

For Immediate Release

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Fitness is Key for Anna Marek, TheraPlate Peak Performance Award Winner at 2016 Adequan Global Dressage Festival



Wellington, FL (February 18, 2016) — As Unico G becomes stronger and more physically fit for high-level dressage competition, the KWPN gelding seems to love his time in the show ring more and more. His increasingly improved athletic ability is the product of the hard work of his owner and rider, Anna Marek. Marek was thrilled to have Unico G's excellent fitness rewarded at the Adequan Global Dressage Festival in Wellington, Florida this past week with the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award.

"I've shown him a long time, but the reason things are getting easier for us is that this year the difference is I got him more fit," Marek said as she accepted her TheraPlate Peak Performance Award silver plate and ribbon from TheraPlate Revolution Therapy Platforms, the Official Therapy Plate of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF).

Winning the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award only solidified how much Unico and Marek have grown together as a team, and how much the 15-year-old Dutch Warmblood is finding that he loves his job.

Marek's trainer— experienced Swedish native dressage professional Anne Gibbons, who was the USEF Technical Advisor and dressage coach for several years— said, "We've had some tests where Unico was being his old self, and some when he was being his new, wonderful self. We are getting much more of the wonderful self this year because he's starting to think this is fun. I think it's the second time in a row that they put on a really steady, absolutely confident performance. This horse is ready to go, and he's starting to love it. He arrives at the show grounds with his game face on, and he likes it— you can just tell. He goes in the arena and down centerline like, 'Watch me! Is everybody watching?'" she laughed.

It was impossible not to watch as Unico and Marek performed forward, accurate tests in the Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special during week five of the Adequan Global Dressage Festival. Unico's strength and athletic build was impressive enough to earn him the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award.

TheraPlate is a proud sponsor of the 2016 Adequan Global Dressage Festival— a prestigious 12-week show series that attracts top dressage competitors from around the world. TheraPlate presents the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award to the horses that most strongly personify the company's principles of soundness, strength, and performance— all qualities that the popular TheraPlate therapy platforms help achieve.

Consistent use of TheraPlate platforms over time increase circulation, increase bone density and strength, increase muscle mass, reduce swelling and inflammation, and encourage rapid healing. As Marek knows through her journey with Unico, fit, healthy horses are happy horses— ready to excel in the show ring.

When asked about her future plans with Unico, Marek said, "We'll keep doing what we're doing and keep trying to get better. We're competitive in the CDI's now, and that was my goal. We'll see what happens next!" Unico's improved fitness will undoubtedly lead him to further success in the CDI Grand Prix. TheraPlate's revolutionary therapy platforms can improve the show ring success of any horse by improving their overall health and fitness. All horses need to do to reap the benefits of TheraPlate is stand on the therapy platform.

For more information about TheraPlate's revolutionary therapy platforms, visit www.theraplate.com or call (800) 920-3685.

Photo: Unico G, owned and ridden by Anna Marek with trainer Anne Gribbons (left), won the TheraPlate Peak Performance Award at the Adequan Global Dressage Festival (Photo courtesy of JRPR— no photo credit necessary)