

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

## 14F enters into settlement agreements with Unilin and Välinge

- All legal procedures between the parties settled
- Settlement agreements cover all new materials, including LVT, SPC and EPC products, with locking
- *I4F* has the right to ensure that its licensees will not be subject to the currently pending ITC proceedings in the United States as a result of the settlement

WILLEMSTAD, CURAÇAO – I4F today announced that it has recently entered into separate, confidential settlement agreements with Flooring Industries (Unilin) and Välinge Innovation AB.

As a result, the three parties will withdraw from all pending litigation in the United States and Europe. Based on the agreement with Unilin, I4F has the right to ensure that its licensees will not be subject to the currently pending ITC proceedings in the United States.

The scope for both settlement agreements is for so-called **"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).

Various on-going litigation during the last five years between the parties has led to continuous legal uncertainty, costs and commercial risks in the global flooring market. To put an end to these detrimental effects on innovation, investment and competition, the parties have agreed to settle their disputes. For I4F licensees, this means that all on-going legal proceedings linked to I4F, involving Unilin, Mohawk or Välinge will be withdrawn. This new situation also gives I4F licensees the possibility to sign up for a significantly expanded scope of protection against future risks of litigation when producing and selling new materials products with I4F's locking technologies.

I4F believes these confidential settlement agreements are the best possible outcome for its licensees and all parties as it enables business to move forward with a focus on innovation.

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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, Kowon, CFL Flooring, Tarkett, Kingdom Flooring and Lico. 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 <u>I4F.com</u>*