**The rubber specialist**

**Expertise in sustainability and design – nora® rubber flooring**

*Weinheim, Germany, January 2019 –* thenora systems GmbH develops, produces and markets high-quality resilient floor coverings and stair treads as well as shoe components under the nora® brand. The company has its headquarters in the German town of Weinheim and was formed from Freudenberg Bausysteme KG in 2007. As a global market leader, it has shaped the development of rubber floor coverings for many years. nora systems now has more than 1000 employees and generated a turnover of € 229.1 million in 2017. In 2018, nora systems was taken over by Interface Inc., Atlanta (USA). Interface is the largest manufacturer of modular carpet tiles for the commercial sector in the world.

The production of nora floor coverings began in 1950 on an old vulcanizing machine at the Freudenberg plant. The traditional Weinheim-based company, which had manufactured rubber seals and shoe soles since the 1930s, sought to add a further string to its bow and thus decided to also manufacture rubber floor coverings. The new product was named after the inventor of the rubber formulation, the chemist Dr. Nürnberger (Norimbergensis in Latin).

With a market share of over 80 percent in Germany and more than 50 percent worldwide, nora systems is the global market leader for rubber floor coverings. The focus of business lies on the market segments of healthcare, education, industry, transport and public construction. All over the world, nora floor coverings of the norament and noraplan product lines stand for quality “Made in Germany”.

**Creative interior design with innovative designs**

nora floor coverings are based on high-quality natural and industrial rubbers mixed with minerals from natural sources and other components such as environmentally compatible colour pigments, pulled into blanks, pressed and then vulcanized under heat and high pressure. This process gives the floor coverings their permanently elastic properties and wear-resistant surface. nora floor coverings show hardly any wear, even after years of heavy use, and are therefore almost indestructible.

More than 300 colour shades in the nora standard range, various surface textures and the many design options offered by inlays open up almost endless possibilities for creative interior design architects, planners and developers.

**Pioneers in environmental protection**

Sustainability, environmental protection and healthy living have long been key elements of the corporate focus at nora systems. This is demonstrated by numerous certifications. In 1996, the company became the first manufacturer of elastic floor coverings in the world to be certified to the ISO 14001 standard for its environmental management system. nora floor coverings contain no harmful plasticizers or halogens. As the first ever elastic floor coverings worldwide, they have borne the “Blue Angel...for low emissions” eco-label since 2006. In addition, all nora standard products have the Greenguard certification for indoor air quality and due to their positive properties are LEED accredited. Furthermore, nora systems is a founding member of the German Sustainable Building Council (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen e.V. – DGNB). In early 2011, the company became the first manufacturer of elastic floor coverings to meet the Environmental Product Declaration (EPDs) for its products in accordance with DIN EN ISO 14025. EPDs are used to evaluate the sustainability of products.

From 2018 onwards, nora systems draws all their power requirements from renewable sources. With this change, the company has committed to eco-friendly energy production and energy consumption and is making a valuable contribution to protecting the environment and climate.

**Progress through technology and investment**

nora systems continuously invests in the Weinheim site to improve efficiency and quality in the long term and thus further paves the way towards automated production processes. In 2017 alone, the company spent € 8.1 million on new equipment, technical innovations and employee development. Since 2016, several hundred thousand Euros have been spent on various schemes and projects that further strengthen the position of nora systems as an attractive employer.\*

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***About nora systems***

*nora systems develops, produces and markets high-quality, elastic floor coverings as well as shoe components under the nora® brand. The company, which has its headquarters in the German town of Weinheim, was created from Freudenberg Bausysteme KG in 2007 and, as the global market leader, has shaped the development of rubber floor coverings for many years. With its more than 1,100 employees, nora systems generated a turnover of € 229.1 million in 2017. In 2018, nora systems was acquired by Interface Inc., Atlanta (USA). Interface is the world's largest manufacturer of modular carpet tiles for the commercial sector.*

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