



End of Life Product Upcycling,
Donation & Recycling

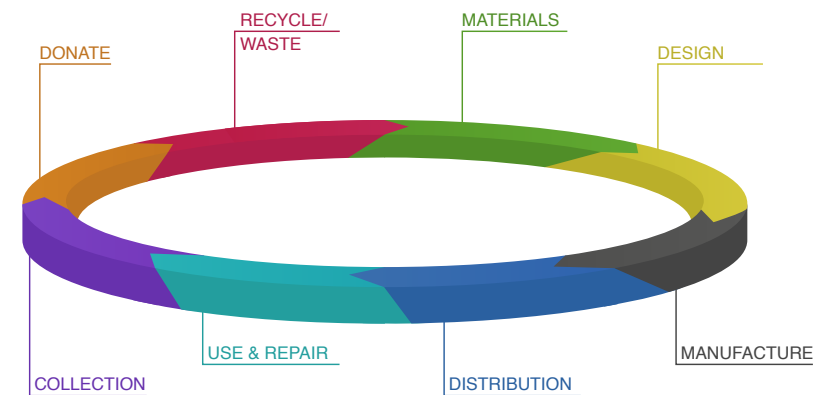
flexiform



In high-traffic areas, fabric may wear down and tear over time, whilst the chair itself is like new. We can re-upholster chairs to give them a fresh lease of life.

No matter how functional your office furniture may be, there may come a time when it's either scuffed or damaged, no longer fitting in with your interior design scheme, the wrong size, broken beyond reasonable repair, or simply not needed. Through our asset management service, we can help store and/or catalogue your stock helping you to manage old furniture in 3 different ways: [upcycle](#), [donate](#), or [recycle](#).

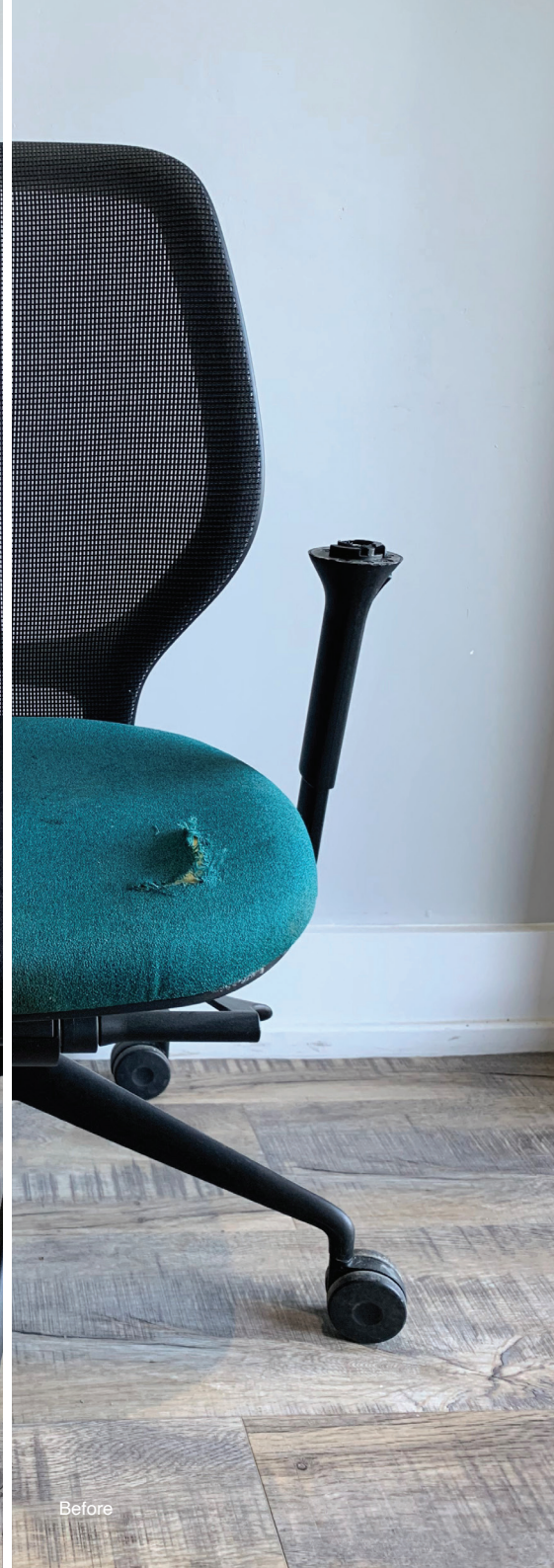
Our main aim is to extend the product life cycle as far as possible, only resorting to environmentally dispose when necessary.



A typical furniture lifecycle



After



Before



Upcycling Office Furniture

When your furniture is in good condition but requires a spruce up, we can help refresh and renew furniture including respraying steel carcasses, swapping worktops and storage tops for new, or re-upholstering task chairs and sofas.

When we upgrade furniture, a Flexiform member of staff would be able to advise on the best materials to re-apply to your furniture, whether that's a Fenix laminate that is designed for scratches to be heat treated without the need to remove the top, anti-bacterial paint or fabric, or a more hardwearing fabric for high-traffic areas. We'll discuss with you how the furniture is going to be used, where it will be placed, and what challenges it may face.

How do we upcycle furniture?

We'll first undertake a site survey and client briefing to understand what is required and the best way to upgrade the products with minimum disruption and cost to the client.

Depending upon the furniture, some will need to be taken back to the factory to be fixed (ie, steel respraying, re-upholstery), while others will be able to be done on-site (ie. worktops). Your dedicated Project Manager will be able to discuss with you the best way to manage furniture being off-site, with the potential to loan temporary furniture.



Remanufacturing of products

As a true manufacturer, our in-house Design and Engineering team and factory can help remanufacture and reconfigure existing furniture to fit your new design. This can help to significantly reduce costs of new furniture, and help save excess wastage.

The ability to remanufacture or reconfigure furniture depends on the product, design and materials. We would first evaluate the product and end goal, to produce a solution and outline of the process involved.

Case Study: Major High Street Retailer

To implement their new office design, 800 existing workstations would be rendered obsolete. Although the workstations were purchased over 15 years ago, they were still in good condition and of a very high quality, however unsuitable for the project as smaller desks were required to maximise occupancy on the floor plates. Flexiform dismantled, remanufactured the steel underframe into new desks, recycled the old worktops, replacing them with new. 700 workstations were re-used rather than being disposed of, this prevented tonnes of steel and aluminium being sent for recycling and reduced purchasing costs of new furniture saving 47.6 tonnes of carbon.



M&S reconfigured desks



Furniture components & manufacturing waste donated to Dixon Trinity's Design & Technology class

Donate

At Flexiform, we like to support local charities and schools by donating used office furniture, or furniture components to help schools Design & Technology classes. Previous examples have been the support of West Lothian Foodbank's new headquarters in Scotland (right), where we donated furniture removed from a local office installation, giving a new lease of life to the furniture and helping volunteers have a space to work, meet and relax.

The process of donating furniture can be managed by Flexiform, or we can work with the client to choose a charity to donate to. Our installation team would be able to dismantle and re-install the furniture at the chosen destination.

With our charity partners, we also like to request a testimonial for promoting both internally and on our website and social channels.



Scottish Foodbank with donated furniture



Disposal

Once the product has come to the end of its life and there are no other alternative avenues, we can remove it from the site and environmentally dispose of it. As our products are designed to last, this can be a while - we still have some cabinets in use over 40 years old!

We've partnered with Cossley Evans, a responsible and accredited waste management company that collects the furniture from our factory and breaks down the components for recycling. As a Zero to Waste company, you can be reassured that no products or materials go to landfill and any non-recyclable components are incinerated and converted to energy (EFW).

Unfortunately, as the products are combined with Flexiform's factory waste to save on excess mileage, we cannot provide individual project certificates. However, our recyclability rate is continuously over 95%.

Through our partnership with Crossley Evans waste components are disposed of in line with our business policy statement, agreed objectives and in accordance with our ISO 14001:2015 certification.

To discuss your requirements further, please contact Flexiform at info@flexiform.co.uk

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