

A close-up photograph of vibrant green grass blades, slightly out of focus, creating a soft, natural background. The blades are long and thin, with some showing fine details of their structure.

ulsterTM
www.ulstercarpets.com

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

*How we meet our
environmental
and sustainability
responsibilities*



OUR COMMITMENT

It is the company's policy to provide a sustainable business for future generations. As industry pioneers we continually review our processes to find more efficient and sustainable ways to manufacture luxury carpet.

We are committed to continual improvement, satisfying our customer needs, compliance obligations and maximising the potential of the markets in which we operate.

How do we achieve it?

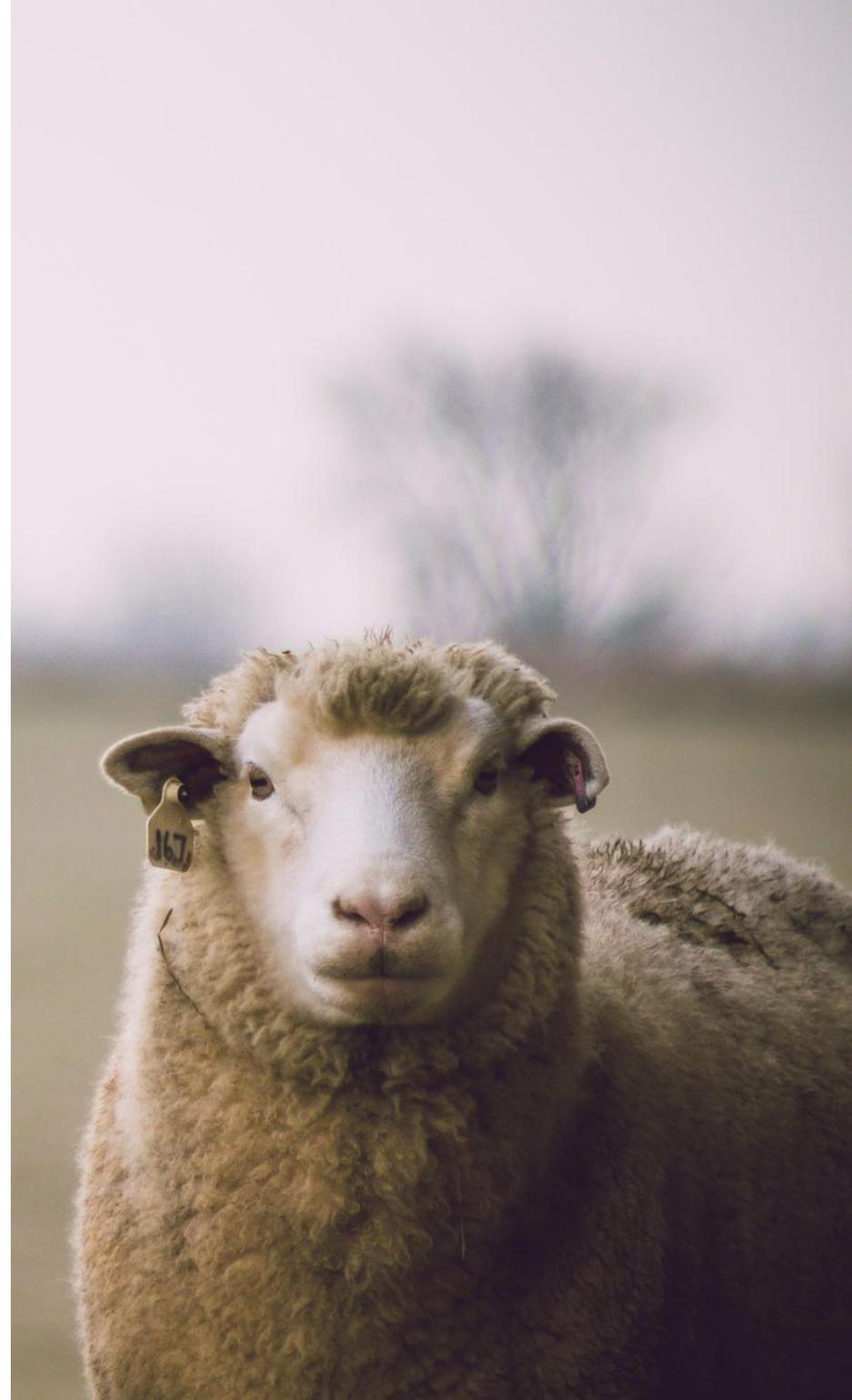
RAPIDLY RENEWABLE MATERIALS

Wool is luxurious and versatile, classed as a rapidly renewable material.

Wool fleece is re-grown in 12 months providing a sustainable supply of high quality raw material.

Ulster uses the best wool sourced from Britain, Ireland & New Zealand.

Naturally stain repellent and easy to maintain a wool rich carpet looks good for longer making it both a durable and sustainable choice.





How do we achieve it?

INNOVATION

As part of an ongoing £40 million capital investment & regeneration project, our newly built dyehouse, with state-of-the-art technology, has facilitated a complete move to package dyeing from hank.

Packaging dyeing uses considerably less water (40%), heat (25%) and chemicals (5-10%) per kilogram of yarn processed.

A new heat exchange system reuses water from the previous cycle to heat the next batch of water. Clean water arrives ready for use at an optimum temperature reducing energy requirements and dye cycle time.

How do we achieve it?

INNOVATION

Much of the water used in the dye process is from Ulster's own borehole, the rest comes from the local town supply. A reduction of 40% in water requirements has minimised usage from the town supply.

A new system allows Ulster to dry the yarn at the optimum temperature and cool the yarn back, without having any effect on the colour. This is completed in under 80 minutes, which has a huge impact on energy saving.

Energy efficient lighting, new boilers, reduced pipe runs and more effective heat exchangers are further measures put in place to decrease Ulster Carpets' carbon footprint.





How do we achieve it?

INNOVATION

The natural characteristics of wool and the inherent qualities of the axminster weaving construction make the perfect combination, providing a clear alternative to man-made substitutes.

These characteristics are harnessed by our patented weaving system, PSYLO™.

Rendering traditional methods obsolete, PSYLO™ enables carpet to be manufactured to a greater degree of design intricacy, with an enhanced spectrum of colour and at an unrivalled level of efficiency – meaning the only limit to a design is your imagination!

How do we achieve it?

WASTE MANAGEMENT

We operate an efficient manufacturing process pairing IT solutions with industry skills and expertise to keep waste to a minimum.

Our goal is to implement the waste hierarchy and operate in-line with Reduce, Reuse, Recycle principles.

We have strategic waste segregation in place which has culminated in the achievement of **100%** post manufacturing waste being diverted from landfill.



100%

*post industrial waste is
diverted from landfill*

40%

*reduction in our demand on
our local water supply*



50%

*reduction in our carbon footprint
& we are committed
to reducing this further*

53%

*rapid renewable material in
an average Ulster contract
specification*

BETTER FOR YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Improved Air Quality

Wool naturally absorbs humidity & Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), producing cleaner, more comfortable living environments.

Thermal Insulation

Carpets do not conduct heat as such, providing good thermal insulation. When compared to carpet, as much as 10-12% of heat could be dissipated with a smooth floor covering.

Anti Allergy

Wool is a natural fibre which is hygienic and non allergenic. Research backs up the ability of wool rich carpets to reduce airborne dust by trapping it in its top layer. The natural filtering effect makes it perfect for people with asthma or allergies.



BETTER FOR YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Flammability

Wool does not easily ignite due to the natural structure of the fibre. It does not melt, drip or release noxious fumes.

Electrostatic Propensity

Our wool rich carpets have lower residual voltage compared to nylon, acrylic and polyester. This is largely a comfort factor but may also be important where electronic machinery is installed.

Resilience

The natural crimp in fibre gives wool extraordinary elasticity. It has the ability to stretch up to 30% of its length and revert to its original form much more readily than any man-made fibre. This ability to reduce crushing minimises colour change and ensures long lasting durability.

Acoustic Performance

The acoustic performance of a room can be significantly improved by the use of a wool rich carpet. Unlike hard floors, wool carpets absorb sound and also reduce the impact noise in a room.

SETTING THE STANDARD

Accredited

ISO 9001:2015 Cert No. FM0087

ISO 14001:2015 Cert No. EMS53967

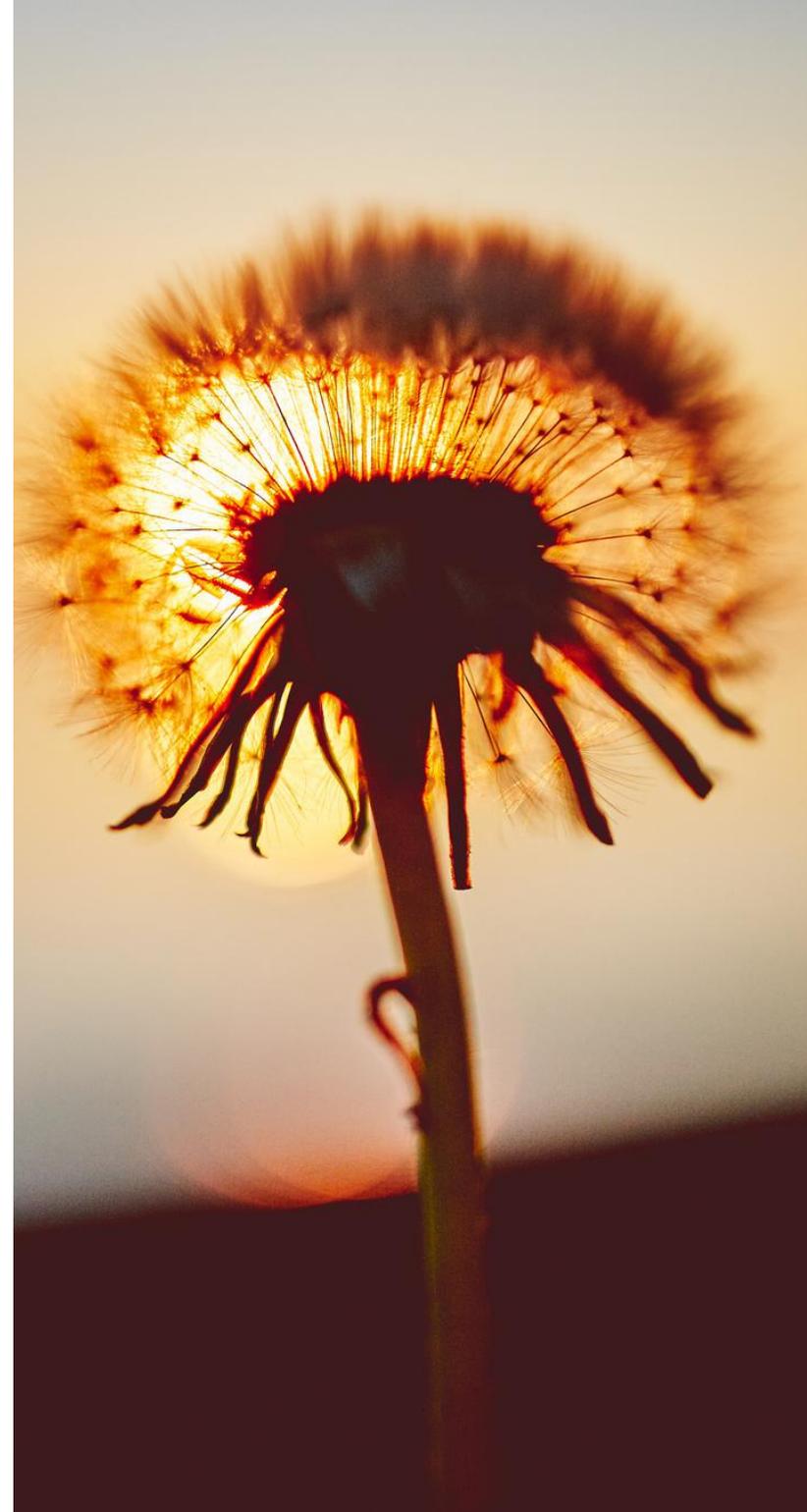
IMO Certified MED-B00006D7 & MED-D000021A

Climate Change

We have entered into a voluntary UK Government Climate Change Agreement and are committed to reducing our energy consumption

Carbon Commitment

We became the first company in Northern Ireland & the first textile manufacturer in the UK to be awarded the Carbon Trust Standard.



SETTING THE STANDARD

Annual Certification to the Green Label Plus program

This enhanced program sets higher standards for IAQ and ensures that the very lowest emitting products are available on the market.

Using scientifically established standards, the Green Label Plus program symbolizes the carpet industry's commitment to creating a better indoor environment.

Holding this certificate means a building can earn credit under LEED, Green Globes, or Green Guide for Health Care using our product.





How do we achieve it?

OUR PRODUCTS

Ulster's carpets are a blend of 80% wool and 20% nylon yarn, combining the softness, comfort and warmth of wool with the hard wearing properties of nylon for optimal performance & longevity.

Our Jute backed products contain 76% rapidly renewable materials while our green poly backing has a minimum of 50% recycled content.

Manufactured in the UK, Ulster has full control over every stage of its processes to consistently create carpet of the highest quality.

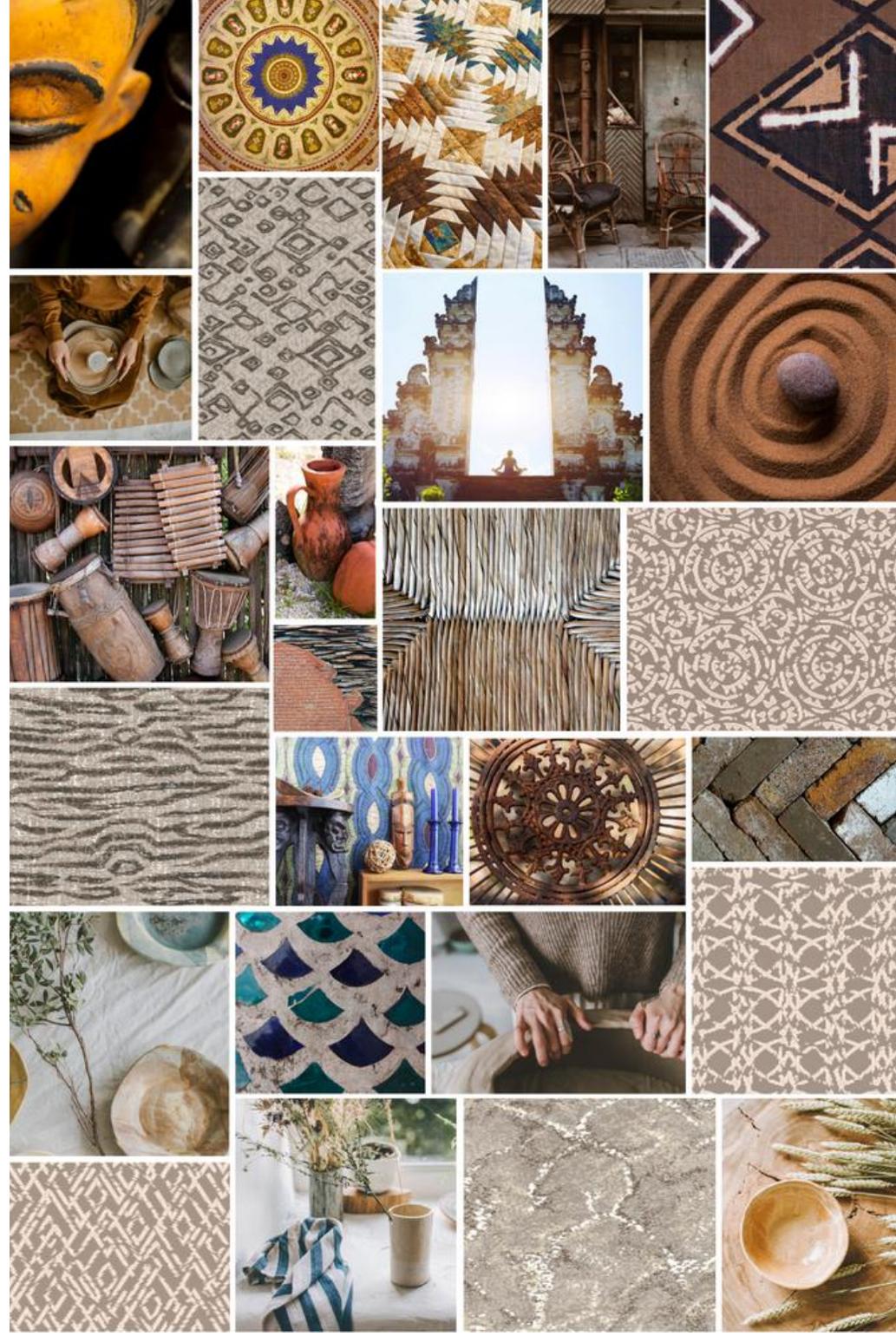
How do we achieve it?

OUR PRODUCTS

Within its axminster offering Ulster has a 100% natural, undyed stocked wool range called Natural Choice.

Developed to minimise the impact on the environment, yet suitable for heavy wear applications, Natural Choice is made by blending high quality wool from different sheep breeds.

Creating a broad colour bank of entirely natural colours, the natural element also permeates the designs, with references to traditional Japanese ceramic & Tibetan designs as well as rock and mineral patterns.





WE'RE NOT STOPPING THERE!

We continue to rethink every aspect of our business to ensure that even a small change can make a big difference. This includes:

The formation of an Environmental Working Group to explore & implement new sustainability strategies.

Research into the use of more green materials in our carpet to enhance their environmental credentials.

Continued investment in new innovative technology to make our manufacturing processes more energy & time efficient.

WE'RE NOT STOPPING THERE!

Ulster recently purchased Axfelt and is developing a Ulster Group Recycling Hub for converting waste carpet into fully sustainable underlay.

Made from 100% recycled materials including old carpets and used rubber tyres Axfelt Triple Layer Underlay is a sustainable product designed to make a contribution to the reduction of carpet currently disposed of in landfill.





for further information contact
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