

## FAUS ANNOUNCES RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINA

Calhoun, GA – The China State Intellectual Property Office (“SIPO”) recently announced that it will be issuing to Faus a utility patent for Embossed-in-Register (“EIR”) laminate flooring. This patent adds further breadth and depth to Faus’s growing Chinese patent portfolio, which already includes Faus’s beveled edge patent and Faus’s EIR manufacturing process patent.

On a related note, the SIPO Reexamination Board recently affirmed the validity of Claims 13-23 of Faus’s patent for its EIR manufacturing process (Faus Chinese Patent 02815741.9). Faus is pleased to announce that, by confirming the validity of the 02815741.9 Patent, the SIPO validated a patent with claims of essentially the same scope as its foreign counterparts.

By the same decision, the Board preliminarily found that Claims 1 through 12 of the 02815741.9 are invalid, but Faus respectfully disagrees with the Board’s reasoning, and Faus plans to appeal that preliminary ruling. Because Faus’s recent patent infringement victory against Singular (and its affiliates) was based on Claim 1, the Shanghai Supreme Court elected to dismiss the patent infringement verdict.

Nevertheless, the Shanghai Supreme Court did indicate that Faus may file a new lawsuit based on Claims 13-23. Further, Faus anticipates affirming the validity of Claim 1 on appeal. Finally, although Singular claims on its website that the Shanghai court declared the Singular patent to be valid, this is incorrect. Singular’s patent was not at issue in that case, and its validity remains in question.

Faus is also pleased to announce that it has entered into Patent License Agreements with both Zhongshan City Nature Wood Industry Co., Ltd. and Jiangxi Nature Artificial Board Co., Ltd. and also with Vohringer Wood Product (Shanghai) Co. Ltd., which join other international members of the laminate flooring industry (including a growing number of licensees located in China) as licensees of Faus’s patents for surface technologies. These business relationships, together with both Faus’s newly issued and recently affirmed intellectual property, demonstrate the continued recognition of Faus’s strong IP portfolio in China as well as Faus’s commitment to building long-term partnerships with laminate flooring companies in China.

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Faus Group Inc. is a global leader in the laminate flooring industry with manufacturing facilities in Europe, Asia, and the United States. Always the leader in design and technology innovation, Faus manufactures products of exceptional quality, designed to meet the highest consumer demands for laminate flooring and moldings.

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If you would like more information about this topic, Faus Group, Inc. or any of their products contact Marketing at 706.879.4251 or visit [www.fausinc.com](http://www.fausinc.com).