

# EVA-LAST® ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE

OUR PLEDGE TO SUSTAINABLITY

## **Our Reason for Being**



## The quest for better

Our slogan says it all; "Inspired by Nature, Designed for Life". In this simple line lies the heart and soul of Eva-Last<sup>®</sup>, and an insight into why we do what we do. We believe in making a positive impact on the environment by providing sustainable building solutions, which holistically improve our customers' lives.

The first half of our slogan, "Inspired by Nature", pays tribute to the wonders of nature and our dedication to sustainability. The second half, "Designed for Life", refers to our reputation for designing quality products that outperform the competition.

Our slogan is more than just a catchphrase; it embodies why we get up in the morning and do the work we do.

## We Make the Difference



## Sustainable to the Core

In a world with advanced technologies capable of recycling waste products and converting them into useful products like composite boards, why continue to destroy our forests?

Planet Earth is under threat. For far too long, humans have taken our natural resources for granted. Now we are beginning to feel the effects of our own ignorance and carelessness and run the irreversible risk of destroying our own home.

To make a difference, we need to take active measures to improve the impact our lives and businesses have on the environment, and contribute positively to ensure a greener future for all.



## OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

When you choose Eva-Last<sup>®</sup>, you're choosing the best solution for both you and the environment. Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> products are the low-maintenance, reliable alternative to wood that consistently outperform timber and other composite materials. They're also the environmentally friendly material choice that is gentler on the Earth.

## Industry & environmental recognition

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> has always been at the forefront of the green building industry. Since our inception in 2007, we have been consistently improving how we serve the environment and our clients.

From the recycled and renewable raw ingredients we use to create our products, to the solar power we harness to manufacture it (and the count-less trees we save from deforestation), we are proud to offer holistically sustainable building products.

## We love trees

Not a single tree is cut down for the purpose of producing Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> composite building products.

## Made from recycled & sustainable materials

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> composite products are made up of recycled plastics, which would otherwise end up in landfills, and highly renewable bamboo fibres.





## **OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PHILOSOPHY**

#### Zero waste

We have a zero waste policy. This means that every bit of leftover material is put back into the manufacturing line to be recycled and made into something new and sustainable.

#### No harmful chemicals

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> products are free of toxic chemicals and preservatives normally used for the treatment of natural timber.

#### Sustainable manufacturing

We recognise the linked impact of greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, and pollution, and take action to preserve the environment as much as possible. Our state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities run almost entirely on solar power, saving 2000 tons of  $CO_2$  per day.

#### Getting there with "green" in mind

We go the distance to ensure we have lowest possible carbon footprint. From eco-conscious office policies to encouraging employees to work from home, we continually minimise our  $CO_2$  footprint as best we can.



Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> is making a significant contribution globally in green building products and methods.

KUMI NAIDO, International Executive Director of Greenpeace,

Climate Change Leadership Awards (CCLA), 2011





As a global market leader, we consider and comply with all international green codes and expectations.

## ACCREDITATIONS, AWARDS, & CERTIFICATIONS

Since inception, we have been at the forefront of the green building industry, and have received a number of green building accolades – among them certifications and awards from the Forest Stewardship Council, Intertek Verification and Testing, SGS and the Climate Change Leadership Awards. We work to continuously innovate and enhance our offering to satisfy our commitment to the environment.



## **AWARDS**

- 2009 Decorex JHB, Sundome / Decorex greenest product award
- 2010 Decorex DBN, Gallegar Estate / Decorex greenest product award
- 2011 Climate Change Leadership Awards / Silver award
- 2012 Decorex JHB, Sundome / Decorex product excellence award
- 2013 Homemakers Award, Sundome / Green product award
- 2014 Decorex JHB, Coca-Cola Dome / Decorex product excellence award
- 2015 Decorex Durban, KZN Exhibition Centre / Decorex greenest product award
- 2016 Homemakers Award, Ticketpro Dome / Decorex excellence award
- 2017 Decorex Cape Town, CTICC / Decorex greenest product award
- 2019 Decorex JHB, Ticketpro Dome / Decorex greenest product award

## CERTIFICATIONS

Green Building Council of South Africa



FSC / Certified (2009)



CE / Certified (2009)



Intertek / Certified (2011)



ISO / Certified (2013)



ASTM INTERNATIONAL / Certified (2014)



United States CCRR for Infinity® decking / Certified (2020)

## **SUPPORT & CERTIFICATION DOCUMENTS**



Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> and its manufacturing partner, Anhui Sentai, hold several globally recognised certifications and have been through years of vigorous product testing to ensure top quality performance. Product support documents include Material Data Safety Sheets, hazardous chemicals testing, FSC certification, Intertek certification, ISO 14001 certification, CE certification, CCRR certification, and others. Please contact us for details on testing and results.

# WHY BAMBOO?

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> uses bamboo to create composite that is better performing and better for the earth. Here are four of the main reasons we choose bamboo and urge others to consider using it as well.



#### SUSTAINABLE

Bamboo is a type of grass which grows and regenerates extremely quickly, with most species reaching adulthood within 3 – 5 years. This amazing plant is one of the most environmentally friendly resources on the planet and requires no pesticides or chemical fertilisers to grow. Bamboo keeps our soil stronger, our air cleaner and our environment healthier.



#### STRONG

Bamboo is one of the most underrated materials on the planet when it comes to strength. It has a greater tensile strength (resistance to being pulled apart) than steel, and can withstand compression better than concrete. These properties make for an ultrastrong finished product.



#### COOL

Bamboo is known for its incredible cooling effect and its ability to deflect heat more effectively than wood. All natural fibres have a built-in thermostat, and Mother Nature has turned bamboo's way, way down. This means your deck will be cooler in hot weather and a bit warmer in the cold – just another great benefit of using bamboo over wood for composite.



#### SAFE

Bamboo is an exceptionally clean and safe material. Its fibres contain bamboo kun substance which makes the bamboo organically anti-bacterial and eliminates the need for any chemical treatments. It naturally repels odour and is hypoallergenic when compared to timber. In fact, bamboo fibre is so clean that it is certified by most food agencies as safe to eat.

# **DEDICATED TO DEFEATING DEFORESTATION**

Our forests are in danger of disappearing. Every minute a forest the size of twenty football fields is cut down, and humans have already destroyed nearly 90 percent of the planet's rainforests. Unless we change our ways, we are on the dangerous track to completely decimating rainforests within the next century.

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> recognises deforestation as an imminent threat to the health of our planet, and we are determined to be part of the change that is necessary to preserve, protect, and begin to regrow our forests.

By offering eco-friendly bamboo composite alternatives to timber decking and building products we are saving trees from felling and proving that we live better when we live green.

Our engineers are focused on the aesthetic of our products as well as their functionality so that customers can enjoy the essence of beautiful tropical hardwoods without the environmental toll of damaging rainforests.

We have replaced the reused wood fibres of our original composite with bamboo to improve the sustainability – and durability – of our products. Our packaging now uses recycled materials and our business practices embrace the concept of using less and saving more.

We are continually rethinking and re-evaluating how we can make a bigger impact to lessen deforestation. We are open to your ideas and are working to foster collaboration and conversation within the building industry on how to collectively combat deforestation.

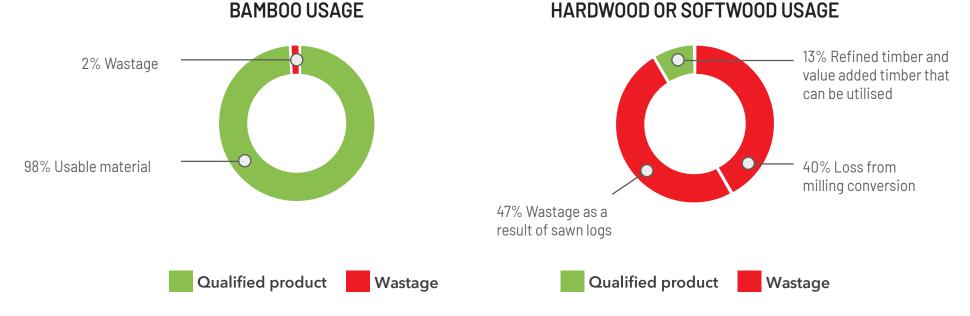


## **BAMBOO FACTS**

- Bamboo is a member of the grass family.
- This grass can grow in just about any soil or climate.
- Bamboo contains natural antibacterial properties.

## **RAINFOREST FACTS**

- Up to 28,000 species indigenous to rainforests may go extinct in the next quarter century due to deforestation.
- By the year 2030, we might only have 10% of rainforests left due to human interference.
- In the time taken to read this, almost 3 hectares of rainforest have been cleared.



Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> insists on using bamboo fibre which is efficiently converted into usable products.

# WHY RECYCLED PLASTIC?

By using recycled waste plastics, in combination with easily replenishable bamboo fibre, we are able to produce a highly durable composite product while saving millions of tons of plastic from entering landfills and oceans.

## Waste plastic is killing our planet.

## A plastic epidemic

Our world faces one of its greatest threats from our short-sighted consumption of single use plastics. Plastic is now the most common form of marine debris. Plastic enters the oceans from a number of different land and ocean-based sources and imperils all aspects of marine life. Once in the water plastic never fully biodegrades, breaking down into microplastics which are then ingested by the marine life. In 2020 Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> produced enough composite product to save the equivalent of 800 million 2I plastic milk bottles. Recycling one ton of plastic results in carbon dioxide savings of approximately 0.73 tons - the same as travelling 4000 km in a car.

## **EVA-LAST<sup>®</sup> RECYCLED** 26 000 TONS OF PLASTIC in the last 12 months.



#### Reduce, reuse and recycle

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> promotes eco-conscious practices in all areas of business and life. Be responsible: reduce, reuse, recycle.



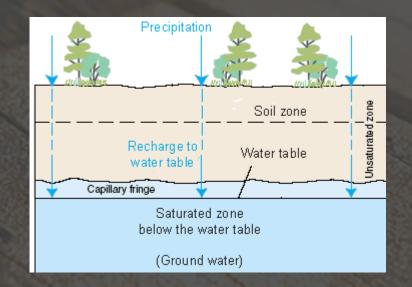
## Why we avoid harmful chemicals

Timber is often overharvested at great cost to the environment. Harmful chemicals and sealants, like arsenic and copper compounds, are often required to protect wood from insects, mould, and moisture. Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> composite is completely VOC and formaldehyde-free. Our low-maintenance products do not require any dangerous chemicals or compounds, making them a cleaner alternative to wood.



## Chemicals also contribute to soil contamination

Organic soil is full of nutrients and is a place for both plants and animals to thrive. When timber treatments are used and come into contact with the soil, they will eventually seep into the groundwater. This will result in the contamination of the water system, harming the ecosystem and the plants and animals that live there.







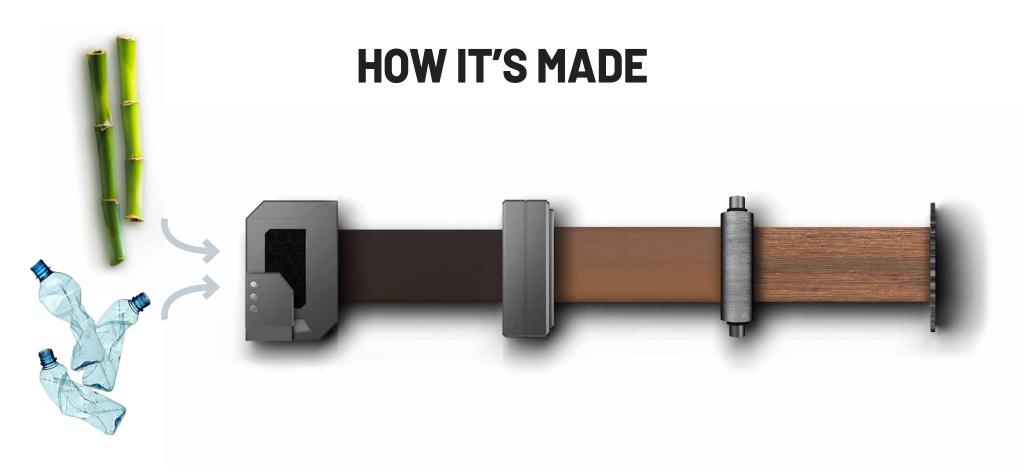


# **100% CLEAN**

Treated wood or the coating applied to timber may cause the soil and water around your deck to become contaminated. Eva-Last<sup>°</sup> composite requires no poisons or harmful chemicals for treatment or maintenance.

The bamboo fibre in Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> composite is contained in a high density polyethylene matrix and other recycled plastic mixes, giving the products greater strength and safety features.

Polyethylene and PVC are thermoplastics that Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> sources as recycled materials.



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Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> starts with a unique combination of bamboo fibre and recycled plastic pellets to create the ideal mixture.



Intense heat and pressure are applied to form a large, continuous block of composite material. Each colour is artistically blended as the composite is moulded into its final shape. 4

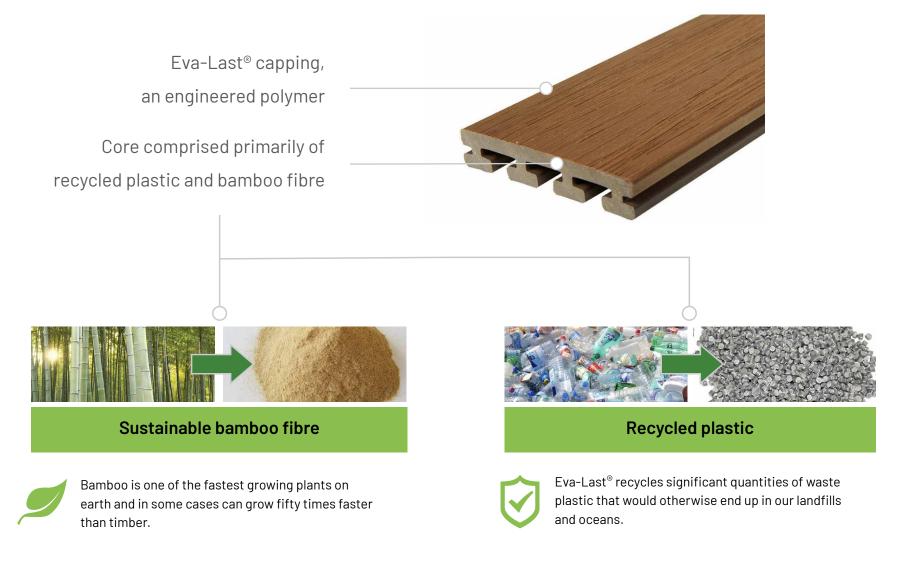
The dual-surfaced board is then embossed with two distinct grain patterns.



In the final stage, the co-extruded composite is cooled and then cut to length.



## EVA-LAST<sup>®</sup> BAMBOO COMPOSITE DECKING, CLADDING & RAILING PRODUCTS



# **SOLAR Powered Manufacturing**

One of the prime instigators of global warming is energy production using fossil fuels, such as coal and oil. Fossil fuel production and emissions are responsible for as much as half the global surface temperature increase and roughly 30% of global sea level rise.

The process to make Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> products was originally an energy intensive one, undermining the true environmental ambition of the company. Something had to be done. In 2017, in the pursuit of true sustainability, Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> proudly made the decision to move towards running production completely on green solar energy. This allowed Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> to further decrease its carbon footprint by cutting out non-renewable resources and replacing them with clean and sustainable solar power.

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> has partnered with Anhui Sentai to begin the installation of an army of solar panels. Since 2017, a total of **32 858 solar panels** have been installed, equal to **88 716 m**<sup>2</sup>. Currently the factory produces an average of **44 000 kWh** of solar power each day.



Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> and Anhui Sentai have installed 88 716 m<sup>2</sup> of solar panels on the Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> factory.

## **A SOLAR ERA**

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> achieves a huge offset in carbon emissions through the reuse of waste plastic and the adoption of bamboo fibre. However, producing our products was initially very energy intensive. We are a people Inspired by Nature, so, for us, this was a critical underlying issue.

We furthered our commitment to the environment by opting to manufacture exclusively with solar power. This bold move has helped us drastically reduce our carbon emissions.



## Putting it into perspective

## 1 kg of coal to produce 2.64 kWh of electricity

One kWh of electricity, when produced from a coal burning power plant, will release 0.94 kg (or 2.07 lbs) of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.

#### tons of coal to be burnt per day

Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> would need more than 10 tons of coal to be burnt daily to produce enough power to match our solar capacity.

# **2000 tons**

of CO₂ emissions SAVED per day

By using solar power instead of fossil fuels, Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> saves approximately 2000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per day from going into the atmosphere.

## **ONE WORLD, TWO FUTURES**

Atmospheric concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> are 37% higher than they have been at any time in the past 650,000 years.

In one future the international community continues burning fossil fuels and cutting down trees, ultimately leading to catastrophic climate change. Our forests and coral reefs are destroyed, poverty increases, food supply dwindles, and the global economy collapses.



In the other future the global community has adopted renewable energy and green products that can help to save our rainforests and oceans. Solutions are created for cleaning our oceans and recycling waste plastics. The global community prospers, poverty is reduced, and earth has time to heal.

## **THE CHOICE IS YOURS**

Join us in the effort to protect our plant and give our children the brighter option for the future.



We are committed to being a holistically sustainable company because we believe that we can make a positive impact on the environment, and inspire others to do the same. We believe that people want the best future possible for their children and will make more eco-conscious choices when given the chance. We believe in leading by example and believe in proving that living green and living well go hand in hand.





# **THANK YOU**

Please feel free to contact Eva-Last<sup>®</sup> to see how you can help make a difference.

### For more information:

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