

AIR FORCE ROLLS OUT SOY-BACKED CARPET



The U.S. Air Force, which operates one of the largest lodging operations in the world, began using carpet made with soy-based backing in 2009. Designated under the federal BioPreferredSM program, biobased carpets are now used throughout Air Force lodging facilities. The Air Force has lodging operations at 93 bases worldwide with more than 31,000 bed spaces. By 2010, the Air Force had installed the soy-backed carpet in about ten percent (or 3,000) of those rooms. The carpet in these facilities is upgraded every six years, and every time that happens, the plan is to install soy-backed carpet.

The soy-backing product, manufactured by Universal Textile Technologies (UTT), replaces more than 90 percent of the petroleum-based polymers in its polyurethane formula with biobased polymers derived from domestically grown soybeans.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.SOYBIOBASED.ORG

Because of the potential for biobased products to create new markets for soybeans, U.S. soybean farmers have invested millions of dollars to research, test and promote biobased products. Much of this work was done through the United Soybean Board, which is composed of 73 U.S. soybean farmers appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to invest soybean checkoff funds. As stipulated in the Soybean Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Services has

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