

TARKETT NORTH AMERICA

New Tarkett – Mycocycle partnership aims to drive construction industry to zero waste

Companies leverage the power of mushrooms, saying ‘the future is fungi’

SOLON, OH, JUNE 10, 2024 – It’s estimated that construction and demolition account for one-third of the world’s overall waste. As growing landfills continue to elevate carbon emissions and pollute our air, soil and water, it’s imperative that leaders in the built environment innovate sustainable solutions for managing construction waste.

Announced today, Tarkett has formed a partnership with Mycocycle—a Chicago-based, nature-inspired biotech startup that leverages the root structure of mushrooms to break down construction waste. Through Mycocycle’s research and development, mycelia (fungal root structures) have been shown to consume and eliminate toxins from construction waste, producing a natural byproduct that makes an ideal raw material for the built environment and reduces our reliance on virgin raw materials.

“This partnership is rooted in a shared investment in the exponential power of collaboration and innovation,” said Eric Daliere, CEO of Tarkett North America. “Together, we share a commitment to creating a circular economy that protects our natural resources, promotes climate health and sustains every living thing.”

Through this exclusive partnership, Tarkett will work collaboratively with Mycocycle by investing in ongoing research and development. By joining forces, the companies will leverage Tarkett’s well-established ReStart take-back and recycling program as they operationalize alternative waste handling processes that return old flooring to a circular ecosystem. The partners will further test the effects of mycelium on all types of flooring collected through ReStart and explore the resulting byproduct as a central ingredient in new flooring products.

“Because of its legacy and reputation for transparency, its respect for the importance of third-party verification, and its willingness to invest in innovation, it was clear to me that Tarkett



From left: Arnaud Marquis, sustainability officer, Tarkett Group; Fabrice Barthelemy, chief executive officer, Tarkett Group; Joanne Rodriguez, founder, Mycocycle; Roxane Spears, vice president of sustainability, Tarkett North America; Eric Daliere, chief executive officer, Tarkett North America.

walks the talk. That was important to me,” Mycocycle Founder Joanne Rodriguez said. “My passion for this work—to remediate waste using Mother Nature’s tools—met its match in Tarkett and its people. They are all serious about sustainability and saving our planet.”

Last year in North America alone, Tarkett successfully diverted an estimated 1.5 million pounds (690 t) of post-use flooring to recycling, both in house and with external recycling partners. Through its partnership with Mycocycle and other innovative strategies, the company is on track to at least double that number in 2024.

A Partnership for Our Shared Future

The partnership between Tarkett and Mycocycle provides a new path to a circular economy by reducing waste, preserving virgin resources, and transforming old flooring into new biobased material.

“From this moment forward, we’ll never aim for anything less than zero waste,” said Roxane Spears, vice president of sustainability for Tarkett North America. “Collaborating with like-minded people working toward the same goal is the only way our world is going to solve global sustainability issues. This revolutionary partnership could change the game for commercial flooring waste handling for the entire industry, not to mention the planet. This is the future. The future is fungi.”

To follow along with Tarkett’s progress, visit commercial.tarkett.com/restart/innovation.

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About Tarkett

With a 140-year history, Tarkett is a worldwide leader in innovative and durable flooring and sports surface solutions, generating net sales of 3.4 billion euros in 2023. The Group has around 12,000 employees, 23 R&D centres, 8 recycling centres and 34 production sites. Tarkett designs and manufactures solutions for hospitals, schools, housing, hotels, offices, shops and sports fields, serving customers in more than 100 countries. To build “The Way to Better Floors”, the Group is committed to the circular economy and sustainable development, in line with its Tarkett Human-Conscious Design® approach. Tarkett is listed on the Euronext regulated market (compartment B, ISIN: FR0004188670, ticker: TKTT). www.tarkett-group.com

Every Step Matters

For years, Tarkett has raised the sustainability standards of the flooring industry. The company designs floors with transparency you can trust as it creates healthy impacts on indoor spaces and protects our air, water, soil, and every living thing. Tarkett’s ReStart® take-back and recycling program will either repurpose or recycle every type of flooring from any manufacturer. Its near-term science-based carbon emissions reduction targets have been validated by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) and are fully aligned with the Paris Climate Agreement objective to limit global warming by 1.5 degrees Celsius. For more information, visit commercial.tarkett.com/sustainability.

About Mycocycle

Mycocycle, Inc. is a nature-inspired and woman-owned biotechnology startup that leverages fungi to transform industrial waste into reusable materials. Founded in 2018, the company is on a mission to drive circularity in the construction supply chain and divert waste from landfills with its innovative solution. Mycocycle blends lab-cultivated fungi with debris at the point of waste generation to detoxify hard-to-recycle building materials and turn them into new raw materials. Its customers include companies across the waste management, recycling, and manufacturing industries, as well as companies focused on reducing Scope 3 emissions.

Tarkett North America Media Contacts

Melissa Peterson
Miller Brooks

(317) 873-8100
melissa@millerbrooks.com