



AGILite

Developing the digital and entrepreneurial competences
of VET trainers to support agile entrepreneurship training



Co-funded by the
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AGILite

- [TOC \o "1-2" \h \z \u Interface Incorporated](#)
- [United States](#)
- [Since 1994](#)
- [Building resilience skills for a sustainable future](#)

***Interface,
Inc.***

The initiative

Interface, a global manufacturer of commercial flooring products, has transformed its business model to embrace sustainability and the circular economy. With a focus on resilience, Interface invests in innovation and research to develop new sustainable products and technologies, such as biophilic design principles. Founder Ray Anderson's transformative experience in the 1990s led to the company's commitment to reducing its environmental footprint and creating a positive impact on society, making Interface one of the most resilient companies in the industry.

To achieve its Mission Zero program, Interface has implemented strategies such as developing a closed-loop supply chain, designing for the circular economy, and collaborating with stakeholders. The company's circular business model involves designing products for reuse, refurbishment, and recycling. Interface's forward-thinking, self-reflection, and sustainable practices have enabled it to navigate challenges in the industry and build resilience for the future.

Time frame

Since 1994

Areas of Focus

Interface's core areas of focus are sustainability, circularity, innovation, and collaboration.

People Behind the Case Study

Ray C. Anderson is the founder and innovator behind their sustainability programme.

Finance

Public company

THE JOURNEY

Outcomes to date

Interface has demonstrated resilience through sustainability focus, a circular business model, innovation, collaboration, and impressive results. The company has embraced sustainability as a core part of its business strategy, allowing it to adapt to changing market demands. Its circular business model enables the creation of new revenue streams while reducing waste and costs. Interface's investment in research and development has enabled it to be innovative in product design and stay ahead of competitors.

Collaboration with stakeholders has leveraged their expertise and resources to build resilience. The impressive results of Interface's circular business model include a 96% reduction in waste to landfill, an 87% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, and a 77% reduction in water use. This demonstrates the importance of building resilience skills for a business in the circular economy by adopting sustainable practices. By adopting a circular business model and implementing strategies to reduce environmental impact, Interface has not only created a more sustainable business but also a more resilient one that can weather future environmental challenges.

Origins

United States of America

Why it's relevant to AGILite

Building resilience skills is very important when building a circular business. This case study serves as a great example as it showcases the importance of forward-thinking through the company's commitment to sustainability from the early stages.

Interface's resilience as a business is evident in its ability to adapt to changing market demands, create new revenue streams through sustainable business practices, and achieve impressive results in reducing its environmental impact. These factors have enabled the company to build a more sustainable and resilient business that is well positioned for future success.

REFLECTION & DISCUSSION POINTS

Now, take a moment to reflect on what you have learned by answering these reflective questions:

- How can we incorporate collaboration and stakeholder engagement into our training programs to prepare students for the complex challenges of building a resilient circular business?
- How can we teach students to be innovative in their approach to product design and engineering, to support circular business models and stay ahead of the competition?
- How can we help students understand the importance of measuring and reporting on environmental impact, and use these metrics to inform decision-making and build resilience in circular businesses?

MORE INFORMATION

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