

LIFE CYCLE~ from bottles to fabric

Plastic PET containers are picked up at community recycling centers, then sorted by type and color.

They are stripped of their labels and caps, washed, and crushed, then chopped into flake.

The flake is melted and extruded to create fiber. The fiber is crimped, cut, drawn and stretched into desired length for strength, then baled.

The baled fiber can be processed into fabric for a variety of textile product end uses.

eco-fi



In today's world, more and more people are concerned about the environment. With so many disposable products on the market, it's no wonder eco-friendly products have become such a hot topic. From manufacturers to consumers, there are several ways to help preserve the environment. Foss Manufacturing has changed the way in which it produces its polyester fiber and fabrics by making textiles from recycled materials. Consumers are faced with many choices when it comes to which products to buy. Our hope is that consumers think responsibly and buy products made from recycled materials, like Eco-fi™.

FACTS:

- Two million plastic bottles are used in the U.S. every ten minutes and 51 billion plastic bottles go into landfills annually.
- The 51 billion plastic bottles in U.S. landfills end-to-end would wrap around the earth 5 times.
- It will take 700 years before plastic bottles in landfills start to decompose.
- Less than 30% of plastic bottles in the U.S. are actually recycled.
- Currently only 11 U.S. states have bottle deposit.

WHAT IS ECO-FI?

Eco-fi is a high-quality polyester fiber made from 100% certified recycled plastic PET bottles. It can be made into any textile product such as clothing, blankets, carpets, wall coverings, auto interiors, home furnishings, and craft felt. Eco-fi can also be blended with other fibers, such as cotton or wool, for enhanced qualities.

AN EASY GUIDE:

10 bottles = 1 pound of fiber

*approximate due to variation in size and thickness of bottles

WHY BUY ECO-FI PRODUCTS?

We have the capacity to keep billions of plastic PET bottles out of the world's landfills each year by using post-consumer plastic bottles instead of virgin materials in the fiber manufacturing process. By doing this, we can lower harmful air emissions and save millions of barrels of oil from being used which, in turn, reduces the harmful effects of acid rain, global warming, and smog.

Fabrics made from Eco-fi fiber are chemically and functionally nearly identical to those made from non-recycled fiber. The difference is that Eco-fi fiber is made without depleting the Earth's natural resources. With properties such as strength, softness, shrinkage-resistance, and colorfastness, market applications for Eco-fi are expanding every day.

Leading manufacturers have given their endorsement to Eco-fi as the fiber of choice for delivering exceptional technical qualities to their products. Our supply of recycled PET is received with product certification and specification test data. This ensures the criteria for 100% recycled PET and the quality level of the material are met. Supplier certifications are available upon request.



*It's our world. Take care of it.
It's the only one we have.*

HOW MANY BOTTLES?

Here are some examples of products made from Eco-fi and the number of plastic bottles each saves from landfills.



6' x 8'
Indoor/Outdoor Carpet* =
48 bottles



Sweatshirt* =
17 bottles



Exhibit/Display* =
80 bottles



Back Seat of Car* =
90 bottles

*Bottle counts are approximate due to variation in size and thickness of bottles recycled and size of the finished product.

ABOUT HYTEX

Hytex Industries, Inc., located in Randolph, MA has been a manufacturer of decorative textiles for nearly 50 years. Hytex Industries is committed to providing environmentally-sensitive products to the commercial interiors market.

All Hytex woven and needlepunch fabrics are produced with no PVC (polyvinyl chloride) or chlorene, no VOC's (volatile organic compounds) or plasticizers, no ODS's (ozone depleting substances), heavy metals, or formaldehyde.

Although extremely durable and suitable for high traffic installations, all Hytex fabrics are also breathable, helping to reduce mold and mildew on and within walls by not acting as a moisture barrier. Permeability ratings range from 94.5 for our Eco-fi polyester needlepunch nonwovens to 114.6 for our latex-backed woven olefins. For more information, visit us at www.hytex.com.

eco-fi

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Mixed Sources

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forests, controlled sources and
recycled wood or fiber
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**Reclaim.
recycle.
RENEW.**



The high-quality polyester fiber made from 100%
post-consumer recycled
plastic bottles.