

Nature Core™

Improving the environment one panel at a time.

Planting the seeds of sustainability.

The HON Company is constantly striving to become a more sustainable enterprise. One of the guiding principles of sustainability is to use only natural resources that can be readily replaced or restored.

That's why we introduced Nature Core. It's a new, plant-based alternative to the synthetic materials long used to provide acoustical control in office furniture panels. And it's now standard in all Initiate® tackable panels.



Nature Core fiberboard is used inside Initiate panels for acoustics and tackability.

Order all you want, we'll grow more.

Nature Core is made primarily from natural fibers. Kenaf, the plant fiber used in Nature Core, is related to cotton and is also used for rope, animal feed, and paper.

Nature Core is a more sustainable solution because the kenaf plants used to make it are rapidly renewable – the plant grows 12-14 feet in just four or five months, producing one to two harvests every year.

Clearing the air.

Nature Core does not just reduce the impact to the environment, it's better for your office environment too.

Because no formaldehyde is added during production, and only natural flame-retardant materials are used, Initiate exceeds the most stringent indoor air quality standards.

Nature Core works in concert with low-emitting worksurfaces to make Initiate



Kenaf grows remarkably fast, so its use doesn't endanger or deplete natural resources.

the very first panel system to earn Indoor Advantage™ Gold certification from Scientific Certification Systems (SCS).

Naturally superior performance.

With Nature Core, you don't have to choose between performance and environmental responsibility.

- Initiate's Sound Transmission Class (STC) exceeds BIFMA standards.
 - Meets UL Class "A" fire rating.
 - Adds rigidity to panels, increasing workstation stability.
 - Can contribute to LEED certification.
- See back page to understand how.

Exclusively ours.

The HON Company was the first to devise a way to use kenaf for panel applications – so Nature Core is exclusive to us and HNI Corporation. We are pleased to offer it to our customers at no extra cost or upcharge!



Nature Core is another step in our journey toward more sustainable manufacturing.

Nature Core

LEED Don't Follow

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) Green Building Rating System™ provides a road map for making environmentally conscientious building and furniture decisions. Buildings can achieve LEED certification by meeting certain prerequisites (credits). The table below outlines some of the ways the Initiate panel system may contribute to LEED certification. Visit www.usgbc.org for more information on LEED certification.

MATERIALS & RESOURCES					
CREDIT**	REQUIREMENT	CREDIT NAME	CONTRIBUTION*	HOW INITIATE CONTRIBUTES	WHY INITIATE CONTRIBUTES
Credit 4.1 & 4.2	Use materials with recycled content such that the sum of post-consumer recycled content plus one-half of the post-industrial content constitutes 10% of the total value of the materials in the project.	Recycled content (post-consumer + 1/2 pre-consumer)	1 point for 10% 2 points for 20%	Aluminum parts Steel parts Recycled fabrics	Initiate contains on average 42.2% Pre-Consumer recycled content, and 10.7% Post-Consumer recycled content when a 100% recycled polyester fabric is selected.
Credit 5.1	Use a minimum of 20% of the combined value of construction and products that are manufactured within a radius of 500 miles.	Regional materials	1 point	Iowa manufacturing	Initiate can contribute to this credit if the building is within 500 miles of Muscatine, Iowa.
Credit 6	Use rapidly renewable materials made from plants that are harvested within a 10-year or shorter cycle, for 5% of the total value (\$) of all materials used in the project.	Rapidly Renewable Materials	1 point	Nature Core fiberboard	Initiate can contribute to this credit due to the use of Nature Core fiberboard. Nature Core fiberboard is made primarily of kenaf, an annually renewable plant.
INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY					
Credit 4.5	Systems furniture emissions are less than or equal to those determined by a procedure based on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) performed in an independent air quality testing laboratory.	Low-Emitting Materials, Systems Furniture and Seating	1 point	Nature Core fiberboard Low-emitting worksurfaces	Initiate is Indoor Advantage Gold certified by Scientific Certification Systems (SCS). This certification ensures conformance with LEED-CI criteria for EQ4.5, as well as BIFMA X7.1 Low-Emitting Furniture and Seating, California 01350 Special Environmental Requirements and Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS).
Credit 6.1	Provide lighting controls for at least 90% of occupants, enabling adjustments to suit individual task needs and preferences.	Controllability of Systems, Lighting	1 point	Workstation task lights	The Initiate product line includes task lights that attach to overhead storage units and freestanding task lights, all of which can be controlled by the end user.
Credit 8.3	Achieve direct line of sight to the outdoor for occupants in 90% of all regularly occupied areas.	Daylight and Views, Views for 90% of Seated Spaces	1 point	Initiate panel heights	Initiate is available in 42" panel heights, allowing direct access to daylight while still providing space division and privacy.

Reference: LEED for Commercial Interiors, Version 2.0

*Several variables are evaluated to determine total point award for LEED-CI certification. As a result, no particular product can guarantee point achievement. The point totals listed above refer to the total possible points for each credit area.

The LEED-CI credit areas listed above represent the **primary areas where HON products can make a contribution. In some cases, it may be possible for HON products to assist in other credit areas as well. Please visit www.HONthinksgreen.com for additional information.



Performance Specifications

SPECIFICATION	INDUSTRY REQUIREMENT	INITIATE'S PERFORMANCE	BENEFIT
Panel Strength	UL 1286 Standard for Safety for Office Furnishings, Section 20.3.	Exceeds the industry requirement by more than 20%.	The high density of Nature Core translates into a strong Initiate panel.
Tackability	Tackability test requires that a panel can support a one pound weight hanging from a tack pin for sixty seconds.	Exceeds the industry requirement by more than 300%.	Initiate panels have superior tackability to securely hold posted materials.
Fire Rating	Class A fire rating requires a Flame Spread Index of 25 or less and a Smoke Index of 450 or less.	Initiate has a Class A fire rating. Initiate's Flame Spread Index is 10, and its Smoke Index is 50.	Exceeds the Class A fire rating.
Sound Transmission Class (STC)	BIFMA recommends an STC of 15 for acoustic panels.	Initiate has an STC rating of 21.	Nature Core provides an excellent acoustical barrier.

For more details, and to monitor the progress of our environmental journey, visit www.honthinksgreen.com.



Smart now. Smarter later.

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