



Sept-Oct 2009

Stay Tuned:

Nov-Dec Features:
Sustainable wood and
Plumbing Fixtures

Volume 2, Issue 5



NYU Green Room

Certification Criteria:

Climate Cool



Cradle to Cradle



Fair Trade



Energy Star



SCS



Green Guard



LEED



LEEDing by Example

By Giselle Graham -NYU- Purchasing Services

What is a LEED building?

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) realized there was a need for a method to score a building's level of sustainability. According to the USGBC, "Buildings in the United States consume more than 30% of our total energy and 60% of electricity annually. They consume 5 billion gallons of potable (drinking) water per day to flush toilets". LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the USGBC's rating system created to define a guideline for developing high-performance sustainable buildings. Achieving LEED standards is quickly becoming the industry standard for buildings in the US and NYU made a huge step in this direction last year.

The Gallatin School of Individualized Study's @ 715 Broadway in New York is

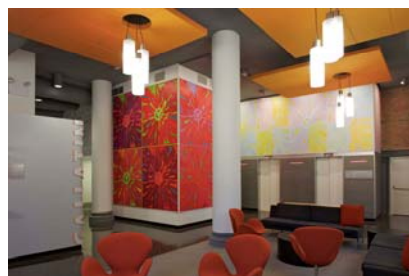
the first school @ NYU to achieve the **Gold** level of certification. This project was a perfect example to show how a project already in progress can still be eligible to apply for LEED certification. It is of course more difficult and time consuming but quite possible. There was a strong team involved in making it all come together. This includes Gallatin's Associate Dean for Finance and Administration-Linda Wheeler Reiss along with Nick Likos, Polshek Partnership Architects LLP., Andrew Zumwalt-Hathaway of Steven Winter Associates (a required independent commissioning authority CxA), NYU's Office of Construction Management (OCM) led by Karina Luci and Purchasing Services' very own Sheila Azarian all contributed to making this a success story. The ideal situation would be

to start the process very early on in the planning and specifying stage of a project. It will ensure maximum potential for certification. The LEED for Commercial Interiors (CI) are awarded according to the following scale: **Certified** 21-26 points; **Silver** 27-31 points, **Gold** 32-41 points and **Platinum** 42-57 points. USGBC recognizes a building that achieves one of these rating levels with a formal letter of certification and a mountable plaque which Gallatin's has proudly hung in their reception lobby for all to appreciate. Just remember, the goal for LEED CI is to create healthful, durable, affordable and environmentally sound interior spaces.

Green Organizations

- Environmental Preferable Purchasing www.epa.gov/epp/
- USGBC- U.S. Green Building Council- www.usgbc.org
- Forest Stewardship Council- www.fsc.org
- NYU-Sustainability- www.nyu.edu/sustainability

Congratulations to Sheila Azarian in NYU's Purchasing Services on becoming **LEED** Accredited this Summer!



Gallatin- Reception Lobby



Gallatin-Street



Gallatin- Reception Lobby

Take it Back and Pay it Forward!

By Giselle Graham –NYU- Purchasing Services

For many years manufacturers have had the right to make a product or packaging that is non-recyclable or not energy efficient while, we the consumers and specifiers, can not hold them responsible to take it back at the end of its useful life. It is ecologically and socially irresponsible.

We have just witnessed the U.S. government and auto industry's response to this similar issue with the recently defunct "Cash for Clunkers" program. This program was created to help consumers buy or lease a more environmentally-friendly vehicle by trading in their old vehicles and receive an allowance rebate towards their new car.

In the furniture and finishes industry there are a few companies that are taking a stand and making a difference. Furniture manufacturers such as Steelcase and Herman Miller are leaders in the industry when it comes to developing environmental programs that aims to minimize life cycle impacts of their products. **Steelcase** has created the Environmental Partnership

Program to help customers determine what to do with unused furniture in the most environmentally way possible. They offer various End-of-Ownership services. They will work with you on a case by case basis to determine if recycling, reselling, donating or refurbishing is best based on the type, quantity and the condition of the furniture.

Furniture manufacturers are not the only ones doing good deeds. **Designtex** offers a fabric sample reclamation program that allows the customer to return samples they no longer need. They will provide a pre-paid UPS label for your convenience.

Crossville tiles has a tile take-back program to help you recycle used tiles. They developed a proprietary system of processing ceramic and porcelain tile back into powder used in manufacturing new tiles. Not only will they be able to repurposed their own scrap tiles, they can take back samples and previously installed tiles too.

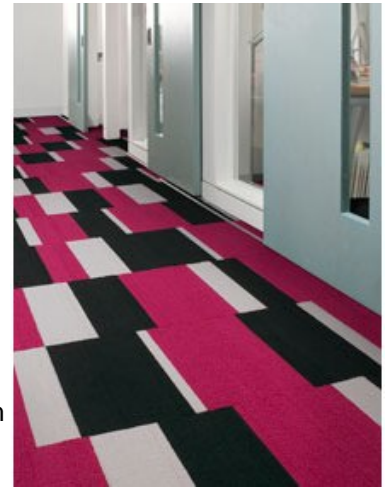
www.crossvilleinc.com.

InterfaceFLOR developed

the ReEntry process. This carpet reclamation program aimed to take back carpets from projects where only Interface products were installed. They launched ReEntry 2.0 in 2007 which can now allow them to reclaim carpet from any source, including other manufacturer's carpet products. They can even reclaim carpet regardless of the face fiber type or backing.

Shaw Contract Group has been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for innovation in carpet recycling. "They can collect more than 90 million pounds annually and their Evergreen Nylon recycling facility represents one-third of the industry's entire carpet recycling capabilities". The EcoWorx backing on tile or broadloom are backed with an Environmental Guarantee. This means that Shaw will transport and recycle your used EcoWorx carpet at no cost to you and will assume the cost to transport to their facility.

These are the times when taking something back feels good!



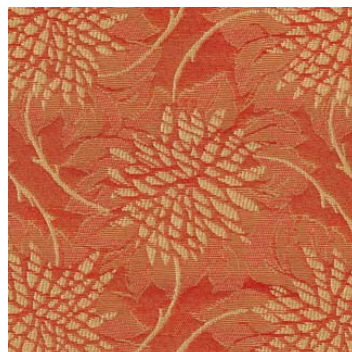
InterfaceFLOR– 6,6 nylon fiber carpet

"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."

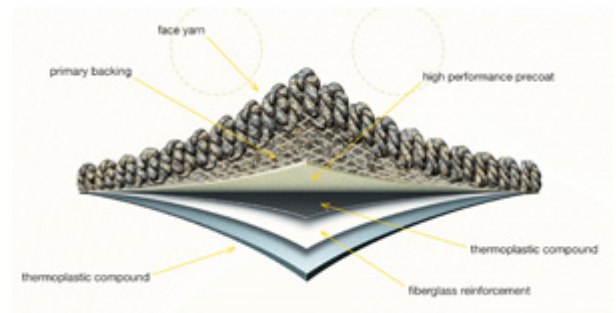
— John Muir



Crossville– EcoCycle Tiles



Designtex-Dahlia Fabric



Shaw Contract Group– EcoWorx backing

Park it Here

By Giselle Graham –NYU- Purchasing Services



Site Design– Cycle Sentry

Did you know that by installing more bike racks at the University you can help get more automobiles off the roads, which in turn reduces the use of fossil fuels and minimizes carbon emissions? Who knew something so simple can reduce energy and have such a great environmental impact.

The design of bike racks have become more stylish yet still sturdy and durable for high trafficked areas. The following rack designs can help accommodate the University’s bike parking needs and promote environmentally responsible practices.

Forms + Surfaces are on the cutting edge of innovative streetscape furniture. Their bike racks are both sleek and functional at the same time. The **Capitol** bike rack has clean and bold lines. The simplicity of its design makes it less obtrusive for pedestrians. The **Bay City** rack is quite the opposite. It is designed to add a visual impact to the environment. It can be

used stand alone or grouped together to create alternating patterns. It has a cast aluminum body with a no-VOC powder coated finish. The **Trio** bike rack is contemporary in its design. It has a subtle triangular shape that can be integrated into any setting. The metal components on all the models are up to 95% recycled content and are fully recyclable.

www.forms-surfaces.com

Secure Site Designs has created a simple circular horseshoe rack called **Cycle Sentry**. It can be installed in-ground or surface mounted. It’s graceful design can add character to any outdoor setting.

www.securesitedesign.com

Last year, New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) in partnership with the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum and the support of Google Inc. and Transportation Alternatives opened an international design competition for new bicycle CityRacks for NYC. The Copenhagen designers- Ian Mahaffy and

Maarten De Greeve produced the winning design called the **“Hoop”**. What’s interesting is that the shape is reminiscent of a bike tire with a horizontal crossbar. It is simple yet elegant and its cast metal construction should withstand the harsh streets of New York.

This rack will be used as the new standard bicycle rack on sidewalks throughout the city. The city is anticipating nearly 5000 racks to be installed over the next three years. Rest assured, your bike parking needs will be met outside of the campus as well.

www.nycityracks.com

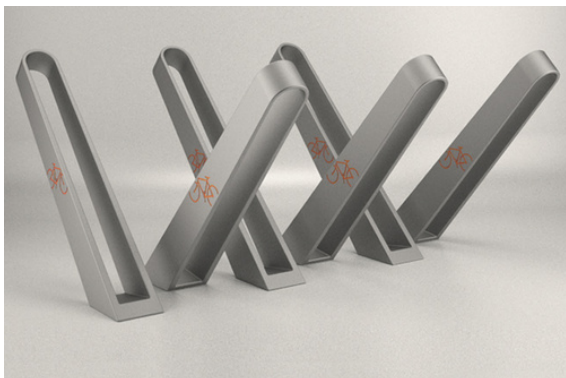
As an added bonus, the DOT offers free sidewalk bicycle parking racks throughout the five boroughs. See link below for locations and more info.

www.nyc.gov

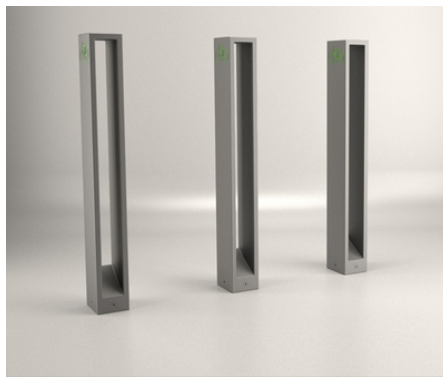
Hopefully, with increased access to secure bike parking, cyclists would be encouraged to commute to work and school much more and protect the environment at the same time.



Hoop-Ian Mahaffy and Maarten De Greeve-Copenhagen



Forms + Surfaces– Bay City



Forms + Surfaces– Capitol



Form + Surface– Trio