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## Technische Information

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### History of the floor covering Linoleum

We do not know how many nights the English chemist Sir Frederick Walton had to do without sleep before his so-called Indian Rubber Substitute was ready for patenting. It must have been quite a few. Nights which initially alternated between optimism and failure. But also characterised by his unswerving determination to succeed. And a no-compromise attitude that remained unaffected even by repeated setbacks.

However, the realisation that his patent with the number 3210/1863 was ideally suited as a floor covering was not actually made by Walton himself. He took up the advice of business partners and had his linseed oil compound applied to a base of jute cloth. Once dried, it resulted in one of the most stylish floor coverings of modern times, a product that was destined to soon become a classic of contemporary design: consistently ecological, authentic and admitting no compromise in terms of aesthetic appeal.

Half a century later this acclaimed material of the new 20th century was inextricably linked with another name: Deutsche Linoleum Werke (DLW). Today its merger with Armstrong has made the firm into one of the world's largest manufacturers of floor coverings, with a range that goes far beyond what Walton initially handed down to us.

The list of world-famous architects, artists and designers who have used DLW Linoleum from Armstrong as a unique element of interior design is just as lengthy as the list of buildings in which it has been laid. This floor covering was chosen by Walter Gropius for his so-called Meisterhäuser (Masters' Houses) in Dessau. It can also be found in virtually all the buildings of Stuttgart's Weißenhof Estate built in 1927, while in 1929 Mies van der Rohe used linoleum in his pavilion at the world exhibition in Barcelona.

Linoleum has lost nothing of its importance. Not where the leading architects and designers of the 21st century are concerned. And certainly not for the creators of this unique material, who are responsible for developing innovative floor coverings at Armstrong's workshops, laboratories and design ateliers. Every single floor covering is designed to satisfy a wide range of different demands and requirements. Yet they all have one thing in common: their developers' no-compromise approach to quality. They know that sleepless nights will pay off here.