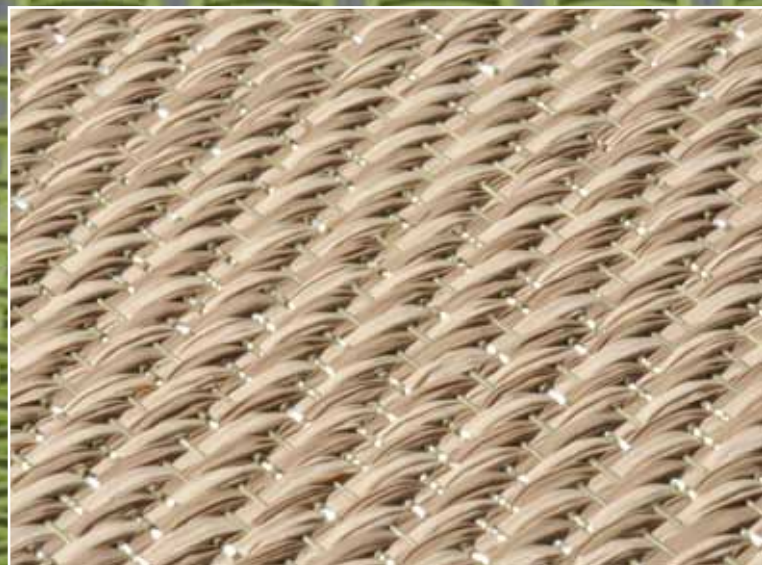
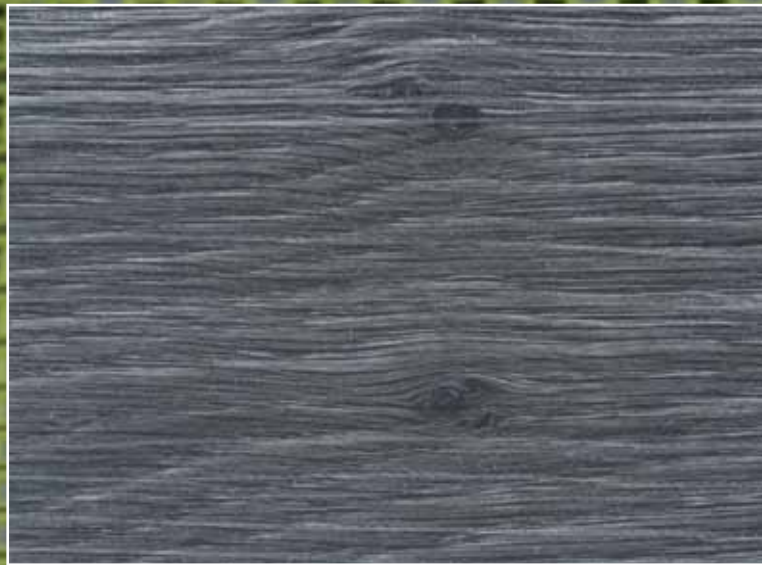


C E N  
T E X  
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# floor covering



POLYMERS | FINISHED PRODUCTS | RECYCLING

## product safety

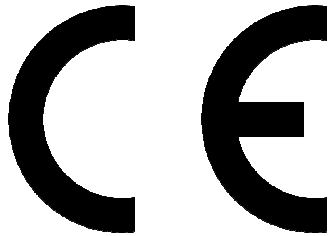
Wall-to-wall (textile, laminate and resilient) floor coverings fall within the scope of building materials and are therefore subject to the **Construction products Directive (89/106/EEC)** issued on December 31, 1988.

As the **Belgian sectoral operator**, Centexbel plays a major role in the European (CEN TC 134) and international (ISO TC 219) Technical Standardisation Committees related to floor covering and tiles.

Centexbel runs a wide range of tests in its **BELAC** accredited laboratories to **ISO 17025**. Upon request, the Centexbel experts provide in-depth comments on the test reports. These comments are based on their vast knowledge of the industry, test methods and classification schemes.

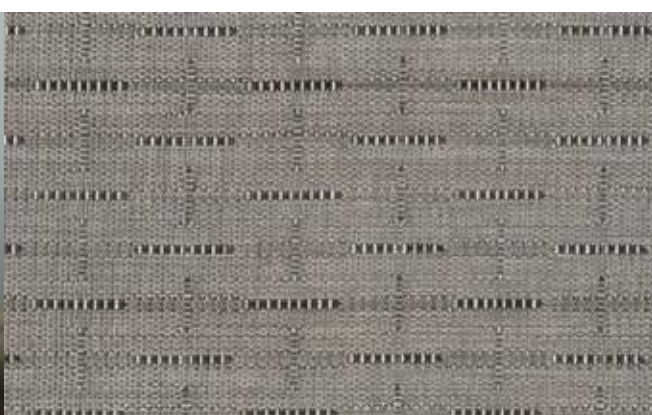
**Product safety** is a key topic in the Centexbel activities related to floor coverings and tiles.

Centexbel advises companies on health & safety related aspects, coating, yarn engineering, acoustics, isolation and production or product related issues. In this respect, Centexbel organises (in-company) training sessions and international conferences, patent search and technology watch.



## testing

- ❖ castor chair suitability
- ❖ determination of changes in appearance
- ❖ resistance to fraying
- ❖ insulation from impact noise  $\Delta L_w$
- ❖ acoustic absorption  $\alpha_w$
- ❖ colour fastness to light, rubbing, water
- ❖ ageing to heat, light and humidity
- ❖ oleophobicity & hydrophobicity
- ❖ soiling & stain release properties
- ❖ body voltage walking test
- ❖ REACH compliance
- ❖ volatile organic compound (VOC) and aldehyde emission
- ❖ microscopic inspection : trouble shooting
- ❖ microbiological tests
- ❖ vertical and horizontal electrical resistance
- ❖ stair suitability
- ❖ thermal resistance
- ❖ dimensional stability, squareness, straightness of tiles
- ❖ odour test of materials
- ❖ classification of reaction to fire



## research & product development

Centexbel favours research and development in the field of eco-friendly, functionalised and smart floor coverings :

- ❖ carpets with incorporated textile sensors<sup>1</sup> (occupant, fall and traffic detection, security)
- ❖ yarn development and characterisation for indoor and outdoor applications
- ❖ catalytic degradation of VOC
- ❖ carpet care and maintenance
- ❖ carpet classification systems
- ❖ Mass Customisation & Personalisation (MCP)
- ❖ use of renewable resources (biopolymers)
- ❖ functionalisation of surfaces and fibres
- ❖ eco-friendly finishing products
- ❖ energy-friendly processes & recycling
- ❖ indoor air quality
- ❖ acoustics
- ❖ prestandard research in objective testing and measuring methods

<sup>1</sup> patent # BE1016609A7 2007-02-06

## certification and classification

As a **Notified Body (#0493)** Centexbel provides full certification services for floor coverings according to the Construction products Directive.

Centexbel's staff members have been actively involved in the standards committees that developed the standard **EN 14041 - Resilient, Textile and Laminate Floor Coverings - Essential Requirements** which is the relevant CE marking standard. As such we are very well placed to provide the CE marking services and appropriate advice to floor covering manufacturers.


Next to mandatory certification activities, Centexbel is a recognized **ECRA** laboratory and accredited by **Prodis/GuT** for the certification of environmental friendly carpets.

Centexbel performs the **classification of textile as well as of resilient floor coverings**.

## services to the industry

- ❖ consultancy on
  - acoustics
  - production & product-related issues ...
- ❖ co-organiser of the World Carpet Congress
- ❖ factory production control (EN 14041) audits
- ❖ (in-company) training
- ❖ semi-industrial application platforms
- ❖ technology watch and patent search
- ❖ standardisation





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YOUR PARTNER IN FLOOR COVERING

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