

Educational Manufacturing Tour – Tarkett Commercial Flooring Facilities

Purpose:

This visit provides the district facilities team with hands-on education about how commercial flooring used in schools is designed, manufactured, installed, and maintained. The goal is to strengthen the team's knowledge of product performance, lifecycle value, sustainability practices, and maintenance procedures so they can make more informed flooring decisions for district facilities.

Tuesday – Hard Surface Flooring Manufacturing & Design:

Learning Topics

Commercial Flooring Product Development

- Overview of Tarkett's history and commercial product development process
- How performance requirements for schools influence product design
- Education on product categories currently used in educational facilities

Hard Surface Product Design & Engineering

- How LVT construction impacts durability, dimensional stability, and wear performance
- Understanding wear layers, backing structures, and finishing processes
- Custom design capabilities used in education projects

Hard Surface Manufacturing Tour

- Step-by-step production of commercial LVT flooring
- Quality control and dimensional stability testing
- Manufacturing processes that impact long-term performance in schools

Operational Discussion

- Best practices for specification, installation, and lifecycle planning for hard surface flooring in school environments

Wednesday – Carpet Manufacturing, Innovation & Maintenance:

Learning Topics

Fiber Production & Performance

- How commercial carpet fiber is produced
- Differences in fiber types and their performance in high-traffic environments like schools
- How fiber construction impacts durability, appearance retention, and maintenance costs

Product Innovation

- Development of new flooring technologies and materials
- Testing standards for commercial flooring used in education facilities

Sustainability Practices

- Recycling initiatives and circular manufacturing
- Environmental certifications relevant to public buildings and schools
- Material transparency and sustainability reporting

Tufting & Carpet Construction

- How carpet tile and broadloom carpet are manufactured
- Differences in backing systems and their impact on performance

Carpet Finishing Process

- Dyeing, finishing, and backing application
- Quality control testing procedures

Design Process

- How carpet patterns and colorways are developed for education spaces
- Balancing aesthetics with maintenance and durability

Product Demonstrations

Powerbond Demonstration

- Unique hybrid flooring construction used in high-traffic environments

Maintenance & Cleaning Training

- Proper cleaning methods for commercial carpet in schools
- How maintenance procedures impact lifecycle cost and warranty performance
- Demonstration of recommended cleaning equipment and processes

Outcome for the Facilities Team:

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of...

- How commercial flooring products used in schools are manufactured
- Factors that impact long-term durability and lifecycle cost
- Sustainability and environmental considerations
- Best practices for installation and maintenance to maximize performance

This knowledge helps the district make **more informed flooring decisions, reduce maintenance costs, and extend the life of flooring installations in school facilities.**

FLORENCE + NW Georgia Itinerary Example

Monday

Arrivals - Flights into Huntsville, Alabama

Tarkett van departure to Florence hotel

Check into Florence hotel

Dinner

Tuesday

Hotel checkout

Breakfast

Tarket van departures to Tarkett East, Florence, AL

- History of Tarkett + onsite product knowledge (Victory + Contour + iD Latitude finishing)

- hard surface product design discussion/tour

- hard surface manufacturing tour + custom capabilities

- catered lunch onsite, or boxed lunches en route to Dalton

Tarket van departure to Dalton, GA **3.5hr drive**

Chattanooga or Dalton area hotel check-in

Dinner

Wednesday

Hotel Checkout

Tarkett van departure to Calhoun, GA

- Breakfast

- extrusion tour

Travel Smith Industrial Dr, Dalton

- Innovation

- Sustainability

- tufting tour

- catered lunch onsite

Travel to Vista Drive facility, Dalton

- carpet finishing tour

Travel to Artesia facility, Dalton

- carpet design tour

- powerbond demo

- carpet cleaning + maintenance demo

Departure for Chattanooga airport – homeward bound