



PATENTS & TECHNOLOGIES

## NEWS RELEASE

### 新闻通稿

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020

即时发布 - 2020年4月29日, 星期三

#### **I4F offers licensees protection from pending US ITC proceedings decisions**

#### **I4F 就美国 ITC 调查对其专利用户提供额外保护**

HAMONT, BELGIUM – I4F today announced that following its 2019 settlement agreement with Flooring Industries (Unilin), I4F has the right to ensure that its licensees will not be subject to currently pending ITC proceedings in the United States, nor the consequences of ITC decisions, which now seem to aim towards a General Exclusion Order (GEO) for certain Unilin patents in relation to new materials products.

比利时- HAMONT - I4F 今天宣布根据其 2019 年同 Flooring Industries (Unilin) 的和解协议，I4F 有权庇护其专利用户不受目前还在进行的美国 ITC 调查及其结果的影响，包括目前看来 Unilin 极有可能就其某些与新材料地板有关的专利获得的普遍排除令。

I4F entered into a confidential settlement agreement with Unilin in November 2019. Through this agreement, I4F has ensured that its licensees have the possibility to sign up for a scope of protection that safeguards them against future risks of a GEO implementation when producing and selling new materials products with I4F's locking technologies.

I4F 和 Unilin 在 2019 年 11 月份达成了一份保密的和解协议。这个和解协议可以让 I4F 的专利用户通过签署一个更加广泛的保护，使得 I4F 有权在其专利用户生产和销售 I4F 锁扣产品时不会受到上述普遍排除令的影响。

The scope for the settlement agreement covers “**New Materials Products**” with locking. This means floor coverings using a locking, on both the long and/or short sides - with or without a bevel - featuring a thermoplastic-based or mineral-based core. These floor coverings are also known as luxury vinyl tile (LVT), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), multi-layer flooring (MLF), waterproof polymer core (WPC), solid polymer composite (SPC), expanded polymer core (EPC), magnesium oxide (MgO), polypropylene (PP) or polyurethane (PU).

上述和解协议的保护范围为“新材料”锁扣地板，无论长短边都有锁扣或者只有两边锁扣，无论带还是不带倒角，无论是热塑基材还是矿物质基材的地板都包括在内。这些地板也经常被称为 LVT 地板，PVC 地板，MLF 地板，WPC 地板，SPC 地板，EPC 地板，MgO 地板，PP 地板和 PU 地板。

Previously, on-going litigation between the parties had caused legal uncertainty, costs and commercial risks in the global flooring market. To end these detrimental effects on innovation, investment and competition, the parties agreed to settle their disputes and subsequently withdrew from pending legal proceedings in the US and Europe.

此前，双方进行的众多法律诉讼在全球地板市场引起了法律上的不确定性，巨额的费用和商业风险。为避免这些对发明创新，投资和公平竞争的负面干扰，双方决定就各项纷争和解并在美国和欧洲撤销所有进行中的法律程序

I4F provides licensees with IP expertise, meaningful patents and cutting-edge technologies as well as access to some of the global flooring industry's best innovations, including 3L TripleLock and Click4U.

I4F 为其专利用户提供知识产权专业服务，有价值的专利，最前沿的技术和全球地板市场的最新发明，包括著名的 3L TripleLock 和 Click4U 锁扣。

The company continues to safeguard its patents and technologies around the world, and remains committed to supporting its licensees by enabling business to move forward with a focus on innovation.

我们将继续在全球范围内保护我们的专利和技术，并一如既往的通过不断创新支持我们的专利用户持续发展。

## ends ##

Contact for questions:

Asia and Russia: David Song

Rest of the world: Matthieu Dekens

Press: Gilliane Palmer

+31 6 4189 9515

[gilliane@i4f.com](mailto:gilliane@i4f.com)

#### 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, digital printing as well as laminate and board production technologies. I4F has strategic partnerships with the industry's most important IP players, including Classen, Kronospan, HMTX, UWC, Kowon, CFL Flooring, Tarkett, Kingdom Flooring, Lico, Benchwick and QuickStyle Industries. 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, expanded polymer core, solid polymer core and wooden flooring panels. International patents and patent applications for I4F's technologies have been granted and filed in over 100 countries worldwide. Visit [I4F.com](http://I4F.com)*

I4F 是一家致力于地板行业专利和技术研发的高新技术集团，其专利组合包括地板安装和墙板安装，材料配比，表面处理，数字印刷，强化地板以及板材生产技术的知识产权。I4F 与行业内顶级的知识产权领导者 Classen, Kronospan, HMTX, UWC, Kowon, CFL Flooring, Tarkett, Kingdom Flooring, Lico, Benchwick 以及 QuickStyle Industries 建有战略合作关系。公司的旗舰技术 3L TripleLock®和 Click4U®锁扣技术为地板安装提供了独一无二的整体直落式锁扣安装系统，短边安装不再需要额外的塑料插条。该技术适用于强化地板、LVT、WPC、SPC、多层实木地板和实木地板。I4F 已经在全世界 100 多个国家为其相关技术申请了专利保护。