

Interface Case Study GoldPower

Case Interface Inc: Leading carpet manufacturer meets sustainability goals with renewable energy from GoldPower

This case study explores Interface Inc.'s quest to source renewable energy globally. By choosing South Pole Group's GoldPower renewable energy solution, Interface has been able to operationalise their sustainability goals, better engage with their stakeholders, and help transform the way the world creates electricity.

The context

Interface has a strong sustainability focus and commitments that stem from their founder's vision for a company that is in complete harmony with the environment. The company's founder, Ray Anderson, wanted Interface to "be the first company that, by its deeds, shows the entire world what sustainability is in all its dimensions: people, process, product, place and profits - and in doing so, become restorative through the power of influence."

The brief

Interface is committed to improving energy efficiency and sourcing renewable energy globally whenever possible. The company needed a trusted partner to help operationalise their goals in different markets - taking into account their factories in Thailand and China.

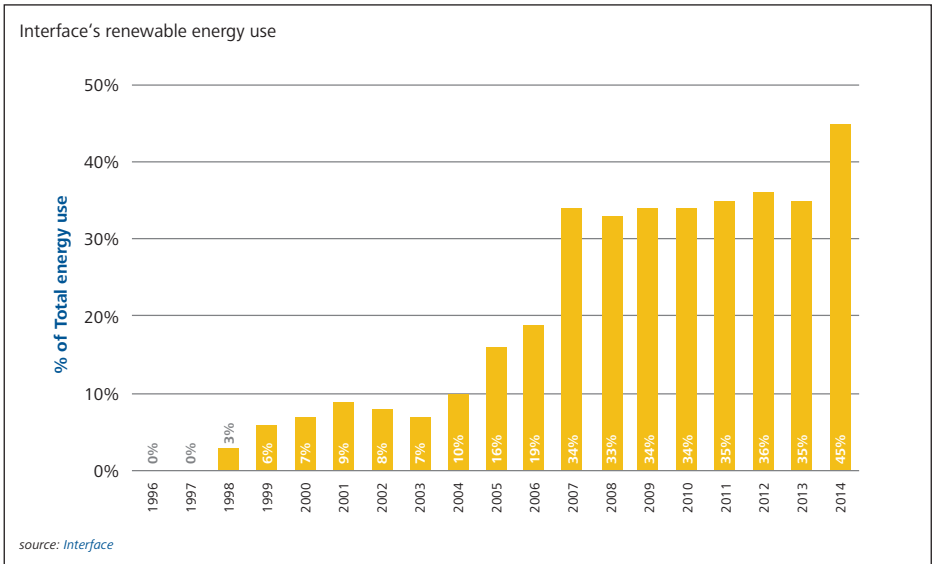


The challenge

As a global company, Interface has seven factories around the world with differing energy sources. Thus the development of a holistic strategy to source renewable energies required a dynamic partner who could adjust to changing environments and had an in-depth understanding of global markets.

About the client

Interface is a global leader in the design and production of carpet tiles. Its products combine beauty and innovation with functionality and environmental credentials to help customers bring their design vision to life. The company was one of the first ones to publicly commit to sustainability, when it made a pledge in the mid-nineties to eliminate its impact on the environment by 2020. Known as Mission Zero®, the pledge influences every aspect of the business and inspires the company to continually push the boundaries in order to achieve its goal. Interface is now more than halfway to reaching Mission Zero and has been widely recognised for its achievements to date. Its products have also achieved several awards, specifically for design and innovation, one of the most recent being The Athenaeum Good Design Award for World Textiles.



The process

Interface conducted market research when looking for a partner to further help them in purchasing renewable energy for their factories in Asia. After comparing alternative solutions, the company decided to continue their sustainability journey with us at South Pole Group.

The solution

Interface chose GoldPower, the world's first global renewable energy label, to support them in their quest to better source renewable energy. Developed by our Australian subsidiary Climate Friendly, GoldPower was uniquely positioned to provide renewable energy for Interface in challenging markets, and our global South Pole Group team was able to support the company's local teams in regional facilities.

"We are a global corporation with a demanding set of requirements for our renewable energy sourcing and carbon offsets. We are happy with the way South Pole Group accompanies us on our mission to become a more sustainable company."

Buddy Hay

Assistant Vice President, Sustainable Strategies,
Interface Inc.



GoldPower micro run-of-river hydro project in China

Key benefits

A reliable partner: Our South Pole Group team is a global one – our local offices in, for example, China and Australia, are able to support the local Interface teams to better understand their options regarding renewable energy and energy efficiency.

A global solution: GoldPower, our renewable energy product, not only ensures the highest quality renewable energy for Interface but has real, positive impacts on communities and the environment in developing countries. It also offers one globally consistent standard regardless of where operations are located, thus covering the supply of renewable energy to Interface's factories in, for instance, Thailand.

Enhanced stakeholder communication: Interface has been able to communicate with their clients, employees and government stakeholders about the benefits created by choosing GoldPower - transforming the way the world creates electricity while positively impacting the lives of communities in developing countries.

Competitive pricing: Interface found the ideal solution to support their efforts at a competitive price.

What is GoldPower?

GoldPower is the world's first global renewable energy label. It is geared towards leading businesses who want to demonstrate their commitment to a sustainable energy future.

GoldPower comes from grid-connected renewable electricity projects in a large number of countries. It guarantees that each renewable energy purchase provides truly additional reductions in carbon emissions as well as delivering significant, verified environmental, social and economic benefits to the local community. These benefits can include health clinics, employment and education for local people, as well as new infrastructure such as power supply and roads.

GoldPower solar project in China



Why work with us

Global team

We are a truly global provider of sustainability solutions and services. Our team is made up of over 130 skilled and enthusiastic professionals from over 20 different countries, based in offices spanning 6 continents.

Proven impact

Since 2006, we have measured the climate impact of countless companies and products worldwide. We have screened USD 200 bn+ of investments for their climate impact and we have developed 400 projects in renewables, forestry, agriculture, industry and households. Through our efforts, 50 million tonnes of CO₂ have been saved, almost as much as the annual CO₂ emissions of the country of Portugal. We have enabled the production of 35,000 GWh of renewable energy (more than the annual electricity consumption of the country of Denmark), and mobilised over USD 6 bn for clean energy investments in emerging markets. In total, our projects have helped create almost 20,000 jobs in developing countries; this roughly corresponds to the number of employees of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). We have also saved 55,000 hectares of forest from deforestation, about the size of 77,000 soccer pitches.

Added value

We help you grow with groundbreaking solutions that benefit your business, the environment and society.