# re[turn]®

### re[TURN]<sup>®</sup> Reclamation Programme for Carpet Tile

#### Why is the TakeBack of flooring so important?

As pioneers of Cradle to Cradle Certified<sup>®</sup> flooring products that promote a circular economy model, Shaw Contract has committed to third-party scrutiny of product performance in five key areas: material health, product circularity, clean air and climate protection, water and soil stewardship, and social fairness. The use of recycled materials and designing for circularity is core to the Cradle to Cradle<sup>®</sup> certification, particularly for carpet tiles, which are technically complex.

As part of this commitment, our philosophy is to continue to develop products to be closed loop recycled, that at the end of their useful life they are designed to be broken down, processed, and recycled back into flooring products. However, we understand that some products in the market are unable to be closed loop recycled and, in this case, ideally products should be re-utilised or converted to fuel to produce energy.

Returning materials to the manufacturing process and diverting them from landfills preserves precious resources and reduces waste. Shaw Contract has extensive experience managing the logistics of collecting and recycling bulky waste associated with carpet tiles.

This commitment has enabled us to reclaim and recycle more than 450,000 tons of post-consumer carpet since 2006.

EcoWorx<sup>®</sup>, EcoWorx S<sup>®</sup> carpet tile and EcoWorx<sup>™</sup> Resilient (PVC-free Resilient) can be returned for free in the UK and closed loop recycled at the end of their life back into our carpet tile.

In June 2024, Shaw Contract expanded its re[TURN]<sup>®</sup> Reclamation Program through a new partnership with the Salvation Army Trading Company (SATCoL) driving the largest re-use network for carpet tile flooring in the UK.

The Shaw Contract + SATCoL partnership also provides a route for any brand\* of carpet tiles so they can be re-used. This new service is an expansion of the ShawContract re[TURN]<sup>®</sup> scheme for flooring and ensures that a viable cost effective process is in place for the re-use of any carpet tile\* in the market.

\*Not including carpet tiles with a PVC backing



June 11, 2025

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#### EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> and EcoWorx S<sup>®</sup> TakeBack Journey

EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> carpet tile products come with our Environmental Guarantee for free reclamation and recycling, which means that we will facilitate the return of the product at the end of its useful life at no cost to the customer.

Launched in 2023, EcoWorx S<sup>®</sup>, a new closed loop recyclable carpet tile made in the UK, is part of this Environmental Gurantee. Together with EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> products, it is closed loop recycled into raw materials for new carpet tiles at Shaw Contract facilities at the end of its useful life. The re[TURN]<sup>®</sup> Reclamation Programme enables the closed loop process as Shaw Contract will pick up EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> and EcoWorx S<sup>®</sup> products at no cost to you, transport them to our manufacturing facilities in the UK, and turn them into the next generation of EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> carpet tiles.

#### **Closed-Loop Process Explained**

Upon delivery of EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> carpet tile pallets to our recycling facility, the product is placed in a large shredder and chopped into small pieces. During the initial shredding process, any metal present is removed. The material then undergoes additional shredding before being pushed through extruders and compressed into pellets, creating raw materials for the next generation of EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> carpet tile.

Watch detailed process here: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YvquUb0Qw6M</u>

### Taskworx<sup>®</sup> and ComfortWorx<sup>®</sup> Carpet Tile Reuse through Salvation Army Trading Company

TaskWorx<sup>®</sup> and ComfortWorx<sup>®</sup> carpet tiles, made in the UK, are sent directly to our Salvation Army Trading Company (SATCoL) carpet tile re-use network.

SATCoL has over 40 donation centers across the UK. As part of an agreed process, once removed from buildings, used carpet tiles can be transported to SATCoL donation centers to be sorted, graded, and made available to Housing Associations and Local Authorities. This ensures that carpet tiles are diverted from disposal and made accessible to the most vulnerable in the community.

In Central Europe and Middle East, Shaw Contract identifies partners for each re[TURN]<sup>®</sup> request individually, considering the most sustainable way to repurpose materials that would traditionally be classed as waste. Options include re-use in housing association projects thereby extending the lifespan of the carpet tiles before recycling or burning for energy.



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Shaw has been running the re[TURN]<sup>®</sup> Reclamation Program for almost 20 years for its EcoWorx<sup>®</sup> products and has extensive experience in this activity as a global manufacturer. To register a project for the re[TURN]<sup>®</sup> Reclamation Program, please email <u>infouk@shawcontract.com</u> or call 207-961-4120.

	EcoWorx® Carpet tile	EcoWorx S® Carpet tile	Taskworx® Carpet tile	Comfort Worx® Carpet tile	EcoWorx™ Resilient (PVC-free)	Competitor Product
United Kingdom	Free of Charge Takeback Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Free of Charge Takeback Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Logistic cost to transport to local SATCoL depot Re-use through SATCOL	Logistic cost to transport to local SATCoL depot Re-use through SATCOL	Free of Charge Takeback Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Logistic cost to transport to local SATCoL depot Re-use through SATCOL
Continental Europe	Free of Charge from local port Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Free of Charge from local port Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Each request reviewed locally	Each request reviewed locally	Free of Charge from local port Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Each request reviewed locally
Middle East & Africa	Free of Charge from local port Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Free of Charge from local port Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Each request reviewed locally	Each request reviewed locally	Free of Charge from local port Closed-Loop Recycled back into Carpet tile	Each request reviewed locally

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