**MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Erin Woodward

Office: 1-952-997-5949

erin.woodward@uponor.com

**Uponor Partners with Habitat for Humanity for a Third Year**

*Uponor North America pledges a third year of partnership with Habitat for Humanity in Minnesota to bring efficiency to Habitat homes across Minnesota.*

**20 MARCH 2019, SAINT PAUL** – In an effort to conserve water and support resilient, affordable housing, Uponor North America will donate residential water distribution systems to 20 Habitat for Humanity homes in Minnesota, totaling over $33,000 in product (an increase from the first year of the partnership). Uponor provides high-quality plumbing, indoor climate and infrastructure solutions designed to enrich people’s lives, and water and energy conservation in order to provide comfort, health, and peace of mind. In partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota, a state resource association for Minnesota’s 29 Habitat for Humanity organizations, this program will both supply Habitat homes with fundamental building components and offer Uponor employees the opportunity to volunteer on Habitat worksites. The goal is to provide Habitat homes with efficient and affordable technology while connecting additional affiliates to Uponor’s products and solutions.

The Minnesota partnership is modeled after a partnership in Canada between Uponor, the Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating (CIPH), and Habitat for Humanity Canada. This established program has supplied over 200 homes with more than $200,000 in product and support, including plumbing and radiant in-floor heating. Looking to create a similar opportunity here in the states, Uponor Brand and Corporate Social Responsibility Manager Erin Woodward was connected with Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota by Rice County Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Dayna Norvold. This meeting resulted in an established partnership that is now entering year three.

“Uponor has a long history of partnering with Habitat for Humanity affiliates across North America, as our products and systems provide homeowners with safe, efficient and sustainable aspects that every Habitat homeowner deserves,” says Woodward. “Leveraging learnings from our Canadian partnership, our engaged workforce, and the initial two years of the partnership, we have committed to another year partnering with Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota and still anticipate the possibility of creating a national partnership in the future.”

Habitat for Humanity organizations around the state have benefitted from the partnership over the last two years.

"We are so grateful for the partnership with Uponor over the last few years. What a wonderful gift," said Geri Hickerson, Executive Director of Northwoods Habitat for Humanity. "As construction costs continue to rise...now more than ever these partnerships will allow us to continue building affordable homes with families in our community." Northwoods Habitat has benefitted from five of Uponor's packages. "Because of the donated product from Uponor," continued Hickerson, "our HVAC and plumbing sub-contractors have provided additional in-kind on their labor as well."

The third year of this program will repeat the donation of 20 plumbing packages to 17 Habitat offices across the state, with a savings of over $1,600 per project.

**About Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota**

Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota is a statewide resource development and support organization that serves, advocates for and advances the work of Minnesota’s Habitat for Humanity affiliates to build decent, affordable housing in partnership with people in need. Habitat Minnesota was created in October of 1997 by the Minnesota Habitat affiliates it serves for the initial purpose of applying for funding and providing funders with a single contact for the distribution of resources. Since that time, Habitat Minnesota has added a range of programs to support these affiliates. For more information, visit hfhmn.org.

**About Uponor North America**

**We mean progress.**

Apple Valley, Minnesota-based Uponor North America strives to be the partner plumbing and HVAC professionals rely on for smart water and energy solutions. The company is helping to advance the construction industry through innovation, education and advocacy focusing on the defining issues of our time: water, energy and labor. An award-winning manufacturer of PEX piping and provider of plumbing, fire safety, radiant heating/cooling, hydronic piping, and pre-insulated piping systems, Uponor offers solutions for new construction, retrofits and remodels in the residential, light commercial and commercial markets. Uponor partnered with Belkin International in 2016 to form Phyn, a new intelligent water company that is revolutionizing the way consumers interact with water and helping solve major challenges facing the global water supply. Recognized for best-in-class manufacturing, sustainability, economic development and as a top workplace, the Uponor group of companies employs more than 4,000 worldwide. Uponor group’s global headquarters are located in Vantaa, Finland.

uponor-usa.com