



North Carolina Zoo Awards Unifi, Inc. 2017 Paw of Approval for Earth-Friendly Commitment

GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA – August 22, 2017 – The North Carolina Zoo has awarded Unifi, Inc. (NYSE: UFI) its 2017 Paw of Approval, which highlights the Company’s commitment to environmentally responsible manufacturing. Unifi is the manufacturer of a family of fibers called REPREEVE®, which are made from recycled materials, including plastic bottles.

“We are honored to be recognized as good stewards of the environment throughout the Triad and beyond,” said Tom Caudle, president of Unifi. “At Unifi, environmental responsibility is more than just something we do. It is a major part of our culture, and we continually seek out ways to enhance our earth-friendly efforts.”

Inspired by the Polar Bears International organization, polar bear keepers at the North Carolina Zoo launched the Paw of Approval award in 2011 as a way to highlight and reward the Triad’s most earth-friendly businesses. Companies are nominated by zookeepers and then voted on by Zoo guests in order to select the winner.

North Carolina Zoo polar bear keeper, Nicole Pepo, remarked, "as an Arctic Ambassador Center, it's our great pleasure to celebrate local businesses for their leadership and for their commitment to helping us tackle climate change at a community level."

Since the introduction of REPREEVE, Unifi has transformed more than five billion recycled plastic bottles into fiber for REPREEVE-based products. Production of REPREEVE conserves resources by offsetting the need to use newly refined crude oil, which is required in the production of virgin synthetic fibers. REPREEVE production also uses less energy and water, and produces fewer greenhouse gas emissions, compared to making virgin fibers. In addition to producing REPREEVE fibers, Unifi also bolsters its commitment to sustainability through several other initiatives.

- Last year, Unifi opened its REPREEVE Bottle Processing Center in Reidsville, North Carolina, where Unifi cleans and chops recycled plastic bottles into small pieces called flake, which can then be transformed into REPREEVE fiber or chip for other products that can be made from recycled plastic, such as food-grade packaging, high-performance clothing, shoes and more.
- Unifi drives change through a multi-stop, national mobile tour that travels the country educating individuals on the importance of recycling and what can be made from plastic bottles.
- Unifi installed a one MegaWatt solar farm in Yadkinville, North Carolina, which allows Unifi to harness natural power to generate energy.

About North Carolina Zoo:

At the North Carolina Zoo, we celebrate nature. As the world's largest natural habitat zoo, we inspire a lifelong curiosity about animals for the hundreds of thousands of people who visit our Zoo each year. Our dedicated team of experts provide exceptional, compassionate care for the more than 1,600 animals that call our park home. We also lead efforts locally and globally to protect wildlife and wild places because we believe nature's diversity is critical for our collective future. The North Carolina Zoo invites all of our guests to witness the majesty of the wild in the heart of North Carolina and welcome everyone to join in our mission to protect nature's diversity. Visit NCZoo.com to begin your life-changing journey.

About Unifi:

Unifi, Inc. (NYSE:UFI) is a diversified, global manufacturing company and one of the world's leading innovators in synthetic and recycled products, including textile fibers, polyester chip and recycled plastic bottle flake. Unifi provides technology-driven solutions for customers worldwide, utilizing a premier supply chain and state-of-the-art equipment. The Company's fibers offer unique performance, comfort and aesthetic advantages, and are readily found in the products of major brands in the apparel, hosiery, automotive, home furnishings, industrial and other end-use markets. For more information about Unifi, visit www.Unifi.com.

About REPREVE:

REPREVE® is Unifi, Inc.'s (NYSE: UFI) flagship brand of high-quality textile fibers, polyester chip and plastic bottle flake, all made from recycled materials. To date, Unifi has transformed more than 5 billion plastic bottles into REPPEVE® fibers, which can be found in products among the apparel, home furnishings and automotive markets. REPPEVE® fibers offer customers an earth-friendly solution for synthetic applications and can be combined with Unifi's technologies for enhanced performance, comfort and aesthetic characteristics. REPPEVE® chip and REPPEVE® flake have many end uses, including food-grade packaging, injection molding and plastic sheeting. For more information about REPPEVE®, visit www.REPREVE.com, and find REPPEVE® on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

REPREVE® is a trademark of Unifi, Inc.

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