

Interface®

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INTERFACE, INC. ANNOUNCES COMMITMENT TO ACTION TO EXPAND NET-WORKS™ AT CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE

In partnership with Zoological Society of London, Expanding Inclusive Business for Net Social, Environmental & Financial Impact

(SEPT. 23, 2014)—Atlanta-based Interface, Inc. (Nasdaq: TILE), the world's largest modular carpet manufacturer, announced today at the 2014 Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) Annual Meeting, its commitment to expanding [Net-Works™](#) in partnership with Zoological Society of London (ZSL). [Net-Works](#) is an innovative, cross-sector collaboration designed to tackle the growing environmental problem of discarded fishing nets in some of the world's poorest coastal communities, while at the same time supporting one of the company's ambitious Mission Zero® goals to source 100% recycled nylon. Today, the program is established in rural coastal areas in the central Philippines (including the Bantayan Islands and Danajon Bank, one of only six double-barrier reefs in the world).

With the CGI Commitment to Action, the team announces that Net-Works will be expanded, with a new net collection hub in the Lake Ossa region of Cameroon, and in two additional hubs anticipated over the next three years.

"Inclusive business is about finding ways to have a net positive impact on social and environmental issues while still minding the bottom line," said Nigel Stansfield, chief innovations officer for Interface. "We are challenging the status quo to reimagine our supply chain in a way that improves our ability to source recycled content, while simultaneously cleaning up oceans and lakes and lifting people from poverty. It's ambitious, and it's working."

Over the last 18 months, Net-Works hubs have collected in excess of 38,600 kg (85,000 lbs.) of discarded fishing nets, helping 4,500 villagers in communities in the Philippines to earn supplemental income equal to 84,000 additional meals. It is anticipated that over the next three years, Net-Works will support and strengthen over 500 hectares of community-based Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Net-Works regions, thereby helping to restore the biodiversity of the aquatic ecosystems.

Gathered nets are recycled by Italian yarn manufacturer Aquafil in their ECONYL® Regeneration System into nylon yarn that Interface uses to produce carpet tile.

Dr. Heather Koldewey, head of global conservation programs for Zoological Society of London, said: "We believe Net-Works is both scalable and replicable, and we also commit at CGI to develop the Net-Works infrastructure so that it can become a free-standing, financially viable program independent of Interface and ZSL." To that end, a Net-Works tool kit will be released in first quarter of 2015, a field guide that will help additional partners set up Net-Works collection hubs in pursuit of inclusive business.

Net-Works Background

In poor Philippines coastal villages in and around Danajon Bank where marine life and reefs are endangered, fishermen gather and bundle discarded nylon nets (which would otherwise last for 600 years) for shipment to yarn supplier Aquafil, which developed certain nylon recycling technology. In these villages, 892 households (4,460 people) have engaged with the program and can now:

- recycle their nets to earn extra income;
- access financial services through self-run community banks, so they can take out micro-loans for education and business ventures and have secure savings; and
- be empowered to clean beaches of old nets and ensure no more nets are discarded on the beach or in the water.

So far, more than 85,000 lbs. have been collected from these villages; laid end to end, those nets would stretch 90% of the way around the world.

One important aspect of Net-Works is that it gives women an equal opportunity to participate and receive an additional source of income from net collection, making them integral, decision-making members of the community banking systems developing as a result of this program. Net-Works does not employ children directly (or any of the villagers), although many of the village children participate with their family members in “beach clean ups” to collect nets and learn about conservation.

Professor Stuart Hart of Cornell University, a leading authority on the implications of environment and poverty on business strategy, says, “Net-Works is a win environmentally, a win socially ... and to me that’s the gold standard.”

In 2014, ZSL received nearly \$1 million in two three-year grants from the Darwin Initiative, a U.K. government funding program that helps countries with rich biodiversity but poor financial resources to meet their objectives. The grants will help adapt the Net-Works model in Cameroon’s Lake Ossa Wildlife Reserve, an important refuge for West African manatees and other freshwater species, as well as provide vital support to expand the current net collection infrastructure in the Philippines.

About Interface Interface, Inc. is the world’s largest manufacturer of commercial carpet tile. It’s founder, Ray C. Anderson, served as co-chair of the President’s Council on Sustainable Development during President Clinton’s administration, from 1997-1999. For 41 years, the company has consistently led the industry through innovation, and now leads the industry in environmental sustainability. It is setting the pace for development of modular carpet using materials and processes that take less from the environment, and is well along the path to “Mission Zero,” a 20-year-old company-wide promise to eliminate any negative impact it has on the environment by the year 2020. Interface’s worldwide carpet manufacturing facilities maintain third party registration to the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System standard, and the company obtained the first-ever Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) for the commercial floor covering industry in North America. The company is recognized globally for its commitment to build environmental considerations into its business decisions. For additional information visit www.interface.com.

About ZSL Founded in 1826, the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is an international scientific, conservation and educational charity whose mission is to promote and achieve the worldwide conservation of animals and their habitats. Our mission is realized through our groundbreaking science,

our active conservation projects in more than 50 countries and our two Zoos, ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo. For more information visit www.zsl.org.

About the Clinton Global Initiative Established in 2005 by President Bill Clinton, the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI), an initiative of the Clinton Foundation, convenes global leaders to create and implement solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. CGI Annual Meetings have brought together more than 180 heads of state, 20 Nobel Prize laureates, and hundreds of leading CEOs, heads of foundations and NGOs, major philanthropists, and members of the media. To date, members of the CGI community have made more than 2,900 commitments, which are already improving the lives of more than 430 million people in over 180 countries.

CGI also convenes CGI America, a meeting focused on collaborative solutions to economic recovery in the United States, and CGI University (CGI U), which brings together undergraduate and graduate students to address pressing challenges in their community or around the world. For more information, visit clintonglobalinitiative.org and follow us on Twitter @ClintonGlobal and Facebook at facebook.com/clintonglobalinitiative.

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