

ResiLoop, the product stewardship scheme for resilient floorcoverings, has commenced implementation. Initiated by the Australian Resilient Flooring Association (ARFA) in 2022 with funding support from the Australian Government, ResiLoop was designed through stakeholder consultations, collection and reprocessing trials, and manufacturing research and development.

The establishment of the scheme is now being seed-funded by 15 product distributors as Founding Members of ResiLoop Limited. From July 2024, a product levy of 9 cents per square metre of relevant products will be paid by participating distributor members. Relevant products are:

- homogeneous vinyl sheet
- non-textile-backed heterogeneous vinyl (excluding particle-based safety flooring)
- Luxury Vinyl Tiles and
- hybrid or modular vinyl tiles.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

- Over 250 million sqm of resilient floorcoverings are in use across Australia, generating an estimated 60,000 tonnes of waste a year in installation waste and uplifted materials.
- There are currently no significant initiatives or infrastructure to recover and recycle these materials locally and a limited local manufacturing base.
- The Australian Government has committed to reduce materials going to landfill, to encourage recycling onshore and
 to transition to a circular economy by 2030. Since 2021, exports of plastic waste materials, including unused stock,
 are restricted under Australian regulations and the Basel Convention on Transboundary Movement of Plastic Wastes.

WHAT WILL RESILOOP DO?

- Working with supply chain partners, set up collection points, starting in Victoria, then NSW, Queensland and beyond
- Recover installation waste from the relevant sheet products and Luxury Vinyl Tiles and deliver it to recyclers/end manufacturers. Only ResiLoop Members' products will be recovered.
- Research the recycling potential of other product types and uplifted end-of-use material, starting with Hybrid tiles
- Invest in product development, end markets for the recyclate and recycling capability and capacity
- Seek authorisation from the Australian Consumer and Competition Commission (ACCC) to have an agreement to make it obligatory for members to pass through the product levy transparently to customers.
- Measure, monitor and report progress

WHAT WILL RECYCLATE BE USED IN?

- Initially, a new garden edging product designed and developed to consist of 75% recycled resilient floorcovering waste, to be distributed through a major retailer.
- ResiLoop will seek to recover 30-40 tonnes of offcut waste a month





HOW CAN RETAILERS ENGAGE IN THE SCHEME?

- Join the scheme to set up Collection Points at larger stores where high volume layers can be engaged to bring back installation offcuts for collection
 - Collection Points must register with the scheme so that ResiLoop can support their set-up and collections
- If importing directly or distributing products not covered by Founding Members, join the scheme as a Member Participant contributing the levy on these products so they will be included in collections.
- Raise your franchisees' or members' awareness of the scheme communicate about the product levy and advocate for passing on the levy where requested by suppliers
- Support ResiLoop's application to the ACCC during the consultation process

GET INVOLVED:

- Contact sophi.macmillan@arfa.org.au or 0418 380 309
- Talk to your suppliers who have joined the scheme (see below)
- Share communications with your franchisees or members

FOUNDING MEMBERS

Altro APAC Gerflor Australasia Milliken (Australia) Signature Floorcoverings
Amtico International Interface Australia Pegulan Floor Covering Tarkett
Armstrong Flooring Karndean International Polyflor The Andrews Group

Forbo Floorcoverings Kenbrock Shaw Contract Group