Environmental Statement

2026

spinneybeck | filzfelt

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt Knows Natural Materials

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt is committed to working with the finest natural and biodegradable materials, ensuring quality and environmental responsibility go hand in hand. Our approach to sustainable design considers every aspect of the supply chain and manufacturing process, evaluating each detail to minimize our ecological footprint. We continuously assess and refine our practices, striving to improve our impact on the environment.

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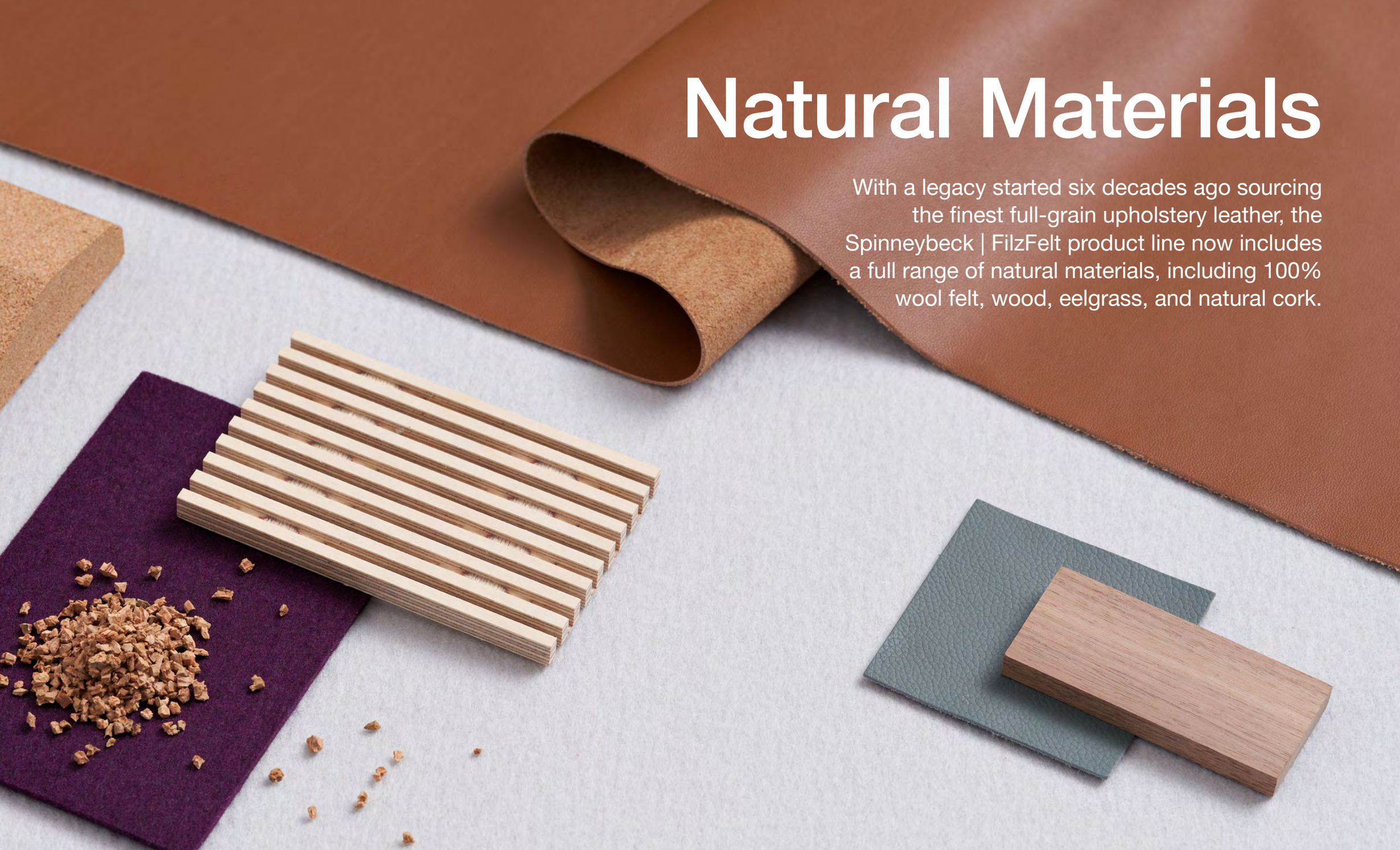
Natural Materials

With a legacy started six decades ago sourcing the finest full-grain upholstery leather, the Spinneybeck | FilzFelt product line now includes a full range of natural materials, including 100% wool felt, wood, eelgrass, and natural cork.



Leather

Leather is a time-honored and durable material created by tanning rawhide to preserve it and make it pliable when dry. Natural leather has many characteristics that make it superior to synthetic products, including durability, comfort, beauty, suppleness, and resilience. Additionally, leather's natural ability to develop a rich patina enhances its character and beauty over time, allowing it to wear in rather than wear out.

Zero Waste
Spinneybeck leather is a by-product of the meat industry—hides that would otherwise be discarded are repurposed for use on furniture and architectural products.

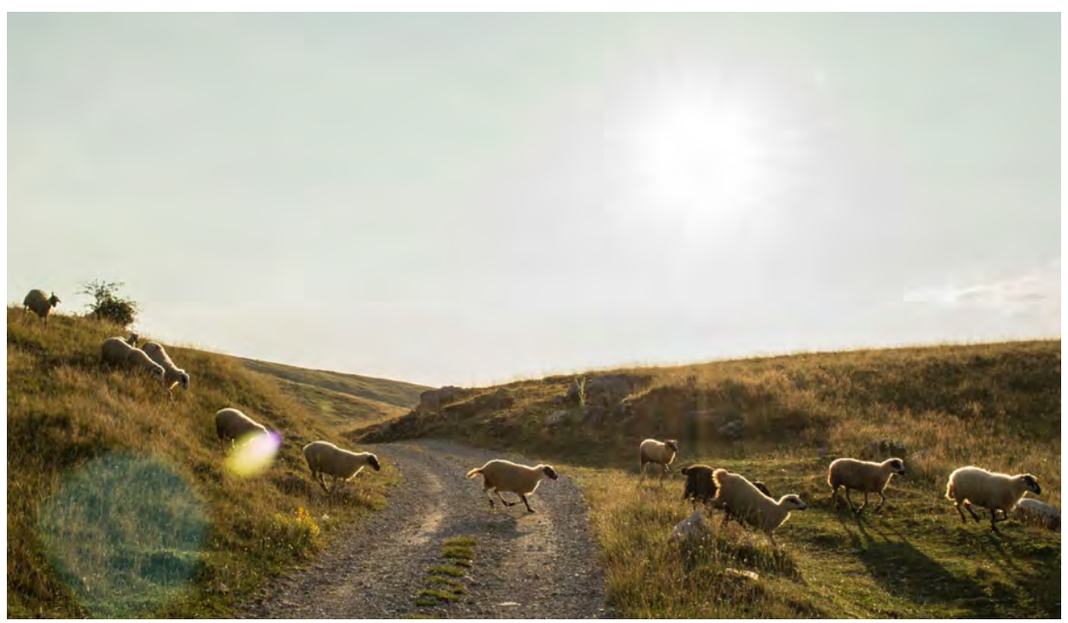
Commitment to Animal Welfare
Our leather comes from grass-fed, free-roaming European cattle that are free from harm. They have free range within stone fences instead of barbed wire and are never branded. This is clear with a higher quality hide and larger usable area that is free from punctures and flaws.

Durable and Long-Lasting
Our full-grain leather has significant tensile strength—outwearing textiles and top-grain leathers many times over—and, when properly maintained, a substantially longer life cycle than that of other upholstery materials and leather alternatives.

100% Biodegradable and Compostable
Leather is a natural product that is 100% biodegradable and 100% post-consumer recyclable when no longer in use, minimizing environmental impact by reducing landfill waste and use of natural resources.

100% Wool Design Felt

FilzFelt carries German-milled 100% Wool Design Felt in over ninety colors of highly saturated and lightfast colors. A biodegradable and renewable material, wool felt is moisture resistant and known for its thermal and acoustic insulation properties.



Animal Welfare
Animal welfare is important to us. Sheep are well-fed, comfortable, and free to engage in their natural behaviors. Sheep grow wool continuously to protect them from weather. Their fleece keeps them warm in winter and shearing keeps them cool in the summer while also protecting them from illness.

Rapidly Renewable Resource
Sheep grow wool continuously to protect them from the weather. The shearing process is carried out humanely each spring, ensuring plenty of time for the fleece to grow back again in time for the cooler winter months.

100% Biodegradable
100% Wool Design Felt is a nonwoven textile made from sheep's wool, water, and plant-based textile dyes making it biodegradable with the ability to be commercially composted.

100% Wool Design Felt

Declare Label
FilzFelt products contain zero components that are harmful or hazardous to human health or the environment and qualify as Living Building Challenge Red List Free.

Our Declare Label for 100% Wool Design Felt provides complete transparency on the composition of our felt products to support designers in making better product choices to ensure building sustainability.

OEKO-Tex Certified
FilzFelt's 100% Wool Design Felt has been tested and certified to meet the human-ecological requirements for products with direct contact to skin according to Product Class II of OEKO-TEX® Standard 100.

Contributes to LEED Certification
Natural materials play a crucial role in achieving LEED certification. As a rapidly renewable and biodegradable material, 100% Wool Design Felt contributes to the following LEED points:

LEED NC MR Credit 6.0 Rapidly Renewable Materials
LEED CI MR Credit 6.0 Rapidly Renewable Materials
LEED MR Credit: Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Sourcing of Raw Materials
LEED IEQc2: Low-Emitting Materials

Cork

Cork comes from the bark of the cork oak, an evergreen native to the forests of the Western Mediterranean. It's the only tree whose bark naturally regenerates, making it a truly renewable resource. Our cork products are crafted from the by-product of wine stopper production, using 93% recycled material in a waste-free molding process.

Rapidly Renewable

After harvesting, the bark of the cork oak tree takes, on average, nine years to fully regenerate and can be harvested repeatedly throughout the tree's entire life (up to 300 years).

Zero Waste

Just 25–30% of cork is used to manufacture natural stoppers, but what is left is not wasted—it is transformed into granules and returned to the production process. The same happens when cork stoppers are rejected by quality control. Unused cork, scrap, and dust are collected for processing into other cork products or even converted into heat in the factories. Nothing from the cork tree bark is wasted.

93%/86% Pre-Consumer Recycled Material

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt cork products feature 93% and 86% pre-consumer recycled material. Manufactured in a waste-free molding process, Lisboa and Porto tiles contain 93% recycled cork, while FilzFelt cork-backed wall tiles incorporate 86% recycled cork.

Cork

Declare Label

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt cork products contain zero components that are harmful or hazardous to human health or the environment and qualify as Living Building Challenge Red List Free.

A Declare Label is available, providing complete transparency on the composition of our cork and cork-backed products to support designers in making better product choices to ensure building sustainability.

Contributes to LEED Credit

Natural materials play a crucial role in achieving LEED certification. As a rapidly renewable and biodegradable material, cork contributes to the following LEED points:

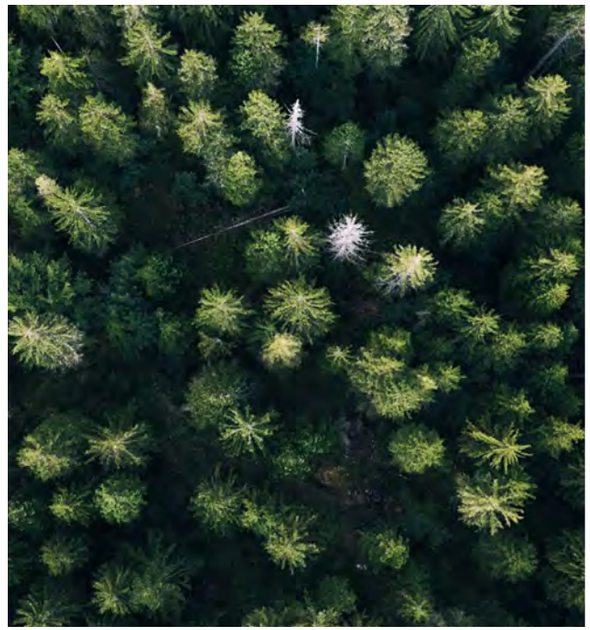
LEED NC MR Credit 6.0 Rapidly Renewable Materials
LEED CI MR Credit 6.0 Rapidly Renewable Materials

100% Biodegradable

Cork is a natural raw material that is one hundred percent biodegradable, recyclable, and renewable.

Wood

Very few building materials possess the environmental benefits of wood. A traditional material that is renewable and durable, wood also lends itself to many technological innovations used in the manufacture of architectural products today. From Softwood to molded plywood and flexible wood, Spinneybeck architectural products explore a broad range of wood types and innovative techniques.



Renewable
When managed responsibly, wood is a renewable resource. Spinneybeck is committed to deforestation-free practices to support the long-term sustainability of wood products.

CARB Compliant
Spinneybeck wood products are California Air Resource Board (CARB) compliant and meet stringent standards for reducing formaldehyde emissions, ensuring safer indoor air quality and a healthier choice for homes, offices, and public spaces.

FSC Certified Options Available
FSC-Certified (Forest Stewardship Council) wood is available, ensuring that the wood is sourced from responsibly managed forests and sustainable forestry practices are in place.

100% Biodegradable or Recyclable
Our wood collections, including Softwood, Flexible Wood, Design 406, and Quartile, are all composed of either plywood that is 100% recyclable or solid woods that are 100% recyclable and biodegradable.

Eelgrass

Eelgrass is a marine plant that grows naturally in the sea. Dating back to the 1600s, it was traditionally used as a roofing material on the remote island of Læsø, Denmark. Today, eelgrass has found new life in modern interiors as a fully sustainable acoustic solution for walls and ceilings.

Rapidly Renewable Resource
Eelgrass is a remarkable, rapidly renewable resource that naturally regenerates in the sea. This abundant plant naturally sheds its leaves annually, which gently wash ashore with the tides. The eelgrass plant goes on to grow new leaves.

Collected and Air-Dried
Working closely with local farmers and ecologists, Søuld has developed a responsible approach to eelgrass collection based on environmental protection and the preservation of eelgrass meadows. As the eelgrass washes ashore, it is collected and laid to dry naturally in the fields with sun and wind.

Carbon Storing Material
Eelgrass absorbs significant amounts of carbon while growing in the sea. The low-impact collection and manufacturing process of eelgrass prevents it from decomposing and releasing carbon into the atmosphere, resulting in a carbon-storing material.

100% Recyclable and Fully Circular
Søuld Eelgrass products are designed to be fully circular and focus on environmental impact. With a history of over 300 years as a roofing material on the Danish island of Læsø, Eelgrass has proven it can stand the test of time. When no longer in use, eelgrass products are 100% recyclable and can be returned to become a second generation of Eelgrass product.

Eelgrass

Declare Label - Living Building Challenge Red List Free
Spinneybeck | FilzFelt cork products contain zero components that are harmful or hazardous to human health or the environment and qualify as Living Building Challenge Red List Free. A Declare Label is available for eelgrass, providing complete transparency on the composition of our eelgrass products to support designers in making better product choices to ensure building sustainability.

CDPH
A CDPH VOC Emissions certificate is available that indicates eelgrass (with and without felt) complies with the California Department of Public Health's standards for low volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions and formaldehyde.

LEED
Natural materials play a crucial role in achieving LEED certification. As a rapidly renewable and biodegradable material, eelgrass contributes to the following LEED points:

LEED NC MR Credit 6.0 Rapidly Renewable Materials
LEED CI MR Credit 6.0 Rapidly Renewable Materials
LEED MR Credit: Building Product Disclosure and Optimization – Sourcing of Raw Materials
LEED IEQc2: Low-Emitting Materials

Chain of Supply

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt enjoys long-standing relationships with its partners. Our supply chain ensures consistency in raw materials, manufacturing processes, and color and quality consistency.

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt Abroad

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt has enjoyed a decades-old relationship with our felt mill and tannery, ensuring the highest quality and consistency in raw materials, tanning products and processes, and color consistency through high-quality, natural dyes.

A Certificate of Supply is required and kept on file by Spinneybeck for any of its business partners. Therefore, clients are assured of receiving European raw material that is tanned, dyed, and finished (if appropriate) in Italy.

All of our materials, from Portuguese cork to Danish eelgrass, Italian leather and German merino wool, are sourced through long-standing relationships with suppliers who share our passion for sustainability and uphold the highest standards and quality practices.

Spinneybeck | FilzFelt at Home

While our natural materials are harvested and manufactured farther afield, our architectural products are primarily manufactured in the U.S. Our Spinneybeck | FilzFelt headquarters and primary fabrication facility is in Getzville, New York, with a secondary fabrication facility in New Hampshire. This means we are within a 500-mile radius of Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, New York City, Montréal, Philadelphia, Toronto, and Washington DC. FilzFelt designer and partner, Submaterial, is based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, offering close proximity to the western U.S. coast.

Production Processes

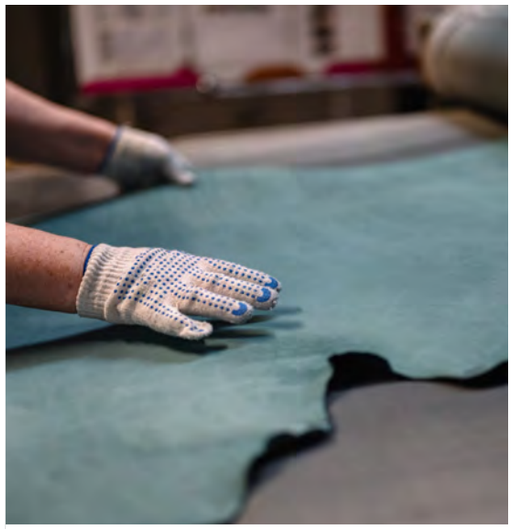
Our production processes ensure that we have minimal impact on the environment. Our products are manufactured using low-impact processes that consider every part of production, from collecting our natural materials to installing the final products.

100% Wool Design Felt

Our felt is produced in a chemical-free production process. 100% Wool Design Felt is a nonwoven textile produced from raw wool fibers that undergo a wet felting process of matting, condensing, and pressing. This ancient process involves solely natural ingredients, including sheep's wool, water, and plant-based textiles dyes that are safely disposed of in wastewater. In addition, ten natural wool felt colors are composed of wool and water exclusively. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) are not used in the production of 100% Wool Design Felt.

Cork

Cork harvesting is done entirely by hand to avoid causing harm to the tree, reducing the impacts of machinery during the production process. Spinneybeck's cork wall tiles are produced in a low-impact process that involves collecting waste and recycled material, grinding it into granulated cork, and mixing it with resin before pressing it into molds to produce the varied tile designs.



Leather

The Italian leather industry is highly regulated by the Italian government. In addition to their stringent environmental requirements, the tannery must adhere to all local regulations. The tanning, dyeing, and finishing processes at our tannery in Italy meet or exceed the environmental requirements outlined by the Italian government.

Water used during the tanning and dyeing processes is constantly collected, filtered, and purified. All salts used in the tanning process are removed from the water, and the dyeing processes are designed so that all dyestuffs are completely absorbed into the hides. Water is returned to the main water supply to be reused.

The chromium used in tanning is extracted and formed into nontoxic bricks for disposal in landfills. (It's important to note that the Chromium 3 used in leather production is not the carcinogenic Chromium 6.) Leather hides are trimmed during production, and excess material is used by others for small leather goods, including shoes, handbags, luggage, and belts.

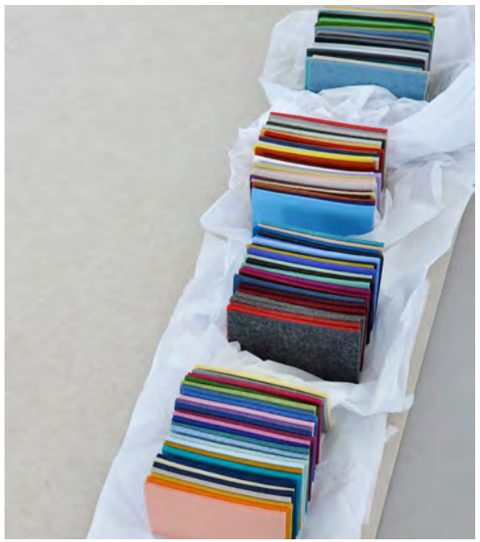
Eelgrass

Søuld's products are responsibly manufactured in Denmark through close, long-standing relationships with local partners who are equally committed to sustainable production. Collaborating with independent institutes and certification authorities to test and ensure that our producers meet the highest standards with respect to toxic emissions, Søuld only uses components that are manufactured without noxious chemicals and release no harmful substances into the indoor environment.

Søuld's products and processes are designed to be fully circular and with the lowest environmental impact possible. Søuld prioritizes environmental protection and the health of producers and customers seriously and requires the same from all production partners and suppliers.

Minimizing Waste

Our product lines are designed to make efficient use of material to ensure we reduce waste wherever possible. But we don’t stop there. We utilize offcut material for products that take advantage of even the smallest scrap material.



Remnants and Offcuts

Remnants and offcuts from our production processes are repurposed in various ways to help minimize waste.

Based on a 2-inch tile, our Mosaik product line is designed to reuse even the smallest of remnants. We also partner with clients who creatively repurpose offcuts, giving the material a second life.

Larger pieces of felt and cutouts are offered at significant discounts on the website, primarily used by crafters of small goods such as home accessories and bags. Binders and gently used samples are provided at no cost to local schools and universities.

Remaining remnant material is donated to local artists and charitable organizations in the Buffalo community, including Stitch Buffalo. Stitch Buffalo is a textile art center committed to empowering refugee and immigrant women through the sale of their handcrafted goods, inspiring creativity and inclusion through community education, and stewarding the environment through the reuse of textile supplies.

Cork

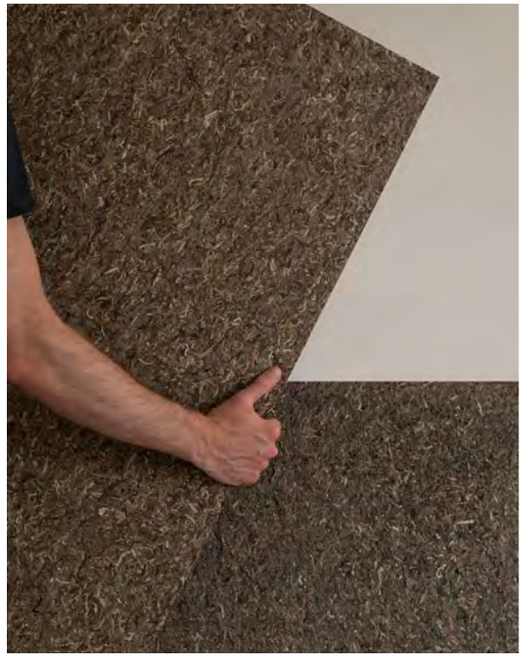
Manufactured with the waste material from wine stopper production, Spinneybeck cork products are composed of 93% recycled cork produced in a waste-free molding process. Just 25–30% of cork is used to manufacture natural stoppers, but what is left is not wasted—it is transformed into granules and returned to the production process. The same happens when cork stoppers are rejected by quality control. Unused cork, scrap, and dust are collected for processing into other cork products or even converted to heat in the factories.

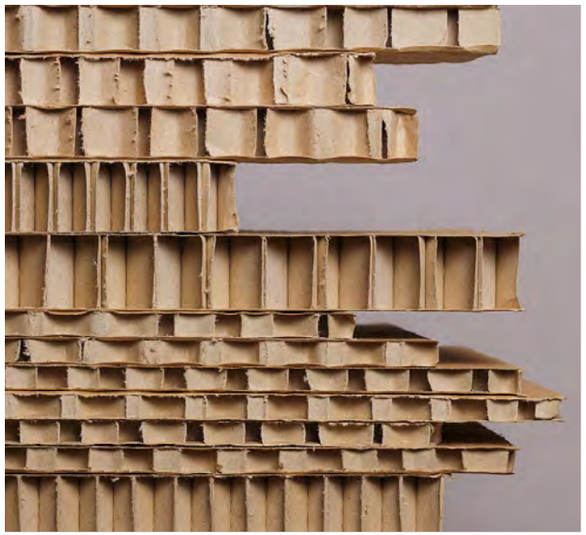
Eelgrass

Søuld Eelgrass products are designed to be fully circular and focus on environmental impact. When no longer in use, Eelgrass products are 100% recyclable and can be returned to become a second generation of Eelgrass material.

Wood

Any scrap wood from the production of our Flexible Wood, Softwood, and hardwood products is turned into samples for client requests.





Landfill-Free

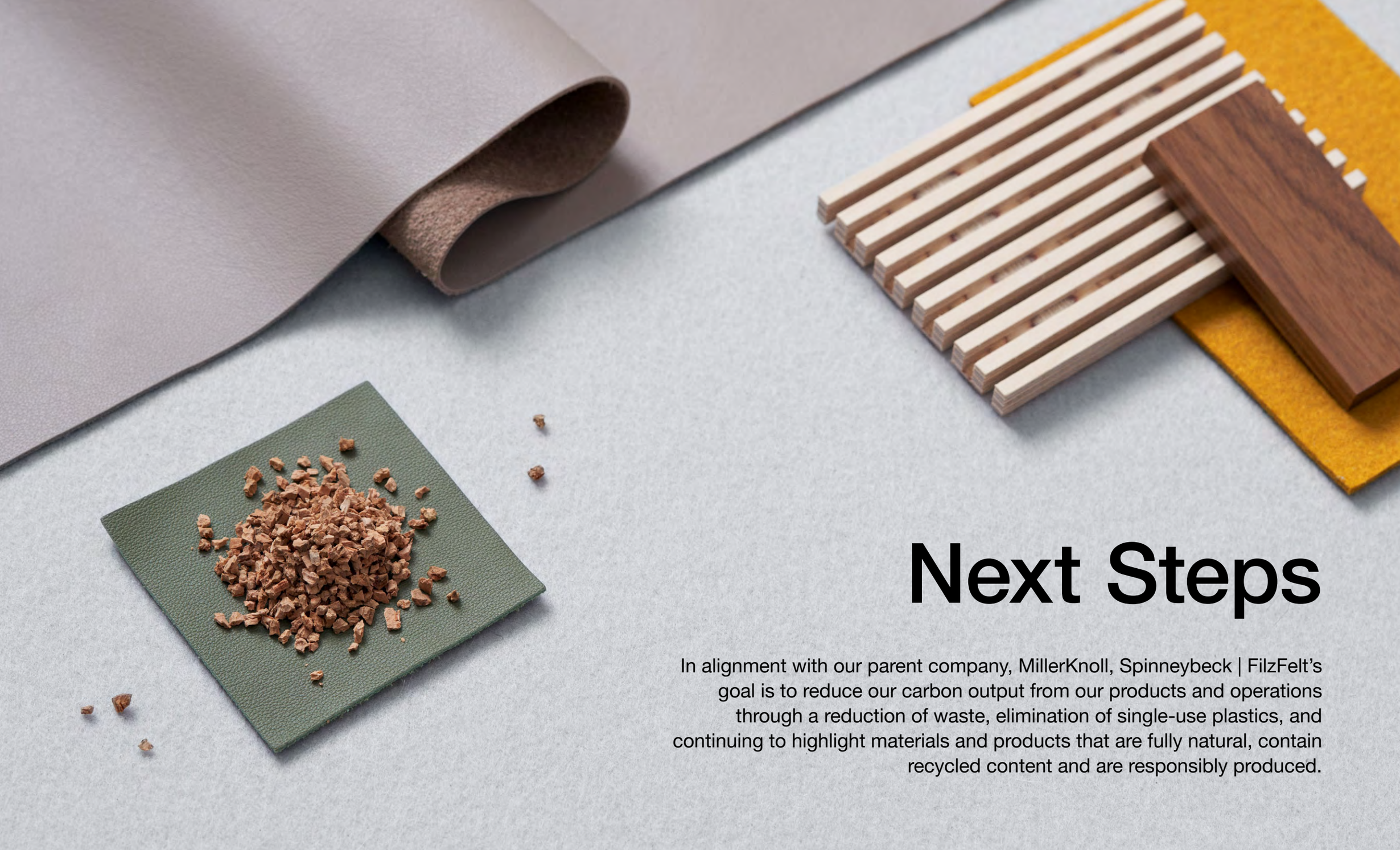
Spinneybeck | FilzFelt's headquarters in Getzville, NY is landfill-free. Though as much material is reused or donated as possible, the remaining waste is converted into energy. We partner with a waste-to-energy facility that converts unsalvageable material into a renewable, carbon-negative source of energy. This prevents material from accumulating in landfills and helps generate energy that is used by nearby communities.

Packaging and Transportation

In alignment with our parent company, MillerKnoll, our goal is to reduce the carbon footprint from our products and operations and to reduce single use plastics by 50 percent. We're also focused on adding more biodegradable or recycled materials that are responsibly and sustainably produced.

Our commitment to sustainability is also reflected in our shipping practices. We recycle all shipping and packing materials to minimize waste and reduce our environmental footprint. Crates for architectural products are made from quality materials, ensuring they can be reused or repurposed.

Materials are shipped according to project requirements. For stocking purposes, materials are transported via ocean freight to minimize the environmental impact of shipping.



Next Steps

In alignment with our parent company, MillerKnoll, Spinneybeck | FilzFelt's goal is to reduce our carbon output from our products and operations through a reduction of waste, elimination of single-use plastics, and continuing to highlight materials and products that are fully natural, contain recycled content and are responsibly produced.

Please contact us to learn more about our sustainability initiatives or to request documentation or additional information.

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