



PATENTS & TECHNOLOGIES

## NEWS RELEASE

## 新闻通稿

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# I4F Celebrates Five Years of Breakthrough Business

## I4F庆祝5周年业务突破

- *5th anniversary marked by 66 licensees and 300 granted patents in 100 countries worldwide*
- *5周年业务突飞猛进, 66家许可专利用户, 遍布全球100个国家的300项获授权专利*

WILLEMSTAD, CURAÇAO – I4F, a group of companies providing patents and technologies to the flooring industry, today celebrates its first five years of business. The company marked the occasion by confirming that it now has sixty-six licensees, and three hundred patents granted in over one hundred countries worldwide. Additionally, I4F's flagship technologies, 3L TripleLock and Click4U, continue to firmly establish themselves as the new global standards in flooring installation systems.

WILLEMSTAD, CURAÇAO – I4F,一家专注地板行业专利和技术解决方案的集团公司, 今日庆祝公司的第一个五周年生日。公司的业务突飞猛进, 已经拥有66家加盟商, 遍布全球100个国家的300项获批专利。此外, I4F的旗舰技术, 3L锁扣技术和Click4U, 持续成为地板安装系统的全球新标准。

I4F's fast-growing license base, including many of the world's biggest flooring companies, has doubled in size this year compared to 2017. This is currently generating an annual production rate of flooring using I4F locking technologies in excess of one hundred million square meters. The company's goal is to reach one hundred licenses by year-end 2019.

I4F的快速增长包括许多全球大型地板公司的专利用户数量, 今年与2017年相比增长了一倍。这些公司目前采用I4F的锁扣技术生产的地板的年生产量已经超过一亿平方米。公司的目标是2019年底专利用户达到100个。

I4F was founded on December 3, 2013, and less than a year later, had already signed up its first licensees as well as provided the industry with proof that its innovative locking system was innovative and reliable by successfully passing all the required production and performance tests. Just a few months later, I4F passed non-infringement examinations for the United States and Europe, setting the stage for the filing and granting of its patents all over the world including in the US, Europe, China, Canada and Russia.

I4F成立于2013年12月3日，之后不到一年的时间，公司已经签署了第一份加盟协议，同时向行业领域提交了一份满意的答卷，成功通过了所有要求的生产和性能测试，证明了其独具特色的锁扣体系具有创新性和可靠性。在几个月之后，I4F又通过了美国 and 欧洲的非侵权检验，为接下来在包括美国，欧洲，中国，加拿大和俄罗斯全球范围申请和获得专利批准打下了坚实的准备。

2017 was a breakthrough year for I4F. The US Customs and Border Protection Agency gave the all clear for products manufactured under I4F's licenses, including 3L Triplelock and Click4U, to be imported into the United States of America. This ruling reconfirmed previous freedom-to-operate reports and paved the way for global flooring manufacturers to switch their flooring production to I4F technologies.

2017年是I4F业务取得重大突破的一年。美国海关和边境保护局正式对采用I4F技术许可生产的产品实行免检放行，包括3L锁扣技术和Click4U技术，可以自由向美国进口。该裁决再次确认了此前的自由运营报告并且为全球地板生产商转向使用I4F技术铺平了道路。

I4F formed strategic partnership agreements with leading global players including Classen, Kronospan, Ulrich Windmüller Consulting and Kowon bringing the number of patents it represents to over two thousand in the areas of locking, surface finishing, materials and panel composition, manufacturing processes as well as board and wall Panels.

I4F和包括Classen, Kronospan, Ulrich Windmüller Consulting 和Kowon在内的全球领导者建立了战略合作协议，在锁扣，表面加工，材料，板材构成，生产流程以及墙板领域带来了两千多项专利。

John Rietveldt, I4F's CEO, commented, "In just five years, we have succeeded in setting the industry free from the detrimental status quo in which flooring manufacturers found themselves trapped for close to two decades. We have been able to conquer the market by providing the best flooring technologies available and listening to the needs of the industry. We have partnered with global industry leaders and invested in the future by developing new technologies, opening offices in the Netherlands and China as well as adding even more highly qualified professionals to our champions league team. I am proud of our people and grateful to our licensees as well as our partners for the continued support and trust in I4F. We will continue to deliver transparency and accessibility to forward-looking, cutting-edge technologies designed for the greater good of the industry."

John Rietveldt, I4F的首席执行官点评道，“在仅仅五年的时间里，我们成功的将地板生厂商从有害的现状里解放了出来，让他们解除了将近二十年的困境。我们之所以能够占领市场是因为我们用心聆听市场所需，用心提供最好的地板技术。我们和全球地板领域的领导者结盟，我们投资未来，研究最新技术，在荷兰和中国设立分所，并且不遗余力的广招高技术人才加入我们的全球联队。我为我们的团队而骄傲，我更感谢我们的加盟商以及我们的合作伙伴，我衷心感谢他们对I4F一直以来的信任和支持。我们会继续保持公开和透明，让整个行业得以持续接触最前瞻性的尖端科技，从而将整个行业变得更为生机勃勃。”

The company celebrated its fifth anniversary with its employees in its Willemstad, Eindhoven and Shanghai offices with I4F branded cakes and traditional snacks originating from Curaçao, China and the Netherlands.

公司和员工在Willemstad，埃因霍温和上海办公室共同庆祝5周年生日，大家畅享I4F的品牌蛋糕和来自Curaçao，中国，荷兰的传统点心美食。

## ends ##

## 结束 ##

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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高新技术集团，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 锁扣技术和 Click4U 锁扣技术为地板安装提供了独一无二的整体式直落锁扣安装技术，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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