



### **TheraPlate Therapy Platforms Helps Keep Hassler Dressage Horses Fit, Happy, and Ready for the Show Ring**

*Chesapeake City, MD (October 23, 2017)* – If talent and passion for the sport of dressage can run in families, it certainly does for the team behind Hassler Dressage in Chesapeake City, Maryland. Between Grand Prix rider and trainer Susanne Hassler, her fellow dressage trainer and husband Scott, and their daughter and accomplished rider and trainer Sara, the family certainly has more than enough expertise, accolades, and experience in the sport of dressage to go around.

Susanne, a well known figure in the dressage community, has been riding and training professionally for over 35 years, and comes from a line of equestrians that reaches two generations back. For her, the love of dressage has been passed on from mother to daughter over a span of decades; her grandmother competed in the Olympics on the Swedish Dressage Team, and her mother is also an active S-judge. Together, Hassler and her husband run a successful Dressage barn, and the two have passed on their love of the sport to their

daughter Sara, who has proudly continued to carry on the family tradition of excellence and achievement in and outside the show ring. The Hassler's shared collection of successful horses and students certainly goes to show that dedication and passion for the sport can be a family affair.

With several generations of equine knowledge and equestrian expertise, the Hasslers certainly know a thing or two about keeping their horses in top condition. In addition to a complete fitness and exercise routine, exceptional attention to each horse's diet and nutrition, and an unbeatable commitment to excellence in overall care, Hassler Dressage has added yet another powerful and innovative tool to its wellness regimen- the TheraPlate Revolution therapy platform.

"I had heard of the TheraPlate through many of my clients, and when I had the opportunity to get first-hand exposure to it while in Wellington, Florida, I was very excited to start to incorporate it into the daily care of our athletes," recalled Susanne.

After bringing the Theraplate back to their Maryland facility, it wasn't long before the team at Hassler Dressage started to see some impressive results that have made the Theraplate a crucial part of their horse's daily wellness routine.

Sara, an accomplished rider and the assistant trainer at Hassler Dressage, recalled one instance in which the TheraPlate helped one of the barn's horses make a remarkable recovery from a serious injury.

"Our horse, Harmony's Locksley had a suspensory injury that resulted in a surgery, and after the surgery he developed a ring of scar tissue surrounding his suspensory," she explained.

"It was a very bad diagnosis for him- retirement, potentially another surgery. While we were deciding what to do, his routine consisted of turnout, tack walking, and going on the TheraPlate once or twice a day. Two months later, when we rescanned the surgery area, the scar tissue had almost completely disappeared. After that, he continued to get sounder and sounder- with no injections and no other therapies- just the TheraPlate once or twice a day. And now he's back in work! And he still goes on the TheraPlate every day. He's my little miracle story."

Scott Hassler was equally impressed with the results the team had seen from the TheraPlate. “I had heard good things about the TheraPlate before, but this was my first time using it in my own barn- and that truly blew me away. So I became a firm believer in the product really fast.”

In addition to helping their horses heal faster, Hassler Dressage also relies on the TheraPlate to keep their horse’s muscles relaxed, which improves both performance in the ring and overall feel in the saddle.

“We also use the TheraPlate for my father’s horses, Harmony’s Diamo Gold and Harmony’s Star Agent, who go on it for overall back soreness and post-work recovery, and it’s made a tremendous difference,” remarked Sara.

“They are so much softer in their bodies, not quite as reactive in their backs. After just five minutes on the TheraPlate, the horses are dropping their heads down, chewing, yawning- they’re so relaxed they’re almost falling asleep! They really love it. One of the horses I ride, Harmony’s Davidoff Hit, even drags me over to the TheraPlate past his turnout paddock and just stands there until he gets to go on it. I typically have him go on for his stifles and overall back soreness. It’s made a huge difference in his passage work, piaffe work, and his pirouettes. I think it’s been the right key to unlocking some tightness that he has that other therapies can’t get to.”

For the successful trio of trainers, the TheraPlate has become an important part of their daily routine, delivering key advantages in keeping each mount fit and happy, while increasing their overall wellness and avoiding injury.

TheraPlate Revolution Therapy Platforms, the Official Therapy Plate of US Equestrian, is equally proud to be a part of the Hassler’s winning dressage team, and looks forward to cheering on the whole team as they move closer to the winter competition season.

The TheraPlate is an easy-to-use platform that increases horses’ circulation, reduces pain, speeds healing, builds muscle, helps prevent future injury, and aids in warming up and cooling down. To find out more about Hassler Dressage, visit [www.hasslerdressage.com](http://www.hasslerdressage.com). Learn more about the TheraPlate and what it can do for your training program at [www.theraplate.com](http://www.theraplate.com) or call (800) 920-3685. Make sure to ask about TheraPlate’s free three-week demos!

Photo 1: Grand Prix trainers Susanne, Scott, and Sara Hassler use the TheraPlate daily to keep their barn of top dressage horses in condition for peak performance (Photo courtesy Hassler Dressage)

Photo 2: Scott Hassler aboard Hassler Dressage horse Harmony's Diamo Gold (Photo courtesy Marie Cobb)

Photo 3: Sara Hassler aboard Hassler Dressage horse Harmony's Davidoff Hit (Photo courtesy Amy Riley)

Photo 4: Susanne Hassler aboard Hassler Dressage horse Harmony's Boitano (Photo courtesy Cory O'Connor)