

Sustainability & Social Responsibility

- Key Talking Points 2024-25

Tai Ping Carpets, founded in British Hong Kong in 1956, has prioritized ethical and responsible operation since its creation. Over six decades, Tai Ping has crafted products with natural fibers, prioritizing sustainability and employee well-being. Tai Ping's manufacturing facilities adhere to rigorous sustainability standards, fostering a safe environment and responsible management of resources.

Vertical Integration and Sustainable Factory Architecture

Tai Ping's Xiamen artisan workshop, in China, is a wholly-owned facility that is vertically integrated for maximum process control and greater independence from supply chain uncertainties. The state-of-the-art workshop features environmentally-friendly elements throughout. Overall energy consumption has been minimised by taking advantage of naturally-shaded, north-facing ceiling vents, evaporative cooling and a high roof exhaust fan grid for forced air circulation, thereby eliminating the need for mechanical heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems in most areas.

The in-house management and execution of material testing, design, sampling, yarn preparation, dyeing, tufting, latexing and finishing, ensures total quality control and full validation of the processes and working conditions.

Quality and durability

Tai Ping's commitment to quality demands using the finest natural and renewable materials. Fibres used include pure wool, silk, flax and linen, which are 100% biodegradable and sourced exclusively from ethical, reputable suppliers.

Natural fibres are inherently resilient with impressive performance features that include mechanical strength, anti-soiling properties and flame resistance, thus guaranteeing maximum longevity while retaining a luxury appearance for longer than their synthetic counterparts.

With an active research and development team monitoring technological advancements in yarn preparation, dyeing, tufting and overall product construction, Tai Ping leads the industry in extending product lifespan and reducing environmental impact.

Supply chain and labour

Tai Ping demands the highest ethical and environmental standards throughout its global business operations and within its supply chain. The source of all incoming materials and the ethical standards of all approved suppliers are continuously verified. Suppliers are required to sign their commitment to the Workplace Conditions Assessment (WCA) standard and compliance with regulations concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals of the European Union (REACH).

Recycling and waste reduction

Tai Ping follows a continuous improvement program for waste reduction which starts by controlling the weight and length of input materials and standardising the method of carpet fabrication. This resulted in a 30% reduction in input material weight and resulting output waste over the past eight years.

Offcuts (yarn and other materials) are saved and either reused in manufacturing through re-dyeing, or used on other projects. In 2019, the workshop achieved an average yarn utilisation rate of 75.2%. Any materials not reused or recycled are donated or sold as raw materials to selected partners or innovators.

Wastewater treatment and pollution prevention

Tai Ping's flagship artisan workshop in Xiamen is a zero pollutant discharge facility where 100% of water needs are met through recycling and rainwater harvesting. Tai Ping's wholly owned wastewater treatment plant recycles clean water for reuse in the facility, to support cooling of the building and for irrigation of the garden and factory grounds. To further identify opportunities for reduction, Tai Ping tracks its water use across the facilities to understand and monitor consumption patterns.

Auditing and emissions measurement

As an audited company, Tai Ping is required to declare all energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions over the financial year according to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG2.0) which are published in the Tai Ping Group's annual financial report.

- Continuous monitoring and measurement machines are in place inside the manufacturing facilities, the data is collected and provided to Tai Ping's auditor by a third party company.
- Performance targets are set each year to reduce emission levels (water, gas, noise and other pollutants) and consumption levels (water, electricity and steam).

Testing and Certification

All Tai Ping products are tested and pass global regulations and certifications for **VOCs**, **REACH** and qualify for **LEED** and **WELL** credit points.

Sustainability Assessments

Tai Ping undertakes both internal and external environmental audits to ensure that practices meet required standards. Tai Ping has also participated in the **Ecovadis** sustainability performance assessment, which covers aspects including environmental responsibility, labor and human rights, ethical practices, and sustainable procurement strategies. In 2023 Tai Ping achieved a Silver rating from Ecovadis, placing the company among the top 23% of evaluated enterprises.

Sustainable Programs - NEWS

The Biophilic Program by Tai Ping (launched at Salone Milan in 2024) is a development of 16 rugs made with natural, undyed fibres and materials representing a logical progression of Tai Ping's comprehensive sustainability strategies.

The inspiration behind the Biophilic Program was to champion the inherent advantages of natural materials in the context of Tai Ping's Sustainability Strategy and core values, which include:

- 1/ Making high quality products that are durable and long lasting**
- 2/ Reducing waste, energy and water use**
- 3/ Phasing out of the use of synthetic materials**

To address these challenges, the Biophilic Program is crafted using 100% natural, undyed materials. This approach substantially reduces both energy and water consumption during production while ensuring products are non-polluting by nature.

By opting for undyed yarns, Tai Ping achieves a remarkable 60% water saving and an 85% reduction in energy usage compared to standard dyed yarn applications. Furthermore, natural yarns outperform their synthetic counterparts, retaining their luxurious appearance for longer than synthetic alternatives.