

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 11, 2020

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## **WEFTEC 2020 Goes Fully Virtual**

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – The 2020 WEFTEC (Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference) will be a fully virtual event in October called WEFTEC Connect that offers attendees interactive education, an exhibitor showcase, and networking experiences.

Registration for WEFTEC Connect will open on July 13 with programming scheduled for October 5 through 9.

"While we will miss seeing water professionals in person in New Orleans this October, WEF is extremely excited to create a digital place for us to gather and to continue our tradition of delivering premier water education and exhibitions to the world," said WEF President Jackie Jarrell.

WEFTEC Connect will be a unique virtual event that uses the latest online learning platform to create an immersive experience for attendees. It is being carefully shaped to be responsive to feedback gathered from water professionals on preferred education and participation options.

WEFTEC Connect will include:

- a blend of live and pre-recorded technical content,
- data-driven connections between participants,
- 1:1 appointment scheduling with exhibitors,
- live chats between individuals or groups,
- · virtual meeting rooms for networking and product demonstrations, and
- access to educational content and the exhibitor showcase for a full year.

WEFTEC Connect will enable water professionals from around the world to learn and share with peers no matter their location and provide hundreds of hours of live and recorded content that can be used for professional development credits.

The cancellation of our October meeting in New Orleans was necessitated by the coronavirus pandemic that has made it inadvisable to hold the traditional WEFTEC in-person meeting. Currently existing governmental orders at both the state and local level restricting the congregation of groups and other social distancing regulations, together with travel restrictions that will prevent a large number of our attendees from attending this meeting, have forced us to make this difficult decision. We do look forward to having WEFTEC return to New Orleans in 2022.

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"Our top priority is always the health and safety of everyone at WEF events," says WEF Executive Director Walt Marlowe. "We look forward to seeing the water community online at WEFTEC Connect in October. And we will be ready to welcome you in-person next year at WEFTEC 2021 in Chicago."

For information visit www.weftec.org

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## **About WEF**

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is a not-for-profit technical and educational organization of 35,000 individual members and 75 affiliated Member Associations representing water quality professionals around the world. Since 1928, WEF and its members have protected public health and the environment. As a global water sector leader, our mission is to connect water professionals; enrich the expertise of water professionals; increase the awareness of the impact and value of water; and provide a platform for water sector innovation. To learn more, visit www.wef.org.