# RAGOLLE® PASSION FOR RUGS

Sustainable Business



# History

Ragolle was founded in 1950 by Alfred and Maria Ragolle. In 1985 the second generation, Myriam Ragolle and her husband Herman Verhelst set up a rug division. Nowadays, with Annemie Verhelst as our Product Development Director, we have the third generation along behind the steering wheel.

In June 2022, Ragolle was acquired by Victoria PLC, a British group specialising in flooring. Katrien Vandenbroucke is our CEO at Ragolle Rugs. As young members of the management team, Katrien and Annemie emphasize on an even more sustainable business. They both have a clear vision of the future in which sustainability takes a natural place.





# Peace, dignity and equality on a healthy planet

# SUSTAINABLE GALS







































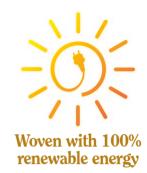
## Sustainable Business

Sustainable development is a strategy of driving growth, while using resources efficiently. It takes into consideration the immediate and long-term well-being of environment and people.

The three pillars of sustainability in our business are:

- Environmental: Reducing waste and carbon footprints, while maximising energy efficiency which helps to reverse negative impacts on the environment such as pollution and global warming.
- **Economic:** The efficient and responsible use of resources results in long-term profitability and business viability.
- Social: Focus on initiatives like employee safety, wellness, diversity and inclusion supports the creation of healthier communities that can sustain themselves.





# Power Supply

Ragolle produces approx. 26% of its own energy demand by solar panels which are placed throughout the roof of the factory. The remaining 74% of the energy is bought from an energy supplier, who also generates energy from fully renewable power sources (wind and solar energy).

The roof of our weaving mill is covered with 15,000 m<sup>2</sup> of solar panels.

Last year our own energy production was 1.266.190 kWh.

Our consumption was 4.880.139 kWh.



## Clean Water

Zero (0.0) liter water is polluted during the production of our rugs.

We completely reuse the excess Latex remnants.

The total consumption of water for our daily operation and maintenance (including f.ex. toilets):

- Self-collected rainwater: 1,744 m³ of water
- Tap water: 2,081 m<sup>3</sup>

Picture left: We collect the rainwater in an underground container of approximately 650,000 liters.



## Climate Action

We do the utmost to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

All our 20 forklifts and 5 order pick trucks are fully electrically powered.

We strive for a maximum of E-cars with our service vehicles and company owned passenger vehicles.

We have charging stations available for both our own staff and visiters.



## Minimise Land Use

Our large natural pond at the front of our building is not only an ideal foraging place for migrating waterfowl in winter (f.ex. wigeons and northern shovelers), but the shrubbery and reed-covered shores are a true breeding ground in spring. The tufted duck is one of our regular breeding guests.

With our mini nature reserve we meet goal 14 "Life Below Water" and goal 15 "Life On Land" of the United Nations "Sustainable Development Goals".



# Textile Waste → Automotive Industry

All textile waste which is generated during production, such as the edges of the woven pieces on the loom, are recycled and processed into insulating thick cloths. This insulation material is re-used in dashboards, doors and roofs of cars, functioning as sound dampening panels.



# Recycled Packaging

Ragolle uses plastic film to protect its rugs for shipping. Our plastic film contains 30% recycled material in order to offer the most sustainable solution.

We use cardboard tubes when rolling up short pile qualities (f.ex. Royal Palace) or our structured weaves (f.ex. Brighton). These are all made from 100% recycled cardboard.



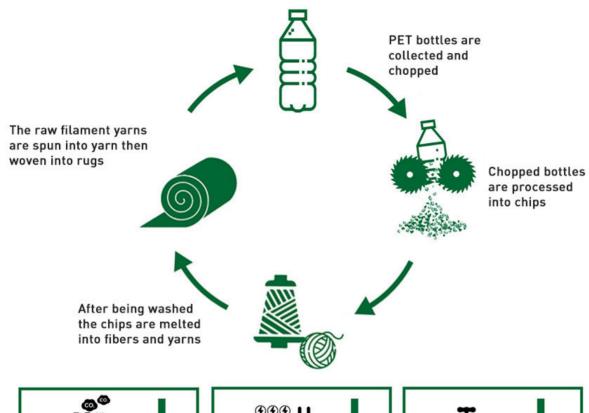
# Other recycling activities

In addition to recycling textile waste and shaving dust, we also collate all remains of plastics as well as paper and cardboard, cans and plastic caps, toners and cartridges, scrap metal, ...



# Cycling to work

Ragolle Rugs encourages all its employees to commute to work by bicycle. The employees are paid a fixed bicycle allowance per kilometer ridden. It not only benefits the environment but also the health of our staff who cycle to work. Less parking spaces also means more unpaved open space.









# Using recycled materials

During product development, we continually investigate which recycled materials can be used. It is our aim to use the maximum amount of recycled material for new qualities. Masai was the very first rug of which the pile contains 80% recycled pile material.





#### GRS has three main objectives:

- Align definitions of "recycled" across different applications.
- Verify recycled content in products.
- Give brands and consumers a means to make well considered buying decisions.

#### GRS has additional aims:

- Reduce the harmful impact of production on people and the environment.
- Provide assurance that products are processed in a more climate-friendly way.
- Encourage higher proportions of recycled content in products.

Picture left: Masai rug containing 80% recycled pile material







# Certificate

## OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100

## Ragolle Rugs nv

is granted the OEKO-TEX\* STANDARD 100 certification and the right to use the trademark.

#### SCOPE

Woven carpets for domestic or outdoor use – pile made of PP, PES, PES/PP, VI/CO chenille/PES, JU/WO/VI, WO, PP/PES, VI, VI/PAN chenille, VI/PES, VI/CO (<20% recycled CO from pre-consumer textile cutouts); dyed – with backing made of JU/PES/CO, PP/PES, WO/JU/PES/VI, PES/PP, CO/PES/VI, PES/CO/VI, CO/PES – all with coating: SBR latex

#### PRODUCT CLASS

IV (decoration material) - Annex 4





STANDARD 100

1206027 Centexbel

This certificate 1206027 is valid until 30.06.2024.

#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓ Test report: 2537
- Declaration of conformity in accordance with EN ISO 17050-1 as required by OEKO-TEX°
- ✓ OEKO-TEX<sup>®</sup> Terms of Use (ToU)

Stijn Devaere Certification Officer

# Rugs from Ragolle and Oeko-Tex

All our rugs are without any exception labelled as Oeko-Tex Standard 100 tested.

To achieve this, our rugs undergo very strict tests every year in independent laboratories. With the Standard 100 label on our rugs, you can be certain that every component of the rug has been tested for harmful substances and that the rug therefore is completely harmless for human health.

In the test the independent laboratories take into account numerous regulated and non-regulated substances, which may be harmful to human health. In many cases the limit values for the Standard 100 go beyond national and international requirements. All rugs from Ragolle have passed the severe tests.



# Eco viscose yarns

From January 2024 onwards, we will make the switch with our viscose for Royal Palace to using ecological viscose yarn. This yarn is sourced by 100% guaranteed sustainable forestry.

It is made with low water consumption, low greenhouse gas emissions and of course the product is 100% biodegradable.

The value chain can be traced upward and downward. The system follows a stringent protocol that can be tracked across the entire journey from source to the finished rug.



## **Better Cotton**

Better Cotton is the world's leading sustainability initiative for cotton.

Our mission is to help cotton communities survive and thrive, while protecting and restoring the environment.

Ragolle Rugs buys cotton from official Better Cotton Members with whom we exchange the traceable units.



# Supply Chain Sustainability

We not only strive to develop ourselves as a maximum sustainable company. We also urge all our suppliers to do the same. We can therefore confidently guarantee that our largest suppliers themselves attach great importance to sustainability.

As an example, our main yarn supplier has three of its own power stations, one on solar panels, another one on wind energy and also a hydroelectric power station.

Our suppliers also invest a lot of resources in the social well-being of the entire community.

Picture left: Some wind turbines from our main yarn supplier.









# People

We currently have approx.160 employees at Ragolle Rugs. The male-female ratio is approx. 60-40. Ragolle Rugs does not make any distinction between employees with regard to their sexual orientation or gender. Many "new Belgians" are also employed in our weaving mill. Approx. 20% of our employees have their roots abroad. Ragolle Rugs may weave exclusive designs, but we are inclusive when it comes to people.

We consider the following matters to be very important: diversity, ergonomics, good health, safety at work and psychological well-being. Our employees are well trained and well compensated for their services and labour.





## **Newcomers**

Newcomers have a godfather and godmother at their side, who will fully support them in their new job and working environment for as long as necessary. Ragolle Rugs has zero tolerance when it comes to bullying behavior from toxic employees. Respect is key in our code of conduct. Employees can contact both an internal and external confidential counselor if they have complaints.



# Training means protecting our staff

We also train our people to form teams such as a first aid team or a fire extinguishing team with regular updates and exercises.

Ragolle Rugs is aware that a fair social policy also leads to a healthy social community.



# Social Rights & Responsibility

To safeguard the social rights of workers, an elected delegation of the two active trade unions ACV and ABVV have a seat on our "works council" and "committee for prevention and protection at work".

This is where transparent consultation takes place between employees and employers within our company. Social elections for the delegation take place every four years.



## Mission, Values and Vision Statement

#### Mission

Our mission is to be a leading manufacturer of high quality and sustainable rugs with a unique identity. By combining state-of-the-art technology and skills with true passion, we provide added value and a competitive advantage for both our company and our customers on a long-term basis. In this way we assist our customers in reaching their objectives.

#### **Values**

Keywords of our values are: people, motivation, commitment, passion, sustainability, integrity, responsibility, reliability, creativity, efficiency, environment, trendsetting, innovation and fair-play competition.

#### Vision

Our vision is to create a healthy environment which inspires our people to be at the very best in their job, becoming the most respected manufacturer with a very well-recognised trademark in the rug world, committed to steadily improving our professional standards in order to exceed our customer's expectations.

The right designs, in the right colours, in the right quality, at the right time.

