

challenges



ParaStars

Talent in the spotlights. Read how 6 Paralympic top athletes set new standards in their sports.

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Megatrends

Descol's sustainable initiatives make positive contributions to challenges we face worldwide.

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A green inheritance

John Mills, General Manager of the Olympic Oval, explains how they looked beyond the Olympic Games when building the Oval.

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Leeuwarden Knowledge Campus

A practical example of a joint effort to accomplish a sustainable and pioneering project.

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Sustainable

Descol's 4 talents

People, Planet, Prosperity and Pulastic



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Remo van der Wilt,
General Manager

Sustainability, a challenging course

Proudly we present the new issue of Descol Challenges, on the theme of 'sustainability'. For many readers, this may be new territory, but for Descol it has become daily practice. For us, sustainability and social involvement are not passing trends, but the standard for entrepreneurship in the 21st century. That is what we would like to elaborate on in this magazine.

For me personally, sustainability is 'the art of staying'. I want to live my life in such a way that there will still be an environment for my daughter, in which she can do the same. To ensure this, the world is facing great challenges. How am I going to help? I not only want to hand on the baton at full speed, I also have to make sure that the baton is clean, carryable and transferable... and stays that way. Future generations expect us to deal with our surroundings, the continuity of society and the environment in a sustainable manner. They will hold us accountable for that!

We want to be critical of our own internal management; for this, we have initiated the 'Green Business' working group within Descol. Within our core activity 'sports', we also want to actively contribute to make good education, sports and games available to everyone in our global society. We are therefore constantly searching for ways to take achievable steps to shape our social responsibility. Our ambition is to provide competitive products and services that meet the needs of people and add quality to life. At the same time, we are gradually reducing the burden on the environment and the use of raw materials and energy to a level that is in balance with the earth's capacity.

We are proud to be the first enterprise in the industry to be certified according to the 'MVO Prestatieladder' (CSR Performance Ladder), inspired by the ISO 26000 standard. A great complement to the ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and VCA** certificates that we have had for years. Descol is a company that demonstrably meets the requirements of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and makes conscious choices to achieve an optimal balance between people, planet and prosperity.

Together we now need to set the course for tomorrow's sustainable world. Do you feel challenged? We welcome you on board and invite you to join us and help create a clean, green and viable earth for future generations.

Remo van der Wilt, General Manager



Conscious choices for a sustainable future

Descol accepts its social responsibility

People, Planet and Profit were the 3 Ps that constituted the basis of projects in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and sustainability. But ‘Profit’ no longer felt the right word for what we were trying to achieve. During a World Summit on sustainable development, the P for Profit was changed to ‘Prosperity’. So that businesses - in addition to making an economic profit - also included social returns in their management decisions and considerations.

Descol's policy is of course focused primarily on being profitable. We aim at new market opportunities, growth and innovation. But the profits we make, do not just serve the continuity of the business. We see it as our moral duty to make an active and sustainable contribution towards a better world. CSR offers many opportunities and challenges to do so. We see it as the standard for entrepreneurship in the 21st century.

CSR principles Descol takes responsibility. Sustainability is in our DNA. We want to engage in a dialogue with stakeholders around us and in the production chain. CSR is embedded in all our business processes and we work according to CSR principles in the field of ethical behaviour, respecting stakeholder interests, international standards of behaviour and human rights. Obviously, we also comply with laws and regulations. Descol is continuously monitoring its activities and behaviour in order to meet requirements and to find ways to improve the welfare of the organisation, personnel, the environment and society. This is how we actively fulfil our social responsibility.

Socially involved too In addition to Corporate Social Responsibility, Descol also takes Corporate Social Involvement (CSI) very seriously. CSI is part of CSR and is regarded as a practical, local implementation of CSR. CSI goes beyond legal obligations and should provide added value to all parties concerned. CSI is

about finding a sustainable balance between economic and social interests, linked to our social mission and vision. Descol supports many local, regional and international projects and objectives, thus showing both responsible and involved entrepreneurship.

CSR Performance Ladder, measuring is knowing For Descol, sustainability is a continuous process. We are working hard on this and want to be able to measure whether our efforts have results. For every business decision we take, we weigh up the interests of the various stakeholders: the interests of people, businesses and organisations involved. We have aligned our policies with the CSR Performance Ladder. The CSR Performance Ladder, the principle certification standard for Corporate Social Responsibility, meets our need to demonstrate sustainable developments specifically and objectively, based on our social involvement. The CSR Performance Ladder is based on the principles laid down in the international guidelines for sustainability (ISO 26000), stakeholder management (AA1000) and indicators and reports (GRI). The standard was set up in such a way that it can be applied internationally. Certification and assessment of Descol's management system was carried out by DEKRA. Descol was the first sports floor company to achieve the CSR Performance Ladder certificate level 3, inspired on ISO 26000.

Want to know more about the CSR Performance Ladder?
Visit www.mvoprestatieladder.nl/doc/CSRPerformanceladder



Measurable and recognised The CSR certificate is objective proof that Descol has a management system for Corporate Social Responsibility, in which the stakeholders' requirements and expectations are managed by result. Remo van der Wilt explains, 'Descol sees this certification as a confirmation of its long-term commitment to social and sustainable entrepreneurship.' 'We have been working for years as a socially responsible entrepreneur, but with this certificate we can make it both more measurable and recognisable. This has great importance, especially for those customers who strive for sustainable purchasing policies within their chains, including government and other sustainable enterprises.'

People, Planet, Prosperity, Pulastic® CSR is not a destination but a journey. A challenging trip towards a sustainable future, in which there is an increasingly positive balance between people, society and environment. To achieve effective solutions, involvement and effort throughout the chain is required. Only then we can make a real difference together. That is why Descol is actively engaging in a dialogue with its stakeholders: customers, suppliers, employees and its surroundings. Together we can create the conditions for a sustainable future. In this issue of Challenges, we will tell you how we take up the challenge to become a socially responsible entrepreneur. Using People, Planet and Prosperity as points of departure, supplemented with our own fourth P: Pulastic®.

Presentation of CSR certificate

Descol's General Manager Remo van der Wilt received the CSR certificate from former tennis player Richard Krajicek, in the presence of Patrick Brom from DEKRA on 3 October 2011. The same day, Descol also signed a partnership agreement with the Richard Krajicek Foundation (RKF). The venue was Hotel Huis ter Duin in Noordwijk, the Netherlands. Like the RKF, Descol wants to invest in young talent. We fully support the RKF's mission: 'To stimulate sports activities, in a socially safe environment, for youths in areas where possibilities are limited'.

From left to right: Richard Krajicek, Remo van der Wilt and Patrick Brom.



people

Connecting people makes society more sustainable



Paralympic athletes show themselves!

Descol SuperFan of ParaStars!

Six Paralympic top athletes want to raise their sports to a higher level. They themselves experience that disabled sports gets too little attention. That needs to change. That is why the six have formed a team, so they can support, complement and learn from each other and pass on passion and knowledge to the rest of the world. Descol warmly supports this initiative and has made all 85 employees ParaStars fans.

The stars Esther Vergeer, the world's best wheelchair tennis player for years, put together a celebrity team consisting of Marije Smits (athletics), Barend Kol (sailing), Anna Jochemsen (skiing), Mike van der Zanden (swimming) and Ronald Hertog (athletics). ParaStars is the first team of disabled athletes in the world to join forces and present itself in this way to draw attention not just to disabled sports but also to the social importance of sports in general.

Talent in the spotlights In the run-up to the 2012 Olympic Games in London and the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, the ParaStars want to tell their story and show their talents. And they do have talent, all six being serious medal candidates. They also want to encourage disabled athletes who are not quite so far yet, to push back their frontiers.

Proud to be Dutch Esther Vergeer says: 'Disabled top athletes are heroes and deserve to be seen. Our team shows that top sports is about passion, dedication, perseverance and ambition. But also about fun and pleasure. The ParaStars know what it is to work

extremely hard to achieve a goal. In this we can use all the help we can get. But we are not looking for sponsors, we want fans who support the team and the idea behind it. Together we will create the true proud-to-be-Dutch feeling that is also part of Paralympic sports!'

Become a SuperFan just like Descol

Esther Vergeer was Descol's guest in Deventer on 21 June 2011, handing out ParaStars fan shirts to all employees, all of whom have become ParaStars fans. Supporting disabled sports is a way to bring joy to all athletes, by making sports accessible to everyone.

How to become a ParaStars fan

Visit www.teamparastars.nl. In addition to as many private fans as possible, Team ParaStars is looking for companies like Descol, who can make their employees fans and in doing so make their company a SuperFan!

people

Sustainable partners

Sustainability, a matter of working together!

Sustainable development in the construction sector is a chain responsibility. We cannot make it on our own. That is why Descol and parent company Sika engage with local and international organisations who also think and work from the perspective of sustainability. Below, we would like to introduce our sustainable partners.



DEKRA
DEKRA Certification (formerly KEMA Quality) performs audits and provides certification for the quality of management systems in many industries. Descol is certified according to ISO 9001/ 14001/VCA**/MVO prestatieladder (CSR), inspired by ISO 26000.
www.dekracertificationinc.com



DGBC
BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) is an international assessment method used to determine the sustainability of buildings. During the certification process, they not just look at energy usage in buildings, but also use of land, ecology, the building process, water usage, waste, pollution, transport, materials, health and comfort. The Dutch Green Building Council (DGBC) uses the BREEAM scheme because of the important role it plays internationally. BREEAM is the British equivalent of the American LEED. Descol and its sister company Sika Netherlands are members of DGBC.
www.dgbc.nl



Ecospecifier
The objective of Ecospecifier is to promote sustainable and ecological materials among professionals in the construction industry, such as architects, designers, builders and specifiers. The wider objective is to create more sustainable physical surroundings by increasing the use of environmentally friendly and healthy products, materials and design processes. Descol and its distributor in Australia are 'Ecospecifier Global Verified'.
www.ecospecifier.com



ISA Sport
ISA Sport is an independent research institute and a sustainable partner to Descol, in particular in the Benelux market. It carries out continuous research into even faster synthetic running tracks and sports centres that consume less energy. ISA Sport also provides expert advice in the areas of feasibility, location, usability, operating schemes, equipment and the use of (building) materials.
www.isa-sport.com



MVO Nederland
MVO Nederland is the national knowledge and network organisation for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the starting point for all entrepreneurs who want to make their operations more sustainable. Descol is a member of MVO Nederland.
www.mvonederland.nl



Olympic Network Netherlands
The regional Olympic Networks of NOC*NSF want to inspire, activate and connect everyone to the recreational and top sports climate in our country. As first business partner within the Olympic Network, Descol intends to help promote the objectives and develop activities. Politics, sports, schools and businesses will be involved in the network.
www.olympisch-vuur.nl



Responsible Care
The industry attaches great value to improving its performance in the field of safety, health and environment. The Responsible Care Programme is a voluntary initiative of the global chemical industries, to which Descol and parent company Sika have committed themselves.
www.responsiblecare.americanchemistry.com



USGBC
LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is an internationally recognised evaluation and certification system for sustainable building, set up by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED indicates that a building is designed and built in accordance with strategies that aim to improve the performance in the fields of energy saving, water saving, decrease of CO₂ emissions, better indoor climates and improved quality of the environment. Descol is associated with USGBC through Sika.
www.usgbc.com



WBCSD
The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is a worldwide organisation of approximately 200 CEOs that focuses exclusively on business and sustainable development. The WBCSD offers a platform to businesses so that they can share knowledge, experiences, explore best practices and argue points of view on these issues within the framework of sustainable development. Its members come from more than 30 countries and 20 large industrial sectors. The WBCSD works together with a worldwide network of approximately 60 national and regional sector associations. Sika and Descol are active members of this association.
www.wbcds.org



It all starts with the P for People

For people, by people; Descol's social face

Sustainable entrepreneurship is the work of man. For people, by people. For Descol, Corporate Social Responsibility starts with the P for People, the human aspect of our organisation. People is about the welfare of our employees and also about our involvement with customers, suppliers, governments and society as a whole. We like to show our social face both internally and externally.

Cherish our people People make a difference. We notice this every day at Descol. We also make progress in numerous areas by applying social responsibility within our own organisation. Improving efficiency, for example, by creating a positive work atmosphere as well as involved employees. Our people like to work at Descol because for us it is not just about making a profit. We are regarded as an involved and reliable employer. A great deal of attention is given to a stable, healthy and safe working environment.

Development opportunities Descol offers transparent and favourable employment conditions and benefits. Learning opportunities, traineeships, a health and sports promotion programme and a business membership with a fitness chain. The concept 'new ways of working' is being explored. Descol wants to create a place for every employee where they can rely

on the people for whom they work. And that they are proud of what they do and have fun with their colleagues. In this way, people at Descol will grow and get ample opportunities for personal development.

We are considerate towards our customers Putting the customer at the centre is not an empty slogan at Descol. We work according to laws and regulations and adhere to the international labour laws and competition regulations, to be a good partner in the chain. We organise special sustainability workshops for customers and customer days. We are open and transparent in our communication and reporting on CSR and regularly work with stakeholders to arrive at a good partnership. The teams of our international distributors and customers are trained intensively, so that they can also continue to develop professionally.



Sports and society

Descol participates in many local and international sports and social projects by providing knowledge, materials or funding. For example, we are closely associated with and a member of worldwide sports unions and federations, such as FIVB, FIBA, IHF, BWF. Descol also supports Transparency International, an anti-corruption scheme in 23 European countries. But we do more...

United Nations Global Compact In 2009 Sika/Descol was added to the participants register of the UN Global Compact. Global Compact is an initiative of the United Nations that connects businesses, UN organisations, trade unions and social organisations. The objective is to promote ten principles in the field of human rights, labour conditions, protection of the environment and the fight against corruption. Global Compact wants to contribute to Corporate Social Responsibility. It helps businesses to achieve this objective. www.unglobalcompact.org

ETH Zurich Foundation Sika and Descol support the ETH Zurich Foundation. This foundation supports strategic research and education projects at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich. In addition we support a professorship of sustainable civil engineering. www.eth-foundation.ch

Sika Experience Sika Experience offers students and young professionals various opportunities to gain their first professional experience. The platform also offers information about the many international sustainability initiatives introduced by Sika and Descol. Sika wants to attract the most talented recruits for the company, to be ready for future challenges. Descol in Deventer, the Netherlands, also offers young talented graduates opportunities. We organise student workshops and offer traineeships for various study programmes. www.sika.com/experience

Olympic Network The Olympic Network wants to inspire, activate and connect everyone to the recreational and top sports climate in the Netherlands. The aim is to bring sports to an Olympic level and to keep the flame of sports alive (see page 9 of this magazine). www.olympisch-vuur.nl

ParaStars ParaStars is a team of six Dutch Paralympic athletes, whose goal it is to draw more attention to disabled sports and to show the fun of doing sports (see page 7 of this magazine). www.teamparastars.nl

Richard Krajicek Foundation Descol believes it's important to invest in young talent, just like the Richard Krajicek Foundation does (RKF, see page 5 of this magazine). www.krajicek.nl





The future of the world is shaped by our involvement today



Megatrends determine our future

Worldwide challenges, opportunities and initiatives

Sustainable development is closely connected with trends that shape our future. These so-called 'megatrends' are all-decisive factors for the degree of economic growth. With innovative initiatives, Descol wants to make a positive contribution to the global challenges that we face. On a modest scale, but with a clear focus on sustainability.

Energy and raw materials

Challenge: The worldwide demand for natural resources is increasing. Supplies, however, are limited and extraction is becoming increasingly expensive. Efficient and effective use of resources constitute the greatest challenge that future growth will set.

Descol Initiative: Pulastic® surfaces are produced primarily from renewable raw materials and Descol is actively reducing its energy consumption.

Climate change

Challenge: The earth's climate is changing more rapidly than ever and the consequences for man are huge. Protecting the climate is therefore one of the most important tasks for the future. By 2050, the world must have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 80%.

Descol Initiative: Descol has had a water-based sports floor coating since 2004. As a result, emissions of hazardous substances have reduced to almost zero.

Water

Challenge Clean water is the oil of the 21st century. With a growing world population, urbanisation and climate change, water is becoming a scarce commodity. Responsible usage, purification and storage of water and waste water treatment are crucial.

Descol Initiative: Pulastic® surfaces have less impact on our drinking water than alternative floors. We also support various drinking water initiatives.

Infrastructure

Challenge: The rapid economic growth in developing countries requires an enormous investment in the fields of energy, transport, water and health. Existing infrastructures must also be modernised.

Descol Initiative: Since 2008, more than 50% of the world population has lived in cities. Descol supports initiatives by the RKF and FVB and makes sports more accessible in urban areas by introducing the Pulastic® Comfort Court.

Social stability

Challenge: Scarce resources, unemployment and unequal distribution of wealth lead to social tension/ radicalisation within our societies and loss of credibility and authority of governments and private organisations.

Descol Initiative: Descol contributes to various sports development programmes, such as the RKF and the Olympic Network (see page 11). Sports and exercising promote health. Sports brings people together, inspires, challenges. This is how we contribute to a healthy social climate.

The challenges that we are facing demand a great deal from our inventiveness and innovative power. Fortunately, we can do something immediately. For example by showing our social involvement in the field of ecology, where we support projects that focus on creating a better balance between man and environment.

Protecting whales and dolphins

Sika and Descol support the UN 'Year of the Dolphins' project, to protect whales and dolphins in the Mediterranean Sea. Sika and Descol are actively involved in the development of new fishing methods that give whales and dolphins in the Mediterranean Sea another chance.

Social and ecological support in growing markets

In 2005, Sika set up the Romuald Burkhard Foundation. This foundation provides financial support for social and ecological projects in regions where the economy is only just starting to develop and where there is a lack of knowledge about protection of the environment. Projects supported by the foundation include improvement of the infrastructure, technical education for the local population and various water purification projects.

Water and sustainable projects

Water is the essence of life, but for many people it is hard to get. As Sika is one of the world leaders when it comes to water management and maintenance, participating in water projects comes naturally to Sika. Sika supports numerous organisations, such as the Living Lakes in Colombia and Mexico, Yayasan Tirta Lestari in Indonesia and Operation Smile in Vietnam.

For more information about the many ecological projects that we support, please visit www.experience.sika.com

planet

Serious actions throughout the chain

Environment-friendly measures; Descol takes action!

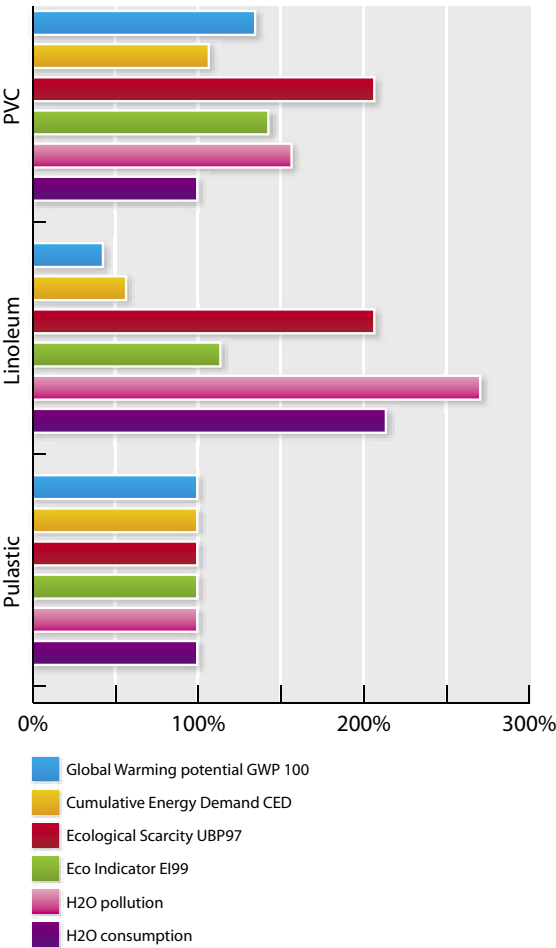
Having an eye for a cleaner environment is an important spearhead within the sustainable entrepreneurship that Descol wants to achieve. In this process, we continue to aim for higher targets. For years we have been actively working on a sound balance between man and environment and continually invest in innovative and environment-friendly solutions throughout the chain. From Cradle to Cradle to the reduction of the CO₂ emissions. It goes without saying that our Environmental Management System is ISO 14001-certified.

Innovating together Through continuous innovation, Descol succeeds in making products, systems and solutions more sustainable. We take a critical look at our own production processes and those of our main suppliers. There are opportunities for environmental improvements everywhere. Descol strongly believes in joining forces with suppliers, to create integrated, practically applicable and sustainable solutions.

Cradle to Cradle With Cradle to Cradle a product designer takes the production and usage phases of a product into account. But especially the discarding phase. When designing a Cradle-to-Cradle product, thought goes into how materials can be reused after the usage phase. Without loss of quality or functionality. In the case of Cradle to Cradle, the waste from one product forms the raw material of another product. Studies have shown that Pulastic® surfaces contain a high level of recycled materials and renewable raw materials. This makes Descol a pioneer in actively developing a Cradle-to-Cradle programme in the sports flooring sector.

LCA The environment-oriented Life-Cycle Assessment is a technique to asses environmental impacts associated with products and human activities. LCA assesses at the entire life cycle of a product or activity. From the extraction of raw materials to manufacturing and (re)use to waste disposal. Within LCA, Pulastic® surfaces are qualified as regular industrial waste at the end of their life cycle. This also makes Descol a benchmark in the market. The diagram opposite shows the LCA carried out on Pulastic® and two other floor systems. The assessment concerned the top layer of the constructions as a whole. This was possible because it is assumed within the LCA method that similar subconstructions yield the same results. The difference is therefore mainly in the top layer and this is

Life-Cycle Assessment results
(source: BMG Engineering AG)



An Energy Scan was carried out at Descol, on the basis of which a range of energy-saving measures were introduced. Actions taken in order to create savings include:

- ▲ Installing a sunlight-reflecting white roof
- ▲ Installing a roof insulation system
- ▲ Completing a mobility scan
- ▲ Changing over to green energy
- ▲ Green car-leasing plan

reflected in the diagram. Pulastic clearly scores best overall. This makes it clear that environmental considerations should not be assessed on a single aspect. The complexity of the whole requires a thorough weighing up of all environmental aspects.

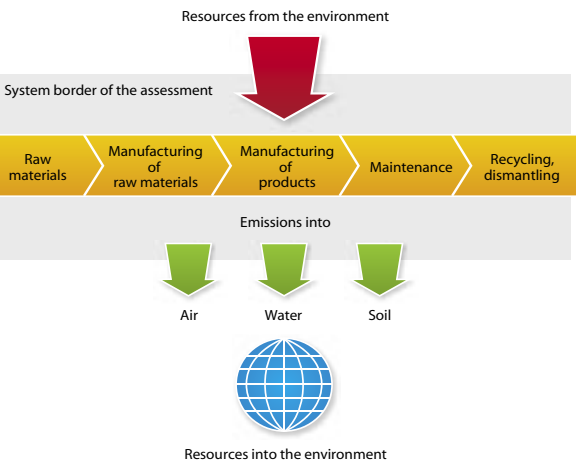
Ecobalance Products are followed throughout their life cycle, from extraction of raw materials to production, maintenance and recycling and waste treatment.

Reducing CO₂ emissions On the CSR Performance Ladder (see page 4 of this magazine), one of the Planet indicators is the reduction of CO₂ emissions. Descol reports in accordance with the CSR Performance Ladder on the emission of various gasses and substances and on the measures taken to reduce emissions. The pie chart shows Descol's CO₂ footprint. This CO₂ footprint is an indication of Descol's CO₂ emissions. The objective is to reduce CO₂ emissions by 20% in three years, indexed to the year 2010.

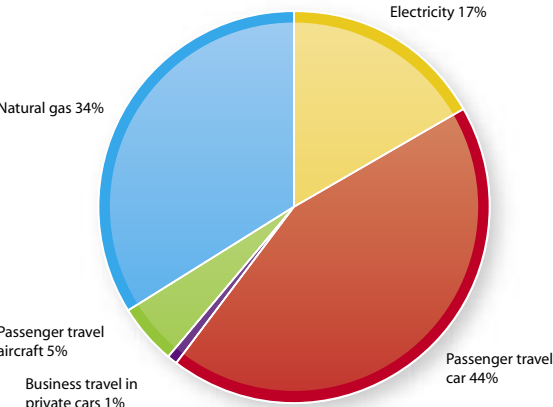
Descol Deventer Initiatives

The Sika/Descol '0-20-20 initiative' aims for 0 industrial accidents, 20% less energy and water usage and 20% less waste over a time span of three years.

Life-Cycle Assessment Ecobalance



Descol Footprint 2010
(total CO₂ emission rates)



prosperity



Our contribution to more prosperity

Social returns through cooperation with FIVB

At Descol, we feel that making a profit need not be incompatible with sustainability. Sustainability actually activates desired innovations and cooperation in the chain. It is not just something that we as a business profit from, but something that everyone can and may benefit from. So social returns. This is also where Descol would like to lead the way.

Descol puts a great deal of energy, time and money into corporate social responsibility. For the P for prosperity, we want to contribute in various ways to society's prosperity. We therefore apply part of our profits to social returns. A good example is the cooperation between Descol and the international volleyball federation FIVB.

is also discussing with the FIVB the realisation of other projects in the afflicted regions. The outdoor concept will be offered worldwide to national volleyball federations. Descol proudly offers its cooperation!

Pulastic® Comfort Court The FIVB invests in projects for the restoration of infrastructures in regions that were hit by the 2004 tsunami. Houses and schools were repaired first, to be followed by sports facilities. As in these regions many sports there are performed outside, Descol has introduced its outdoor concept: Pulastic® Comfort Court. Together with the FIVB, Descol takes its social responsibility in these projects by providing knowledge, expertise and experience, thus contributing to social development. To support the project financially, Descol did the consultancy for free. Together with FIVB, we stimulate the sports experience in the afflicted areas, with benefits and prosperity for all parties.

More sports fields in the region The installation of the FIVB Court in the area hit by the tsunami, is the first of a number of (still to be realised) Pulastic® fields on the Maldives. At the same time, another FIVB project is being carried out in Sri Lanka, where outdoor FIVB courts are being built by Descol at four different locations. Descol



Ronald McDonald Centre

Our contribution to the McDonald Centre in Amsterdam is another example of the social contribution that Descol likes to make. The previous edition of Descol Challenges provides more details of this project. For copy, please send an e-mail to export@descol.nl

Happiness and prosperity only have value if we are prepared to share them with others

prosperity

Dutch authorities purchase 100% sustainable

Choosing Descol is in line with government policies

All Dutch authorities will purchase 100% sustainable in 2015. This objective has been laid down in the Sustainable Purchasing Monitor. This means that, in addition to quality requirements, all publications associated with tenders or requests for quotations will also include sustainability requirements. Only businesses that meet the requirements will be allowed to compete for government orders. Descol is already fully compliant with all requirements.

Sustainable purchasing is a chain responsibility. Socially responsible purchasers today not only look at price, quality and delivery time, but also at labour conditions, employee rights, environment and social impact. Production and trade chains, however, are becoming more and more complex; the chain often stretches to foreign countries. It is important to know where raw materials come from, what goes on at the suppliers' premises and who manufactures the products. Descol is open and honest about this. We also comply with Corporate Social Responsibility and actively invest in a sustainable future.

Helping to find solutions That local councils are also conscious about sustainable purchasing, is illustrated by Frank Hafkamp, Sports Teamleader for the Dutch municipality of Veenendaal and responsible for managing and running the sports accommodations and swimming pools. 'Sustainable purchasing is definitely a focus in our municipality's policies. For the construction and renovation of sports accommodations, we increasingly tend to select sustainable suppliers who work with us on solutions that reduce the burden on the environment.'

Sustainability must lead to cost-savings 'Sustainability is an important aspect during the purchasing process, but not the primary one,' says Hafkamp. 'On the one hand, as a socially conscious municipality, we want to do something for the environment, save energy and reduce CO₂ emissions from buildings. But to run accommodations in a financially healthy way, is also essential. It must be feasible and affordable. We have found that these two ambitions are quite compatible.'

By investing in sustainable technology and solutions, we generate energy savings in the long run. Therefore we ask suppliers and partners for guarantees that the investment we make can be earned back within a reasonable period of time.'

Consciously choosing a supplier Hafkamp concludes: 'During the purchasing process, sustainability is a criterion that is just as important as quality, service and obviously price. We are not deterred when an investment is more expensive than we expected, as long as we have the guarantee that we can make savings during the entire life cycle of the product. We mainly choose Descol based on their proven quality in floors. But the fact that they consider sustainability of paramount importance too, makes it easier for us to choose Descol, now and in the future.'

The P for Pleasure Twan Theelen, managing director of Sport and Welfare in the Dutch municipality of Ridderkerk, feels that the sustainable character of a supplier is important, but so are personal involvement and demonstrable added value during the development of projects. 'When we choose our suppliers, we certainly look for partners who - just like us - want to enjoy the preparatory stages. The final objective being, of course, that athletes enjoy a sustainable sports accommodation. That is why Descol adds another P to People, Planet, Prosperity and Pulastic. The P for Pleasure.'

Bouwe de Boer, energy coordinator for the Leeuwarden municipality, believes that suppliers who are demonstrably sustainable will have a competitive advantage in the future with public authority purchasers (see page 32 of this magazine).



Sustainable, without costing more

Proof that sustainable construction need not be more expensive is everywhere. The influential Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), a British think tank in the field of construction, presented the results of a comparative survey on the building costs of sustainable projects. It showed beyond doubt that - given proper planning and intelligent use of sustainable methods and materials - a sustainable project could be built for the same price as traditionally built properties. This also applies for Descol. We invest considerably in making our products and services more sustainable, but our Pulastic® sports surfaces have not become more expensive.

TCO and social returns

TCO and social returns constitute an integral part of our vision. TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) is about estimating all direct and indirect costs throughout the life cycle. Social returns is not just about profit, but also about pride, trust, involvement, innovation, quality, bonds, employment, productivity, positioning and reputation.

prosperity

An impressive green inheritance

Built for the Olympic Games, designed as a cultural heritage for the future

The Richmond Olympic Oval is a breathtaking sports accommodation on the banks of the Fraser River. Ice-skating competitions were held in the Oval during the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, resulting in eight fantastic ice-skating medals for the Netherlands. Today, the Oval is a multifunctional sports accommodation, boasting the largest indoor Pulastic® sports surface in the world. An inspiring environment for athletes of all ages and levels of skill.



Netherlands 2028
The Netherlands is currently investigating the possibility of organising the 2028 Games; exactly 100 years after the Olympic Games were held in Amsterdam. The success story of the Richmond Olympic Oval shows that it can be well worth the effort to organise the Games, from the perspective of sports, economics and society.

Even in the run-up to the 2010 Olympic Winter Games, in Richmond they were already thinking about the future of the accommodation. Olympic accommodations are often not used optimally after the Games. For the Richmond municipality, however, the Olympic heritage was a focal point; how could the accommodation be used after the Olympic Games.

Looking beyond the Games John Mills, General Manager of the Olympic Oval says: 'The aim was to develop a sports accommodation with the Olympic Games in the back of our minds and we have always looked beyond that. Developing a multifunctional sports hall was our primary aim.' Various parties were involved in the extensive preparations, including Descol. This allowed Descol to contribute to the earliest planning stages for a sustainable future of the Olympic Oval after the Games.

Cooperation with the architect Architect Larry Podhora from Cannon says: 'We have a great deal of experience building prestigious sports locations. We often include Pulastic® surfaces in our designs. When the Richmond Olympic Oval was being designed, we faced some unique design challenges, including the flexibility to adapt the existing sports floor. We noticed that Descol was open to new ideas and thanks to their R&D knowledge, they made this project possible.'

Pulastic® SP, a green floor Two months after the Olympic Games, the ice floor was replaced by 23,000 m² multifunctional sports flooring. Together with our local partner from Vancouver, we started installing the Pulastic® SP floor in 2010. It was a blue floor, but really a green floor. The sublayer consists of recycled rubber granulate. On top of this, we applied a self-levelling layer that contains no heavy metals and on top of that a water-based top coating (see page 26 of this magazine).

The new floor is used for a variety of sports. From fitness, volleyball and indoor football to table tennis and athletics on the 110 m and 200 m running tracks. Many competitions are also played there, such as the annual international badminton championships.

Enthusiastic users John Mills: 'What surprises us time and again is the Pulastic® floor's flexibility. The floor can really handle all sports and events. We have national competitions almost every day and we regularly organise international sports events and large business events. We keep getting positive comments from users. Athletes find the floor to be very comfortable and the coaches, who spend hours on the floor every day, love it. During the winter period, there are indoor hockey and indoor golf training sessions.'

The Oval is widely used by both the inhabitants of Richmond and surrounding areas, as well as national and international top athletes. 'We expect more than one million visits in 2011. More than 800 members sport here every day and many additional visitors come here for special events. Two and a half percent of the Richmond community engage in active sports in the Oval, which is more than double of what we had hoped.'

Debt-free after one year 'Olympic buildings can be magnets for the local economy,' says John Mills. 'A large number of extra facilities have been built in Richmond over the last few years, not only hotels, but also a new rail connection that takes visitors from Richmond to the heart of Vancouver in just 20 minutes. In only a few years, Richmond has changed considerably, from a local community to an international city and the developments of our city are still going on. Another important part of the success story is that the Oval was completely debt-free one year after the Games. The investments that we made, have definitely yielded returns.'

Olympic idea The Olympic Oval in Richmond is the perfect example of what an Olympic legacy should be after the Games. A sustainable piece of cultural heritage that will play an important role in the local and regional community for decades to come. Yielding benefits for residents, athletes and developers. Contrary to Olympic accommodations that remain vacant after the Games, because they cannot be turned into profitable enterprises, the Olympic idea will stay alive in the Oval as a multifunctional sports accommodation with a sustainable Pulastic® SP sports surface from Descol.

www.richmondoval.ca

prosperity

Profitable floor concepts, typically Descol

The sustainable innovative strength of a full-service supplier

Descol has a leading position in the international sports floor market. By operating close to the market, we are able to constantly renew and improve our range of products, systems and services. Focussing on sustainable development and profitability for our customers. Profitability that goes way beyond financial benefits alone.

Descol is constantly searching, together with its customers, for new applications that meet new demands and requirements in the field of sustainability. Obviously, a Descol floor must last a lifetime. But at the same time, it should also contribute to society, offer advantages to the owner and have added value for the user. Only then the P for profit actually can become prosperity.

Pioneering concepts A Descol sports floor is essentially complete. But we like to look further. Also in the field of services and products that are closely connected with the sustainable quality of a Pulastic® floor, Descol likes to take the lead with pioneering concepts such as 'Roof to Floor', 'Life-time Flooring' and 'Sports & Fun'. These are some recent examples of Descol's sustainable innovative strength.

Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum To be able to always offer the right choice within our wide range of floor solutions, we have divided Pulastic® surfaces into lines based on the materials used for medals of honour, each with its own characteristics and qualities: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. Our guiding principle was the comfort level experienced by athletes. We then classified floors on the basis of long-term load-bearing capacities.

At www.descol.com we present Descol's lines. You can also view the floors in our previous edition of Descol Challenges.

Roof-to-Floor In collaboration with Sika, Descol offers the so-called Roof-to-Floor concept. Descol can provide a complete concept from roof-to-floor and create the entire accommodation in the sectors Sport, Education and Recreation. From roof systems to sports floors. But also wall coverings, floors for public areas, concrete repairs and fire-resistant applications. The point of departure is always that our full-service concept meets all of our customers' requirements.

Life-time Flooring A Descol floor is developed with the future in mind. The starting point is a guaranteed, lifelong, good, safe and durable floor. Together with our customers, we ensure that our products keep their high quality, by offering various services and products. Customers can choose from a range of maintenance contracts, cleaning contracts and ecological cleaning products. Each has been developed to make sure your floor is guaranteed to stay in top condition. You can always rely on our advice, annual inspections and expert maintenance and repairs. If you want a long-term estimate for your sports floor, our specialists are ready to assist you. Last but not least, Descol offers a range of warranty options, from Bronze to Platinum.



Sports & Fun Descol is closely involved in the development of sports and games programmes for sports clubs, education, physiotherapy and day-care centres. From interactive games for children to training programmes for the elderly or rehabilitating athletes and patients. With our Sports & Fun programme, we promote physical exercise and sports in a variety of fun ways.

This is reflected in our products. An example is the line marking schemes in the children's corner of the sports canteen, sports floors with LED lighting, decorative floors in public areas and outdoor sports and playing fields. Whether it's for indoor or outdoor sports accommodations, fitness centres, gymnasiums or medical centres, Descol combines sports and fun in a sustainable way.





Sustainable, from organisation to service

That's why you choose a Pulastic® sports floor from Descol

Pulastic® sports surfaces are developed and manufactured according to strict standards and installed by experts. Descol listens carefully to the wishes and demands of its customers in terms of sustainability. But there are more good reasons to choose a Pulastic® sports floor from Descol.

Descol's sustainability initiatives focus on developing and promoting sustainable solutions for educational, recreational and sports facilities. Descol not only takes the user into account, but also the owner. Sports accommodations need to be multifunctional and cost-effective, suitable for all sports and all athletes. Pulastic® is therefore more than a top-quality sports floor. It offers the ideal mix of durability and sports options for all circumstances.

Sustainable Descol Descol is market leader in top-quality sports floors. We distinguish ourselves by being a full-service supplier, combining a range of services in-house. From research to development, from production to installation and from service to consultancy and after-sales. Descol also represents:

- ▲ Effective conceptual solutions
- ▲ A worldwide distribution network of Descol-trained assistants in more than 60 countries
- ▲ Knowledge, expertise and many years of practical experience (since 1965)
- ▲ Innovative power
- ▲ Competent, motivated personnel
- ▲ Multifunctional floors
- ▲ Innovative specialties, like Pulastic® LED Court
- ▲ Wide variety of floors and systems, ranging from Bronze to Platinum, as well as specific product lines, such as Performance, Facelift, Solid and Custom line (see www.descol.com)

The multiple benefits of Pulastic®

Pulastic® sports floor systems are developed and manufactured according to strict standards and installed by experts. When it comes to quality and sports-specific characteristics, Pulastic® offers many attractive advantages.

- ▲ Long life
- ▲ Elastic and strong
- ▲ Seamless, non-porous and smooth surface
- ▲ Meets various international standards
- ▲ Optimum sports comfort and injury prevention
- ▲ Perfect balance between slip resistance and sliding properties
- ▲ Good vertical ball behaviour
- ▲ No glare and clear line marking
- ▲ Maximum static and dynamic load-bearing properties
- ▲ Wear-resistant water-based coating
- ▲ Excellent colourfastness
- ▲ Optimum soundproofing properties
- ▲ Wide range of modern colours and effects
- ▲ Easy maintenance
- ▲ Easy to clean and repair

Descol's service concept You want to be sure that your Pulastic® sports surface continues to yield a profit in the future. Descol has developed an extensive service offer to keep your sports floor in top condition for many years. This includes:

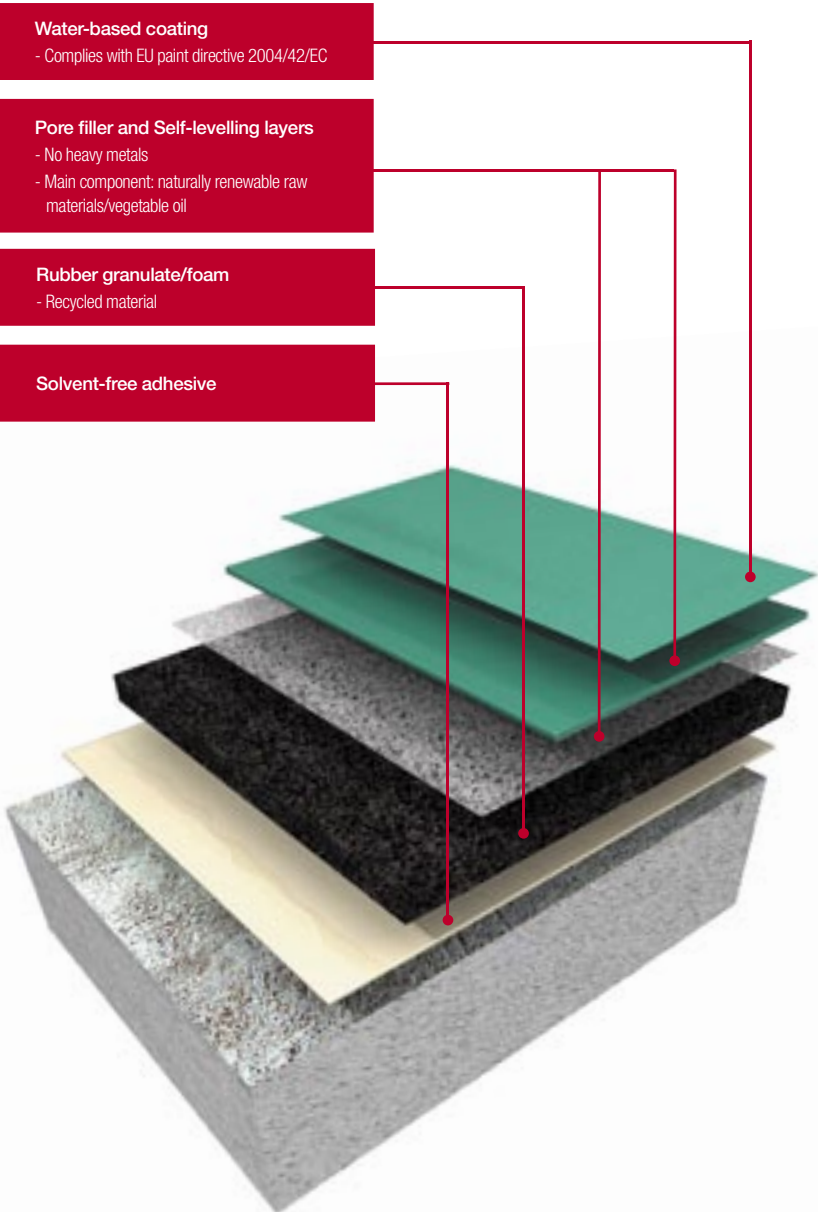
- ▲ Cleaning recommendations
- ▲ Cleaning contracts
- ▲ Annual inspections
- ▲ Expert maintenance
- ▲ Long-term estimates
- ▲ Life-time flooring (see page 22 of this magazine)
- ▲ Customer satisfaction surveys
- ▲ Warranty concepts, ranging from Bronze to Platinum

Sustainability is based on a solid foundation

pulastic

Sustainable, layer by layer; that is Pulastic® too

A **Pulastic® floor** is built up in a sustainable way, layer by layer. The sublayer consists of recycled rubber granulate and is attached to the subfloor using a solvent-free adhesive. On top of this permanently resilient floor, a sealing layer and two self-levelling layers are applied. These materials consist largely of vegetable oil and renewable raw materials and contain no heavy metals. As the finishing touch, a water-based matte top coating is applied, complying with the EU paint directive 2004/42/EC.



Sustainable characteristics of Pulastic® floor systems

- ▲ Meeting European building regulations.
- ▲ Meeting EN 14904.
- ▲ Meeting AgBB = low emissions.
- ▲ User-friendly (indoor air quality).
- ▲ Consisting of 60% recycled material.
- ▲ No heavy metals.
- ▲ Only 16% of the raw materials are synthetic, guaranteeing a long life.
- ▲ No environmentally hazardous products.
- ▲ Reduced need for cleaning agents.
- ▲ Long life, in fact extra long, because the surface is easy to renovate. This actually means recycling the entire floor system, because the existing floor is given a new lease of life.
- ▲ The production of Pulastic® components is a relatively low-energy process. There is no accelerated curing of materials by adding heat, as is the case with prefabricated products.

Descol's international ecolabels

Pulastic® surfaces, proven sustainability

There are many labels and certificates for products that constitute less of a burden on the environment and are more socially responsible and hence better for the end user. The specifications of labels are based on the entire lifecycle of the product, from raw material to waste. Descol's ecolabels below show that Pulastic® surfaces meet strict international requirements and standards.



AgBB/DiBT

The German AgBB has developed criteria for testing and evaluating the emission of volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The Pulastic® systems marketed in Germany must be certified according to the AgBB requirements. In addition, the list of all product components must be submitted for assessment by Das Deutsche Institut für Bautechnik (DIBt). Descol's Ecosystems meet all relevant requirements.



Ecospecifier

Ecospecifier promotes sustainable and ecological materials among professionals in the building industry, such as architects, designers, construction companies and specifiers. The aim is to create more sustainable physical surroundings by increasing the use of environmentally friendly and healthy products, materials and design processes. Descol, its distributor in Australia and the Pulastic® floor systems are 'Ecospecifier Global Verified' certified.



M1 Classification

The Emission Classification of Building Materials (M1 Classification) is a voluntary labelling system focussed entirely on a clean indoor environment. In addition to chemical analyses, products are also tested by a sensory panel (odour) In the Finnish market, customers are increasingly demanding M1-certified products. Descol's Ecosystems comply with the M1 regulations.



LEED

The LEED concept was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) to promote buildings that are both sustainable and profitable and healthy places to live, work and play. Pulastic® contributes to the LEED concept with points for such aspects as minimal waste during production and installation, use of recycled materials, full revitalisation without the need for removal and the use of solvent-free adhesives, self-levelling layers and coatings.



LGA

LGA QualiTest GmbH is an independent organisation that certifies the safety, integrity and quality of everyday products, in accordance with current European and international guidelines. Descol's Ecosystems comply with the LGA guidelines.

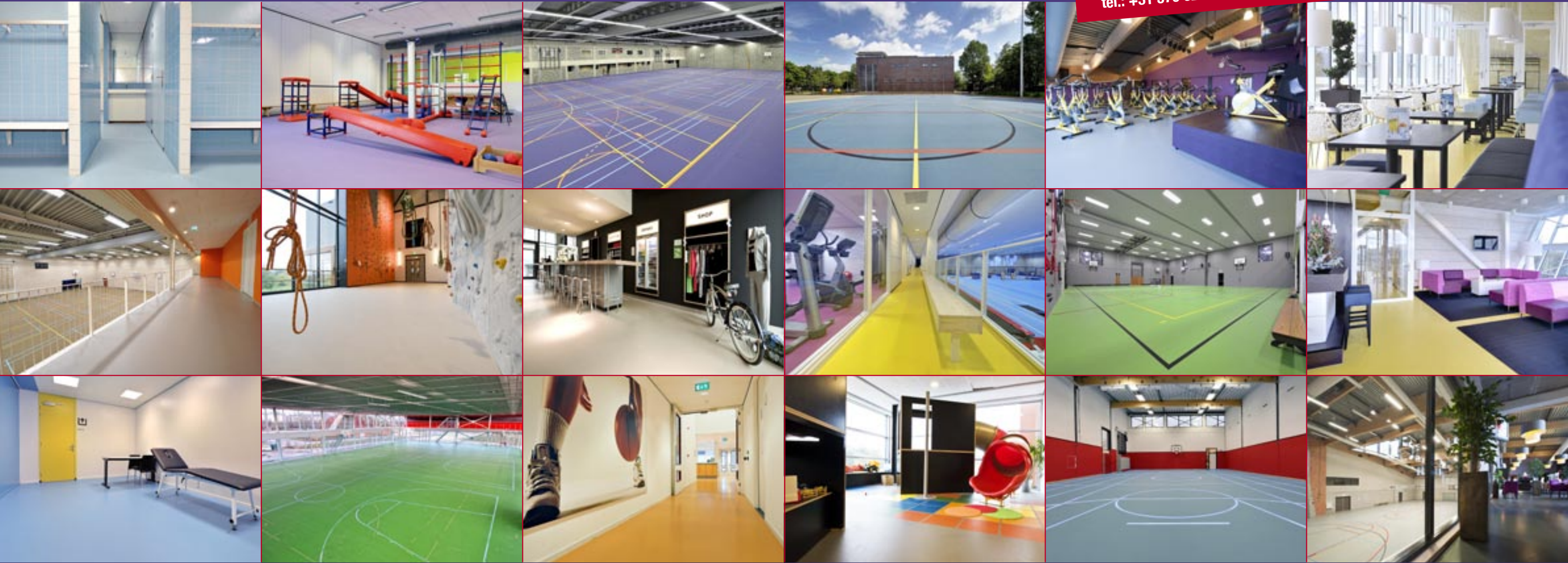


Eurofins

Eurofins is a leading international group of laboratories with 9,500 staff, spread across 150 locations in 30 countries, providing test and support services to industries and governments. The test report (G08088) shows that Pulastic® floor systems comply with the new VOC and U.S. emission standards.

Worldwide number 1 with Pulastic®

For references, please contact Descol
tel.: +31 570 62 07 44 or send an e-mail to export@descol.nl



Descol is a sustainable full-service supplier of comprehensive solutions for Sports, Education and Recreation. We are able to provide flooring for your entire accommodation, with Pulastic® sports surfaces as well as floors for reception areas, restaurants, shops and child care areas. We can also provide the wall covering and roofing for your accommodation, using ultramodern roofing systems (see page 22 of this magazine). This page shows samples of the many possible applications of Descol. Want to know more? Please make an appointment or visit www.descol.com

In more than 50,000 accommodations, Descol has a worldwide distribution network covering over 60 countries. The distributors' installation teams are trained by Descol's experts. This way, Descol is able to guarantee that Pulastic® surfaces anywhere in the world are synonymous for top quality, long life cycles, top performance, minimised sports injuries and versatile applicability. To date, Descol has installed more than 30 million m² of Pulastic® sports surfaces in over 50,000 locations. This is the ultimate proof that we are Number 1.

Questions & answers

Is there a difference between sustainable entrepreneurship and corporate social responsibility (CSR)?

The terms CSR and 'sustainable entrepreneurship' are often used indiscriminately. But there is a clear difference between the two concepts. 'Sustainable entrepreneurship' emphasizes a company's ecological responsibility. 'Corporate social responsibility', in addition to paying attention to ecological aspects, also focuses on an organisation's social aspects. Descol feels very strongly about CSR.

Are there any CSR certificates or standards?

Yes, there is a great variety of certificates and standards relating to CSR and/or sustainability. In addition to thematic certificates (such as Max Havelaar) and product-related certificates (such as Utz or FSC), there are also general CSR certificates, such as the Performance Ladder, for which Descol was certified according to CSR Performance Ladder Level 3, inspired on ISO 26000. ISO 26000 is not a standard that sets requirements and hence cannot be used for certification. It is an international guideline for CSR; a tool for companies implementing CSR. CSR is embedded in our organisation's corporate culture.

What is sustainable building?

Sustainable building is a broad concept. In the case of sustainable building and renovation, it is important that environmental impacts are taken into consideration in all stages of the building process. This should be the case in design, as well as during the construction, conversion, renovation or demolition of buildings. Sustainable building is also about the use of the building. For example, the CO₂ emissions resulting from the use of energy for heating or cooling the building. The key element is the environmental impact throughout the life cycle of the building.

What is sustainable property?

Sustainable buildings are not very likely to be demolished. Even after many years, they still meet the requirements of their users, may change functions, offer attractive building volumes and

continue to please aesthetically. Often, sustainable buildings also distinguish themselves by multiple use of rooms (multifunctionality) and a location that fits organically in its surroundings. A good example of sustainable property is the Olympic Oval in Richmond, Canada (see page 20 of this magazine).

Is sustainable construction more expensive?

Proof that sustainable construction need not be more expensive is everywhere. The influential Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), a British think tank in the field of construction, presented the results of a comparative survey on the building costs of sustainable projects. It showed beyond doubt that - given proper planning and intelligent use of sustainable methods and materials - a sustainable project could be built for the same price as traditionally built properties. When more expensive sustainable materials and/or solutions are applied, the ROI time eventually results in significant cost-savings across the entire life cycle of a building. In the end, sustainable construction can therefore turn out to be cheaper.

What is Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)?

TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) is about estimating all direct and indirect costs throughout the life cycle. A distinction can be made between development costs (costs of land and construction) and maintenance costs. To calculate the TCO, it is important to include all costs. Looking merely at development costs, it may look as if sustainable construction is more expensive, but the maintenance costs of sustainable buildings are significantly lower, because of the use of sustainable materials and solutions.

How does Pulastic® fit into the concept of sustainable building?

Pulastic® floors have a demonstrably longer life (see page 14 of this magazine) and their multifunctional properties make them suitable for a wide range of functions. Pulastic® floors therefore guarantee optimal profitability, because maintenance downtime (the inability to use the floor due to repairs or major cleaning operations) is minimal.

What types of accommodations are suitable for sustainable floors?

Sports, Education and Recreation facilities, such as sports halls, gymnasiums, fitness halls and schools. Sustainable floors are eminently suitable for facilities with multiple functions and a wide range of highly accessible services.

Are Pulastic® surfaces eco-friendly?

Pulastic® sports surfaces contain no heavy metals. 60% of all components consists of recycled materials and renewable resources. The floors can simply be treated as regular industrial waste, have water-based coatings and a long life. Pages 25 and 26 of this magazine describe the sustainable properties of Pulastic® sports surfaces.

Does Descol apply a sustainable purchase policy?

Sustainable purchasing starts by determining what is really required, the true purchasing need. The CSR Performance Ladder and ISO 14001 oblige Descol to actively search for sustainable suppliers. When we purchase services, such as cleaning or car-leasing schemes, the minimum standards that we commit ourselves to are those of Agentschap NL (formerly SenterNovem), which have also been drawn up for the government's Sustainable Purchasing policy. Sustainable purchasing is a selection criterion for Descol and potential suppliers are tested in this field.

Does Descol consider sustainability a passing trend?

No, definitely not. Sustainability is in our DNA and we feel that sustainable entrepreneurship is the standard for the 21st century. We have been a sustainable full-service supplier for years. This is proven by our ISO certificates and CSR guidelines. We do not just say that we're sustainable, we can prove it.



Pulastic

Working together with innovative partners

Leeuwarden Knowledge Campus, a sustainable co-production

Sustainable development benefits from close co-operation between ambitious and innovative parties. Only by working together, objectives can be achieved that would not be possible on one's own. The Leeuwarden Knowledge Campus is a good example of a joint effort made by customer, operator, building contractor and supplier in order to arrive at a sustainable and groundbreaking project. Sustainability from four perspectives.

The customer. City of Leeuwarden.

The city of Leeuwarden (the Netherlands) scores well in the Municipal Sustainability Indicator. And rightly so. Energy co-ordinator, Bouwe de Boer, explains: 'Since 1994, Leeuwarden has been implementing an active energy policy and we have set ourselves ambitious goals: as a city, we want to be fully independent from fossil fuels by 2020. To make this happen, we develop many innovative projects. There is a spirit of sustainability about Leeuwarden and that makes many things possible. Take our SLIM energy and water project. It focuses on energy-efficient buildings, generating energy from waste, solar energy and clean mobility. The Knowledge Campus is where all this comes together. It was a deliberate decision to involve schools in our plans and objectives. But also innovative regional enterprises and the provincial authorities. Together, we get even better ideas and succeed in achieving our sustainability ambitions. Installing Descol floors in the Knowledge Campus sports halls fits seamlessly into our plans. If suppliers are demonstrably sustainable, this clearly gives them a competitive edge with the government purchasers.'

The operator. BV Sport Leeuwarden

BV Sport operates the two new Knowledge Campus sports halls. Managing director, Jesse Smaal, is infected with the Leeuwarden sustainability bug. 'Nobody is against energy-saving. An excellent starting point for an actual low-energy approach to the way we run our facilities. As a sports centre operator, I actively search for measures we can take to reduce energy consumption even more. Energy accounts for 20% of our total operating costs and it is exactly those costs that are relatively easy to influence. The city council does not have the funds to make all facilities energy-efficient at the same time. That's why we have developed our own plan to create energy-savings: 'making our buildings more sustainable'. This can often be done with simple solutions, such as installing light sensors. Investments will have to be made, but one should have the guarantee that such investments pay themselves back in due course. This goes for our older buildings, but also for the halls at the Knowledge Campus. In the end, it's not all that difficult. By saving energy, we are able to invest in the improvement of the sports facilities themselves.'



From left to right: Wiljan Mossing Holsteyn, Bouwe de Boer and Jesse Smaal

Design and construction.

Vaessen construction company

Vaessen Algemeen Bouwbedrijf BV from Raamsdonksveer (the Netherlands) designed and built the two sports halls at the Knowledge Campus. Jeroen Geurts, commercial manager at Vaessen: 'We have been manifesting ourselves as a builder of sustainable social property. CSR and sustainability are leading principles in practically everything we do and this is reflected in our designs. We realize that the price is often decisive, but this was not the case for the city of Leeuwarden. Our ideas with respect to energy-efficiency and sustainability were considered just as important as the contract price. The city focused in particular on sustainable solutions with a relatively short cost-recovery time. But neither party wanted to compromise on sustainability. In the end, it is very important for us that we create buildings with an Energy A efficiency label. To succeed, we applied a range of energy-saving solutions in the fields of light, heating and insulation. For the city council, it was also important that the floors to be installed complied with the highest sports and quality standards. In that respect, Descol is a perfect partner for us. Pulastic® floors provide the best quality for a good price. The Knowledge Campus project is a perfect example of how sustainable social property can be built, given the right partners.'

The supplier. Descol sports surfaces

Descol area manager, Wiljan Mossing Holsteyn, reports: 'Descol is always investing in innovative and eco-friendly solutions throughout the chain. Close co-operation is therefore essential. Knowing what customers want, gives us a leading edge. We have noticed, for example, that governments are serious about sustainable

purchasing. The city of Leeuwarden is at the forefront, but other authorities are also getting more sustainable. During the tendering stage, Leeuwarden had already formulated clear sustainability requirements for the Knowledge Campus. This suited the Vaessen construction company perfectly. Like us, they have been working on sustainability in an innovative way. We are honoured that they keep involving us in this type of social property projects. This is also because our Pulastic® floor systems fit perfectly into the increasingly strict government sustainability requirements. Perhaps price and proven quality may still be decisive, in the longer term our sustainability policy will also play a role in the purchasing of sports surfaces.'

Descol and the Leeuwarden Knowledge Campus

A single site for three schools of higher professional education, student accommodations, knowledge-intensive businesses, sports halls, a beach and catering facilities. The Leeuwarden Knowledge Campus stands for sustainability and innovation and it is a shining example for other campuses. The Knowledge Campus has a sustainable setup, with clean energy supplies, energy-efficient buildings and reuse of rainwater. Descol installed a total of 2,100 m² of sports floors and an additional 2,000 m² of floors in corridors, halls, meeting rooms and changing rooms. The floors installed have a very long life, are recyclable, reflect light, insulate heat and are finished with a water-based coating.

pulastic

We pass on the earth...

We did not inherit the earth from our parents, but we have it on loan from our children. This creates obligations. But it also offers unlimited opportunities. Because the very idea that we are responsible - here and now - for future generations, challenges us to produce sustainable solutions. We want to be able to hand off the baton with pride. And also our planet.

As a company, we would not like to be held accountable merely for the profits, but also for pride, trust, involvement, innovation, quality, bonds, employment, productivity, positioning and reputation. This presents inspiring challenges. We not only want to make a contribution to the sustainability ambitions for an increasingly large group of customers and organisations, but also to the society around us. Responsible and involved, that's what Descol is.

Sustainability at Descol started as the 'Green Business' project. But it ceased being a project a long time ago. Sustainability is embedded in our DNA and has become an integral part of our policies. From the top to the bottom of our organisation, everyone is aware that man can really make the difference. Convinced that we are able to create truly sustainable conditions for a healthy, beautiful and pleasant world to live in.



Imprint

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Descol, basis for top performance

Athletes want to win, just like Descol. That is why Descol develops, produces and installs sports floors that outperform all other floors by far. The name? Pulastic®. An extraordinary range of sports floors, favoured by athletes around the world. And rightly so. With Pulastic®, market leader Descol repeatedly provides the basis for top performance and has been doing so since 1965.

Everything under one roof

Descol, based in Deventer, Netherlands, is an innovative organisation providing a range of services. From research to development, from production to installation and from service to consultancy and after-sales. Descol's expert staff of more than 85 ensure that the company stays ahead in its field and expands its competitive advantage. Its expertise, skills and many years of practical experience enable Descol to deliver top quality products and services with true added value for every customer.

The Number 1 in sports floors

Descol's worldwide distribution network spans more than 60 countries. The distributors' installation teams are trained by Descol's experts. This way, Descol is able to guarantee that Pulastic® sports floors anywhere in the world are synonymous for top quality, long life cycles, top performance, minimised sports injuries and versatile applicability. To date, Descol has installed more than 30 million m² of Pulastic® sports floors in over 50,000 locations. This is the ultimate proof that we are Number 1.

The strength of parent company Sika

Descol is part of the Swiss Sika AG concern, a global company with more than 12,000 employees in 106 production and marketing facilities in 72 countries. Sika is a versatile multinational company, specialising in chemical applications in construction and industry. Sika AG, established in 1910, is an independent family firm, listed on the Swiss Stock Exchange (SWX). Many of the shares are still owned by its founders.



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The current General Terms and Conditions apply. Before use, please consult the latest local product data sheets.

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