



Media Contact:
Michelle Corley 214-309-4108
michelle_corley@us-unilin.com

QUICK-STEP LAMINATE EARNS FLOORSORE CERTIFICATION

Brand gains prestigious distinction for indoor air quality by passing the most stringent tests in the world

Dallas, November 15, 2012 – Quick-Step laminate has recently earned the highly-coveted FloorScore certification by passing one of the most stringent indoor air quality certification programs in the world. FloorScore tests for 78 volatile organic compounds (VOCs), some of which are identified as known carcinogens or reproductive toxins. (A carcinogen is a cancer causing substance and a reproductive toxin is a chemical that can damage the reproductive systems of children and adults.) All Quick-Step laminate products are officially FloorScore certified.

“FloorScore is a prestigious distinction regarding indoor air quality and is recognized as one of the most credible certification programs in the United States,” said Roger Farabee, senior vice president of marketing for Unilin, the parent company of Quick-Step.

“Flooring that has earned FloorScore certification enjoys a legitimately enhanced market position, distinguished by the FloorScore certification label.”

“Quick-Step takes very seriously our position as an industry leader when it comes to all aspects of environmental responsibility,” said Farabee. “We have continuously focused our efforts on producing Quick-Step products that are both stylish and environmentally sound. Families living on our laminate flooring can have peace of mind that they are bringing a product into their home that meets strict indoor air quality standards.”



by SCS Certified



“From a sales opportunity perspective, FloorScore certification also opens doors for retailers to aggressively pursue commercial sales,” said Shane Calloway, vice president of North American independent distribution sales for Unilin, including Quick-Step. “The market for commercial projects requiring compliance with specific air quality emissions standards is a substantial, potential revenue source open to retailers carrying the right products. With achievement of FloorScore certification, our floors meet the criteria required by a variety of well-respected organizations.”

FloorScore certified hard surface products contribute points to projects under The U.S. Green Building Council’s (USGBC) LEED v3 Commercial Interiors and New Construction and Major Renovations program. FloorScore certified products also meet the criteria for the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS), a measureable standard set for educational facilities. Regarding healthcare facilities, products bearing the FloorScore label may honorably claim they meet criteria established for the Green Guide for Health Care.

“The industry’s overall commercial laminate segment makes up approximately 6-8% of laminate industry sales,” adds Calloway. “Light to medium commercial sales form the largest portion of this commercial segment. Almost all Quick-Step displayed products offer a 5-Year Light To Medium Commercial Warranty. Our new FloorScore certification now increases the opportunities for our retail partners to pursue even more commercial sales.”

In addition to the new FloorScore achievement, all Quick-Step laminate flooring qualifies as an Environmentally Preferred Product (EPP) in almost all green rating systems and can help a project get up to four (4) LEED points.

Protection from VOCs is further provided by Quick-Step through inclusion of the Uniclic glueless installation locking system featured in the brand’s products. The patented Uniclic installation method ensures planks simply click together for a lasting connection, so no glue is needed during



Quick-Step Reclaimé Collection, Heathered Oak



Quick-Step Eligna Collection, White Brushed Pine

installation. The Uniclic advantage protects families from VOCs introduced into a home by other types of flooring that must be glued down during installation.

FloorScore testing and certification was developed by the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) in conjunction with Scientific Certification Systems (SCS). FloorScore tests in accordance with CA01350 developed by the California Department of Health Services.

About Quick-Step

Quick-Step is a market leader in flooring, providing solutions for a wide variety of interiors. Quick-Step is a registered trademark of Unilin Flooring, a Mohawk Industries company. Mohawk Industries is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and is a Fortune 500 company. To find the nearest Quick-Step dealer or for additional information, visit www.quickstep.com.

About Unilin

Unilin is a leading manufacturer of laminate floors, engineered and solid hardwood flooring, melamine boards, MDF boards, chipboards, and roofing systems. The company operates 21 production sites across the U.S., Europe, and Asia. Unilin is part of Mohawk Industries which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and is a Fortune 500 company. For more information, visit www.unilin.com.

About the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI)

The Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) is an industry trade association of North American manufacturers who produce resilient flooring products. Associate members of RFCI supply raw materials to the resilient flooring industry and manufacture installation and maintenance products. For more information, visit www.rfci.com.

About Scientific Certification Systems

Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) has been providing global leadership in their-party environmental and sustainability certification, auditing, testing, and standards development for more than 25 years. SCS currently provides services under 16 internationally recognized accreditations. In additional, SCS was named in both 2010 and 2011 as one of Inc. Magazine's 5000 fastest growing companies in the U. S. For more information, contact, www.scscertified.com.

About California Air Resource Board (CARB)

The California Air Resource Board (CARB), a division of the California EPA, is responsible for improving air quality in California by establishing limits for air contaminants, such as formaldehyde emissions from composite wood products. For more information, visit www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/compwood/compwood.htm or www.carbrule.org.

#