



PATENTS & TECHNOLOGIES

NEWS RELEASE

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CFL Flooring reinforces its long-term innovation and sustainability strategy with acquisition of Hymmen JUPITER digital printing line

- *CFL Flooring signs new i4F license for Digital Printing*
- *CFL Flooring's next-generation rigid core lines to use Hymmen Digital Printing*

HAMONT, BELGIUM – i4F, a group of companies providing patents and technologies to the flooring industry, today announced that CFL Flooring has acquired a Hymmen JUPITER digital printing line for its US facility and, has signed a new digital printing technologies license agreement with i4F. This reinforces CFL's long term digital printing strategy as well as the company's commitment to innovation "firsts" whilst reducing its carbon footprint. CFL's next-generation rigid core produces will be produced using Hymmen's JUPITER JPT-C print-to-board line.

With some 4,500 employees, CFL Flooring is a global leader and innovator in rigid core manufacturing as well as other hybrid vinyl floor covering solutions. Over the last eighteen months, the company has heavily invested in its state-of-the-art production facility in Calhoun, Georgia (USA), that is now fully operational. The new JUPITER digital printing line will be located in Calhoun and be used to produce CFL's next-generation rigid core lines.

In addition to the multiple design and production advantages, CFL's decision to buy the digital printing line was driven by its goal to reduce its carbon footprint as well as to become more sustainable. Digital printing eliminates the need for certain elements, including décor films and plastic wear layers, thus reducing the total amount of PVC use, reducing plastic waste, as well as reducing the impact of supply chain strains linked to production.

Designed to enable 24/7 industrial production, Hymmen's JUPITER JPT-C print-to-board lines deliver intelligent and highly precise register accuracy. This ensures the highest levels of color stability and print quality output while maintaining printing speeds of 25-50 meters per minute.

i4F licenses the world's most advanced digital printing technologies and offers exclusive access to all Hymmen digital printing technologies in the flooring sector. Digital printing will play a crucial role in the future of new material flooring as it enables unlimited design and embossing-in-register flexibility and can be applied to a wide range of materials. This facilitates faster response times to market demands and trends while reducing material waste.

"CFL has long been committed to its vision of leading flooring innovation," said Thomas Baert, President and co-founder of CLF Flooring. "I believe we were the first manufacturer to push rigid core in a massive way. Our aim is to continue to be top of mind with our partners when they think of first to market innovations and second-to-none marketing and customer support. Digital printing is the next logical step."

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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, 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, Windmöller, CFL Flooring, Tarkett, Kingdom Flooring, Li&Co, Benchwick, QuickStyle Industries and Hymmen. The company's flagship technologies, 3L TripleLock®, Click4U® and i-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 solid polymer core, expanded polymer core, luxury vinyl tiles, laminate, 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

About Hymmen:

Hymmen – the technology partner for excellent surfaces: The company predominantly deals with industrial production technology for the production of board materials or the surface finishing of board or roll materials. With 200 employees worldwide Hymmen works on investment projects in the following industries: Furniture, Flooring, Doors/Gates, Decorative Laminates, Building Materials, Steel & Aluminium, Composites & Technical Laminates. The offered technologies include Industrial Press & Calender Lines, Liquid coating & Lacquering, as well as Industrial Digital Printing Lines and Automation & Control Technology.

Since 2008 Hymmen has put its focus of R&D on industrial digital printing. With more than 45 operating digital printing lines worldwide and a cumulated sales volume of more than 100 Mill. EUR in digital printing lines it may be seen as market leader in the woodworking industry. The latest developments in digital printing include process optimizations in décor printing with UV-curing inks as well as the digital structuring (Hymmen DLE plus).

Hymmen operates a spacious technology center and laboratory in which all production processes with customers' original materials can be tested and optimized. Hymmen is the right partner for every customer seeking high-quality mechanical engineering combined with profound technological know-how, innovative strength and development potential for its own products.

Visit www.hymmen.com



Fig. 1: Decors and structures of Hymmen's DLE plus collection 2022