

## NEWS RELEASE

### 新闻通稿

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**I4F responds to Unilin's attack on Chinese manufacturers and US consumers; calls action improper behavior going against freedom of choice**

**I4F 回应 Unilin 对中国制造商和美国消费者的攻击;称该举措是违反选择自由的不当行为**

- *Improper scare-mongering by Unilin during Domotexasia/CHINAFLOOR 2019*
- *Unilin 在 Domotexasia/CHINAFLOOR 2019 期间散布不正当的恐吓宣传*
- *I4F will continue to support its partners and fight this attempt at monopolization*
- *I4F 将继续支持其合作伙伴, 打击这种企图垄断的行为*
- *I4F confident products using its patented technologies are unaffected*
- *I4F 坚信使用其专利技术的产品不受到影响*

WILLEMSTAD, CURAÇAO— I4F, a group of companies providing patents and technologies to the flooring industry, today responded to Unilin's news release, dated 26 March 2019, in which it describes the filing of a complaint against virtually all Chinese manufacturers before the International Trade Commission (ITC). I4F is calling Unilin's action improper scare-mongering, and an outright attack on free trade as well as freedom of choice, as this attempts to obstruct US consumers from selecting flooring products they prefer.

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, 于 2019 年 3 月 26 日回应了 Unilin 向国际贸易委员会 (ITC) 提起的针对几乎所有中国制造商的诉讼的新闻。I4F 声称 Unilin 的行为是不正当的谣言恐吓, 是对自由贸易和自由选择明目张胆的攻击。其试图阻止美国消费者选择他们喜欢的地板产品。

No exclusion orders would be entered before at least one year, to eighteen months, meaning that imports to the US will continue during this period. I4F believes the timing of this filing, i.e. during Domotexasia/CHINAFLOOR 2019, is an attempt by Unilin to undermine, if not sabotage, I4F's relations with its fast-growing number of licensees.

在至少一年至 18 个月之前，不会有任何禁令出台，这意味着在此期间美国的进口正常进行。I4F 认为，在 Domotexasia/CHINAFLOOR 2019 期间提起的攻击，是 Unilin 试图削弱，甚至蓄意破坏，I4F 与其快速增长的被授权方之间的关系的一次无谓尝试。

I4F is of the opinion that Unilin's filing is another attempt to monopolize and extract unwarranted license fees from the industry. Unilin's request for the exclusion of certain products goes against public interest and infringes a consumer's freedom to choose. I4F also believes that the asserted patents from Unilin are invalid in view of extensive prior art.

I4F 认为 Unilin 现在故技重施，又一次试图垄断市场，从行业中榨取莫须有的专利费。Unilin 要求将某些产品排除在外，该行为既有违民心，又侵犯了消费者自由选择的权力。I4F 认为 Unilin 引用的专利是无效的，因为在专利申请之前已经有大量的类似公知技术存在。

I4F is confident that in the unlikely event of a general exclusion order, products using I4F's patented technologies will remain unaffected. The 2007 ITC ruling mentioned by Unilin is misleading as it has nothing to do with this filing, and, furthermore, I4F products did not fall under this ruling.

I4F 相信即使可能性极低的全面排他令真的发生，使用 I4F 专利技术的产品也将不会受到影响。Unilin 提到的 2007 年 ITC 的裁决极具误导性，因为它既于这次无关，也不包括 I4F 的产品。

The company said, "I4F will take action to support its partners in order to overcome this type of commercial "bullying" once and for all!"

I4F 表示：“I4F 会采取一切行动去支持其合作伙伴，彻底回击这种商业‘霸凌’行为，维护行业健康发展！”

## 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, extended 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.*

**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，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, UWC 及 Kowon 建有战略合作关系。公司的旗舰技术 3LTripleLock 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 已经在全球 100 多个国家为其相关技术申请了专利保护。**

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