to withstand heavy foot traffic and are all tested for resistance to castor chair markings. Many of our tiles are treated with fluorocarbon, which helps to protect against stains and spoilage.

# 2. Greater value



Heuga 530

**Less waste**

Carpet tiles deliver an excellent value for money option with approximately 4% less installation waste on average compared to broadloom carpet or other expansive flooring which can be as much as 12%.

The flexibility of Random tile configurations reduces waste further and with our Renovisions® installation service, tiles can be simply replaced without disruption to your working day. At the end of the carpet tiles' useful life our ReEntry take back service can avoid carpet ending up in landfill and ultimately making waste a valuable resource for the future production of new carpet tiles.

**Feeling the warmth**

Carpet is naturally insulating which helps to reduce heating costs and create a generally warmer atmosphere when compared to hard flooring.

A carpeted room will also retain a more even temperature, so heating can be kept slightly lower than with a hard floor and people will still feel just as comfortable.

**Space to breathe**

Carpets create a warm and soft atmosphere. Some people believe dust mites are attracted to the fibres in carpet but in fact carpet is not an ideal habitat at all. The fact is that dust mites very rarely live in carpets and contrary to concerns about allergies; a well maintained carpet is proven to improve air quality.

Carpet fibres trap dust and allergens so they can't be released in the atmosphere where hard flooring enables them to float in the breath zone. By collecting fine dust, carpet prevents it from circulating in the air causing allergies. Research shows that regular maintenance of carpets using efficient vacuum cleaning can help to reduce the amount of dust particles in the air.<sup>1</sup>

Healthy buildings are essential to create inspirational learning space. Carpet generally emits much lower levels of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) than other building materials such as paints, adhesives or laminate flooring. All InterfaceFLOR products are tested according to strict criteria well below the limits set by various national environmental regulators.

In fact the VOC levels from new carpet are so low that they do not affect indoor air quality or pose a risk to health at all. And by using our glue-free installation system TacTiles, VOCs and odour from adhesives can virtually be eliminated.

<sup>1</sup>Dr Heike Neumeister-Kemp, Journal of Environmental Health Research, Volume 4, Issue 1 (2005)



**Fight against mould**

InterfaceFLOR offers an antimicrobial treatment for the backing of its carpet tiles, which preserves them against mould and greatly reduces the chance of allergies and hypersensitivity.

**A safer place to tread**

Universities and colleges are large busy places with many different activities; carpet delivers the lowest risk of injury compared to harder floor coverings.

Carpet tiles have dimensional stability too so they don't warp or shrink like wood and vinyl. This means people are less likely to trip over when they are in a rush.

**Comfort assured**

Standing on a hard floor for a number of hours a day can leave teachers and students with aches and pains in their backs and limbs. However carpet has a cushioning effect that counters this strain.

Choosing an InterfaceFLOR cushion-back option provides increased comfort underfoot and non-slip surface options are ideal for areas with high levels of activity.



## Sustaining our future



As pioneers in sustainability since 1994, we have mapped out the key points of our journey: the Seven Fronts. These involve eliminating waste and harmful emissions; maximising use of renewable energy; recycling waste materials and reusing our products; developing efficient transportation methods; creating a culture that integrates sustainability into our lives; and pioneering innovative sustainable commerce through the services and products we sell.

Our European manufacturing plants operate on 100% green electricity. We continuously monitor and review all our processes - from raw material acquisition, manufacturing, transport, use and maintenance to final disposal or recycling - in order to reduce carbon emissions and minimise waste.

Over 99% of our products sold in Europe are made in Europe, reducing our environmental footprint and offering a fast and reliable service. We have manufacturing facilities in the UK, Ireland and Holland.

The majority of InterfaceFLOR products have recycled content in their face and backing, and are manufactured with the latest sustainable technology. And our innovative services can help reduce the environmental footprint of your flooring further.





# InterfaceFLOR

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Carpet used in the cover: *Equilibrium, Moderation*

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