

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018

### **I4F reacts to repeatedly vague allegations made by Unilin I4F 就 UNILIN 含糊其辞的反复指责进行强势反击**

- *I4F confident its locking technology does not infringe any valid Unilin patents  
I4F 坚信其锁扣技术不侵犯任何 Unilin 有效专利*
- *Dutch court and EPO already confirmed validity of I4F's 3L TripleLock patent in 2016 and 2017  
荷兰法庭和欧洲专利局于 2016 年和 2017 年都积极支持了 I4F 的 3L TripleLock 专利*
- *I4F believes Unilin's allegations to be anti-competitive propaganda  
I4F 认为 Unilin 的无端指责只是阻止公平竞争的手段*
- *More and more manufacturers are signing up with I4F  
越来越多的厂商开始引入 I4F 系统*

DOMOTEXasia/CHINAFLOORS 2018, SHANGHAI, CHINA – I4F, a group of companies providing patents and technologies to the flooring industry, today reacted to vague allegations made by Unilin, that I4F believes to be unfounded, regarding its patent position. I4F is of the opinion that Unilin's statement is nothing more than anti-competitive propaganda.

中国上海 2018 Domotex 地板展- I4F，一家为地板行业提供专利技术的集团公司，今天就 Unilin 对其专利地位的含糊其辞的无端指责进行了强势反击。I4 F 认为这只是 Unilin 阻止公平竞争的手段。

In 2016 and 2017, the District Court of The Hague in the Netherlands and the European Patent Office (EPO) confirmed the validity of I4F's 3L TripleLock patent. I4F strongly believes that its patented locking technology does not infringe any valid Unilin patents.

在 2016 年和 2017 年，荷兰的 Hague 地区法院和欧洲专利局都积极支持了 I4 F 的 3L TripleLock 专利的有效性。I4 F 坚信其专利锁扣技术不侵犯任何 Unilin 专利。

In the past Unilin has, repeatably, made similar, vague public statements containing, what I4F strongly believes to be, false patent infringement allegations in relation to its locking technology. As far as I4F is aware, these allegations have never led to the actual filing of an infringement case in any court. Once again, Unilin's recent announcement does not specify which patents or products are involved in this alleged infringement. I4F believes that these intentionally vague public allegations, unaccompanied by concrete legal follow up, demonstrate the weakness of Unilin's position. This leads I4F to believe that Unilin's sole intention is to dissuade companies from using I4F's revolutionary locking solutions. In I4F's opinion, this is anti-competitive "propaganda" purposely orchestrated to cause damage to I4F's credibility.

过去 Unilin 已经多次做出相似的有关指责 I4F 锁扣专利侵权的不实声明。就 I4F 所知, Unilin 过去从没有在任何法庭进行过实际侵权指控。Unilin 最近的有关侵权的指控同样的没有明确哪个产品或专利。I4F 认为这些有意含糊其辞的法律行动缺失的指责再次暴露了 Unilin 的弱势。这使得 I4F 不得不得出 Unilin 的唯一目的是吓阻厂商使用 I4F 革命性的锁扣系统。I4F 认为这种阻止竞争的手段是被有意用来损害 I4F 的声誉的。

The recent strong growth of new I4F licensees has confirmed the industry's demand for I4F's technologies and vision to provide manufacturers with accessibility to meaningful innovations at reasonable prices.

最近急剧增长的 I4 F 专利用户再次表明地板行业认同 I4F 的技术和其以合理的价格为制造商提供有益创新的愿景。

**I4F will continue to do everything in its power to fight anti-competitive behaviour that inhibits innovation, drives up costs and restricts freedom of choice.**

**I4F 将竭尽所能对任何抑制创新, 恶意抬价, 限制自由选择的不公平竞争行为宣战。**

## ends ##

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### **About I4F:**

*I4F is an innovations group focused on the development of patents and technologies for the flooring industry. Its portfolio includes IP for flooring installation and wall mounting systems, material compositions, surface treatment as well as laminate and board production technologies. I4F has strategic partnerships with the industry's most important IP players, including Classen, Kronospan, UWC and Kowon. The company's flagship technologies, 3L TripleLock and Click4U, provide a unique one piece drop-lock installation technique for flooring panels that eliminates the need for an additional insert on the short side. The solution is suitable for laminate, luxury vinyl tiles, wood plastic composite, rigid core flooring, multi-layer flooring and wooden flooring panels. International patents and patent applications for I4F's technologies have been granted and filed in over 100 countries worldwide.*

*I4F 是一家致力于地板行业专利和技术研发的集团企业，其专利组合包括地板安装和墙式安装的知识产权，材料成分，地面处理以及层压板生产技术。I4F 与行业内顶级的知识产权大咖 Classen, Kronospan, UWC 及 Kowon 建有战略合作关系。公司的旗舰技术 3L 锁扣系统和 Click4U 技术为地板安装提供了独一无二的整体下压式安装技术，从而减少了短边安装有额外插入的需要。该技术适用于复合地板、豪华乙烯基砖、木塑复合地板、刚性地板，多层地板和实木地板，I4F 已经在全球 100 多个国家为其相关技术申请了专利保护。*

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