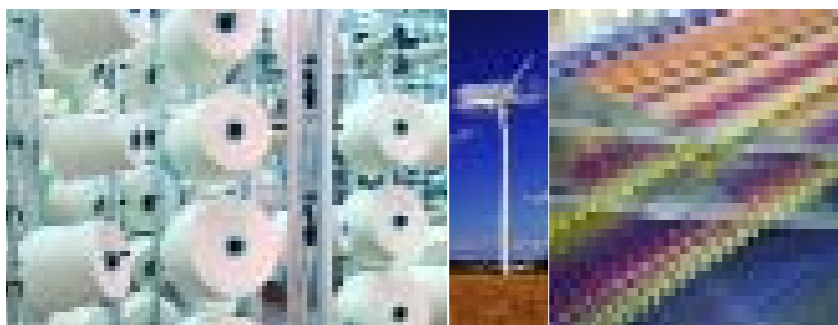


environmental management

Second Nature fabrics embody the heart and soul of environmental design, yet they're also a symbol of our wider commitment to environmental best practice throughout our organisation. We're accredited to ISO 14001 and are members of the Furniture Industry Sustainability Programme (FISP). We're focused on waste elimination, re-use and recycling, targeting zero landfill by 2012. We've invested in energy efficient high speed air jet looms and modern compressed air management systems. Our finishing plant uses surface water from the Pennine hills and trade effluent is well within consent limits and getting cleaner all the time. And our influence extends beyond Camira into our supply base, market channels and local community to ensure environmental sourcing and sustainable outreach.



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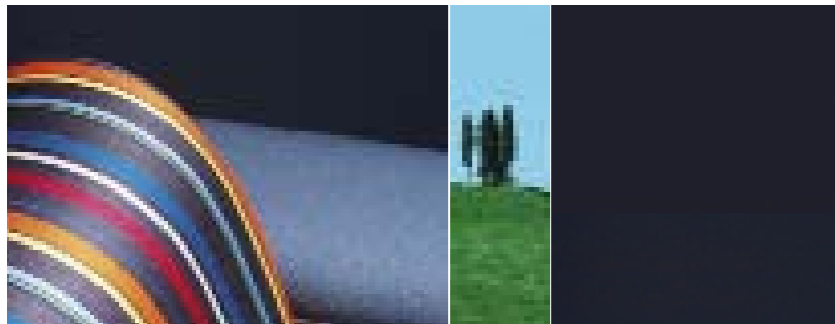

 **second nature™** - environmental fabrics
sustainability is Second Nature

where did it all start

We love making fabrics. Not just any old fabrics. We make the most environmentally sustainable contract fabrics in the world. We've given them a trademarked brand name called Second Nature. It seems to fit just perfectly.

We were one of the first adopters of ISO 14001 way back in 1996. We'd been using natural borehole water for wool scouring since 1995. And our first environmental textiles were miles ahead of their time... First came Ecollection, a wool story using environmental non-metallic dyestuffs, quickly followed by ReSKU®, an innovative recycled wool upholstery fabric made from old army jumpers from the Ministry of Defence. Then came recycled polyester panel fabrics, culminating in the re-engineering of our best selling Lucia range - to use 100% recycled polyester - bringing environmental textiles into the mainstream.

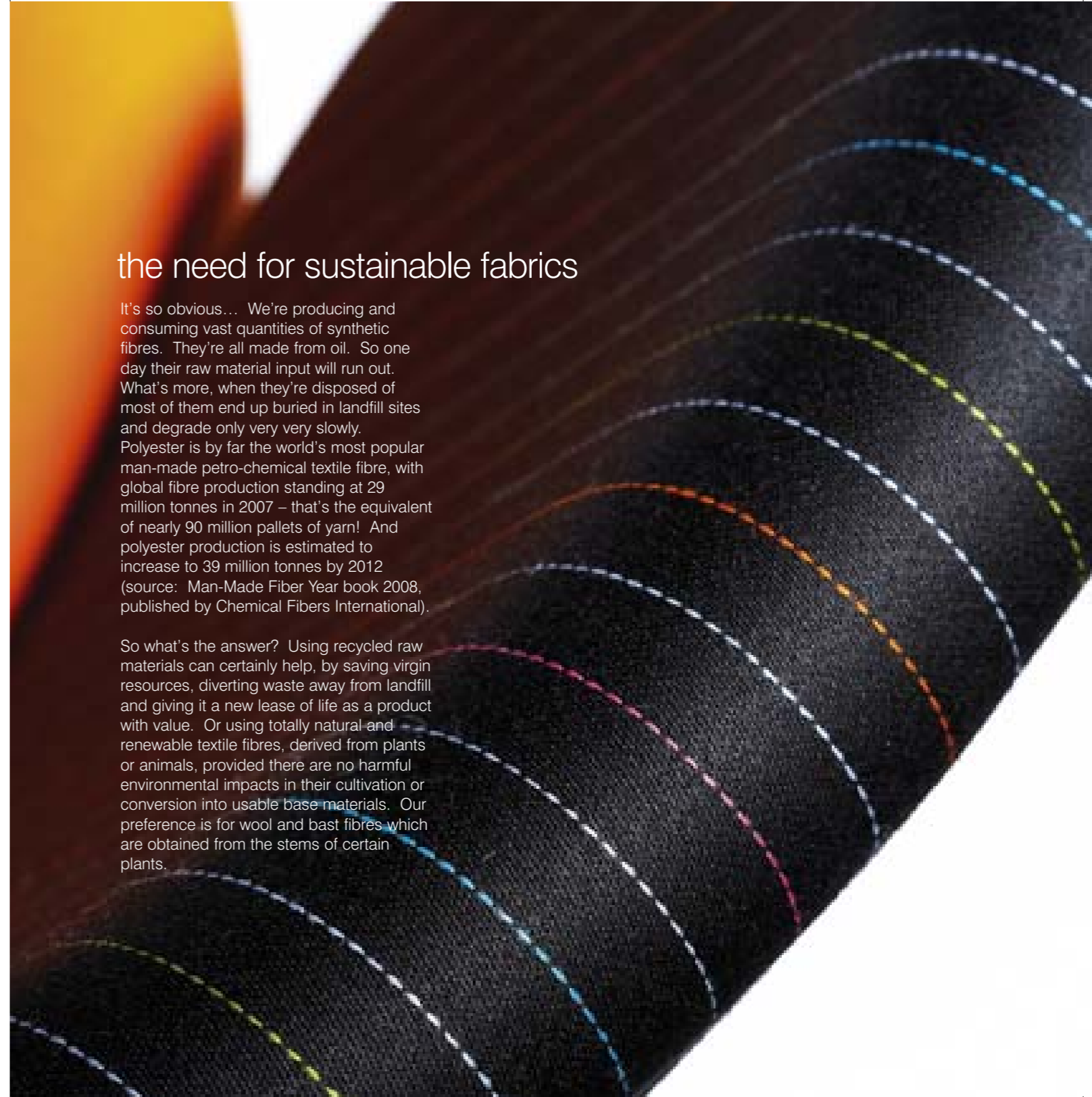
We've now got Second Nature, the easy to recognise label which is our promise of environmental well-being in contract fabrics across specific environmental categories.



the need for sustainable fabrics

It's so obvious... We're producing and consuming vast quantities of synthetic fibres. They're all made from oil. So one day their raw material input will run out. What's more, when they're disposed of most of them end up buried in landfill sites and degrade only very very slowly. Polyester is by far the world's most popular man-made petro-chemical textile fibre, with global fibre production standing at 29 million tonnes in 2007 – that's the equivalent of nearly 90 million pallets of yarn! And polyester production is estimated to increase to 39 million tonnes by 2012 (source: Man-Made Fiber Year book 2008, published by Chemical Fibers International).

So what's the answer? Using recycled raw materials can certainly help, by saving virgin resources, diverting waste away from landfill and giving it a new lease of life as a product with value. Or using totally natural and renewable textile fibres, derived from plants or animals, provided there are no harmful environmental impacts in their cultivation or conversion into usable base materials. Our preference is for wool and bast fibres which are obtained from the stems of certain plants.



● second nature recycled



We're all learning to recycle more rather than throwing things away. After all, there is no "away", as these things have to go somewhere, usually to landfill. We've been avoiding landfill accumulation by using waste products as a basis for making recycled fabrics for over 10 years; we now offer several recycled polyesters and a recycled eco-leather.



Recycled polyester

Polyester is made by reacting two petro-chemicals together, ethylene glycol and dimethyl naphtalate, to create polyethylene terephthalate (PET). It's the same material used to make plastic drinks bottles which are produced and discarded in massive volumes. Allied to this post-consumer waste is a mass of post-industrial waste created by manufacturers before their PET products ever get to consumers. We've used both types, from different suppliers, to make recycled polyester fabrics, removing the need to drill, refine and transport crude oil, separating it into petro-chemicals and adding other additives to turn it into the fibre we can weave. Instead we've chosen to re-use materials - already made from precious natural resources - which can be turned back into polyester fibre more easily than starting afresh from oil.

Life cycle assessment conclusively demonstrates that fabrics manufactured from 100% recycled polyester have significantly less environmental impact than those manufactured from virgin polyester. Here are just some of the improvements (Source: Interface Research Corporation 2002):

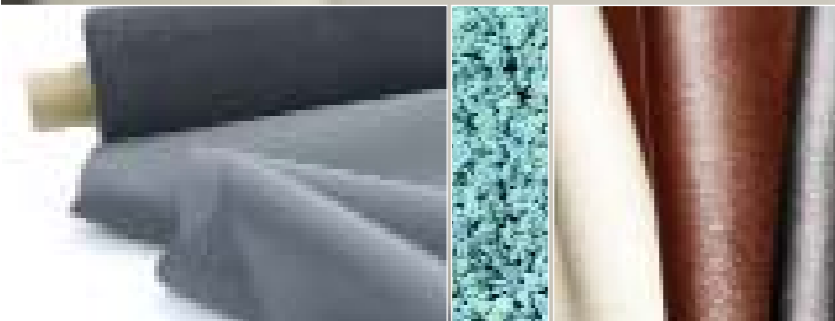
- Embodied energy - 66% improvement
- Ozone depletion potential - 64% improvement
- Global warming potential - 46% improvement
- Acidification potential - 25% improvement
- Water used - 27% improvement

The Camira EasyFit product is not only made from recycled polyester, it's also knitted into a conveniently shaped seat cover which is quick and easy to upholster without creating any additional cutting waste.



recycled leather fibre

Leather is a by-product of the meat industry, produced from animal hides which undergo many processes to convert them into the high value, durable and stylish material we know as genuine leather. Leather processing is associated with the generation of large amounts of both liquid and solid waste including "wet blue" shavings and trimmings which normally go to landfill. Now an innovative new manufacturing process can upgrade these waste trimmings, through fiberisation and hydro-entanglement, into an eco-leather upholstery made into a roll – making it easy to handle and easy to upholster and further reducing downstream cutting waste.

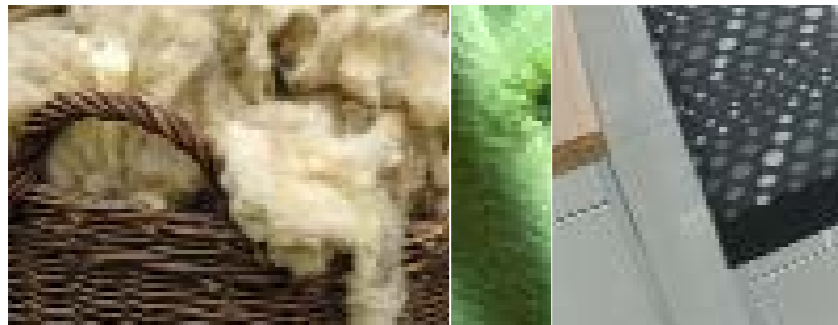


● second nature renewable & compostable

Recycling should be encouraged, but it's really just one strand of what must be a wider approach to sustainability. After all, it would be far better if we hadn't created the waste in the first place and weren't depleting finite resources. We get round these problems by using renewable raw materials whose supply is replenished to allow us to replace what we take and make. Renewable fibres include nature's most well-known environmental textile, pure new wool, and bast fibres from plants such as nettles and hemp. Because they're protein or plant based, they will decompose fully for back to earth compostability.

pure new wool

Wool is a proven textile fibre with genetically in-built high performance attributes which has evolved from nature over thousands of years. We use New Zealand sourced wool not just for its superb softness, whiteness and handle, but because it benefits from stringent farming practices in a clean, green and unpolluted environment. Transporting wool tops half way around the world by boat actually uses less energy than a 500km journey by road. And wool takes the least energy consumption of all the major fibre groups to convert it from raw material state to usable textile fibre. Its biodegradability is confirmed by BS 6085 : 1992 which shows how it decomposes in less than 28 days under specific temperature and relative humidity conditions.



bast fibres

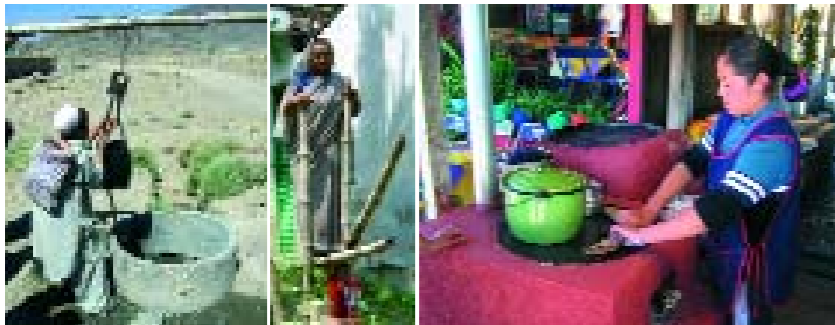
In bast fibre plants, the fibres which are spun into yarn come from the stems of the plant just inside the bark, rather than the flower as in cotton. They're sown either from seed or cuttings, grown as an agricultural crop and harvested once a year. Our most sustainable fabric ever is a unique blend of pure new wool and nettle fibre, creating an unrivalled environmental profile with inherent fire retardancy. We're also developing textiles from hemp, which shares the same easy and quick growing characteristics as nettles without the need for pesticides and herbicides to keep them free from disease. In both cases the fibres are extracted using an environmentally preferable mechanical decortication process instead of separating them from the woody core by soaking them in chemicals or water. They can be used on their own, but are the perfect accompaniment to pure new wool.



● second nature
climate neutral



We introduced our first CO² offset fabrics in response to customers launching carbon neutral furniture and wanting fabrics to match. We'd already been offsetting employee air travel and inter-site product movements for years and still think it's a good thing alongside proper environmental management programmes. For us it's certainly never been a "get out of jail free card"!



how offsetting works

We only offset high content pure new wool fabrics and have analysed their CO² footprint from raw fleece to finished fabric, including all processes and transportation in between. The 5.2kg CO² created for every metre of fabric is then offset by investing in projects managed by Climate Care, one of the world's leading emissions reduction companies who focus on replacing fuel-hungry inefficient technologies with low carbon efficient technologies in developing countries. Not only does this reduce emissions, it helps spread the adoption of low carbon technologies and improves the quality of life for communities and individuals alike.

