

# STYLE PLANTATION

Sustainability Statement



style | plantation

NATURE'S FLOORING

# STYLE PLANTATION

## Sustainability Statement

### Our Mission

*“Enhancing the environment and our way of life, by providing quality renewable resource alternatives in keeping with a meaningful lifestyle”.*

If you are one of the growing number of consumers, design professionals and builders seeking ways to incorporate “green” products into your home and projects, you will find Style Plantation an experienced partner and valuable resource.

From the moment our company was founded we have been committed to developing and manufacturing beautiful bamboo products that:

- » Reduce dependence on dwindling timber resources
- » Rely on renewable-resource materials
- » Adhere to stringent, environmentally sensitive specifications
- » Promote green building
- » Help neutralize our company’s environmental footprint

The bamboo in China, where our bamboo products begin their life, grows naturally and does not require the use of pesticides, herbicides, or irrigation, other than the natural rainfall that it receives. Also, the bamboo does not require planting as the stalks can be cut off above ground and they will continue to grow, ready for harvest again in just a few short years. Compare this to a tree that may take 70 years to reach maturity. In addition bamboo has a vast root system network that constantly sprouts new shoots. Unlike many other resources, bamboo does not require gas guzzling tractors, pesticides, and herbicides to harvest and bring to production.

We use only Moso bamboo (*Phyllostachys pubescens*) known for its dense fibers and grown in the Zhejiang province of China, for the production of our bamboo flooring, accessories, panels and veneer. We also require that the bamboo is sustainably harvested at maturity, every 5-1/2 to 6 years.

With these specifications, we avoid product performance problems like cupping and warping associated with young, soft and often inexpensive bamboo that is harvested too soon. As a result, Style Plantation products are exceptionally durable and our source plants remain vigorous and healthy, harvest after harvest. In addition to relieving pressure on degraded forests, bamboo contributes to efforts to reduce global warming. Bamboo’s leafy canopy releases 35 percent more oxygen than a comparable cluster of hardwood trees, especially when you consider that the bamboo re-grows and reproduces a canopy many times in its lifespan.

In the renewing process, the plant grabs carbon from the air and holds it within its stalk and root system where, in nature, it is not released until the soil in which the plant decomposes is turned. Products made from bamboo take that carbon out of circulation. Style Plantation bamboo products harvested and manufactured correctly can last for many generations, keeping carbon locked up over the life of the products and helping to offset carbon usage that occurs in shipping our products to market.

Our commitment to doing things right extends to our direct relationships with the manufacturers that produce our products. For almost 10 years, we have partnered with manufacturers in China that share our commitment to quality, environmental responsibility, safety and sustainable business practices, including fair wages and safe working conditions. Our factories are ISO 9001:2000 and 14001-certified and FSC-certified.

