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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Hawai'i Convention Center to Host First U.S. OceanObs' Conference

*The meeting is expected to draw more than 1,400 attendees, doubling its previous attendance*

**Honolulu, September 13, 2019** – The Hawai'i Convention Center is hosting OceanObs'19 from Sept. 16-20, 2019, marking the first time that the premier global ocean sciences conference will be held in the U.S.

More than 1,400 attendees are expected from 63 countries, doubling the conference's previous turnout. OceanObs', standing for ocean observation, is held every 10 years, previously in Venice, Italy, in September 2009, and Saint Raphael, France, in October 1999. Attendees range from oceanographers to data scientists, engineers, and policymakers.

With the goal of connecting science and society, OceanObs'19 is a collaborative effort of the ocean observing community. The conference seeks to improve response to scientific and societal needs of a sustained, multidisciplinary and integrated ocean observing system, for better understanding the environment, monitoring climate, and informing adaptation strategies, as well as the sustainable use of ocean resources.

"We are working to best connect user communities and observers, with input, in the form of community white papers, helping shape strategy development throughout the conference and for the upcoming decade," said Dr. Christopher Sabine, University of Hawai'i at Manoa Oceanography Professor and OceanObs'19 Program Committee member. "People across the globe benefit from timely, reliable ocean observations every day. More accurate weather apps, sustainable seafood plans, and even today's surf forecast are all thanks to our ever-advancing ocean observing capabilities."

The community-driven conference will focus on connecting the technical and scientific aspects of ocean observing to its applications and societal benefits on topics ranging from ecosystem health to international governance. The conference will culminate in a consensus declaration with actionable steps that will guide the field over the next decade. In addition to the main conference, there will be a variety of side events and workshops, including a pre-conference networking gathering for students and early career professionals.

The conference includes participation and exhibits by major sponsors such as NASA, NOAA and NSF, as well as involvement from leading researchers at the University of Hawaii, among other organizations. It will feature eight community-led breakout sessions.

"OceanObs'19 provides Hawaii and countries throughout the Pacific Rim with the opportunity to shine on the international stage as leaders in ocean sciences," said Teri Orton, general manager, Hawai'i Convention Center, managed by AEG Facilities. "We are pleased to serve as the first U.S. location for this prestigious community-driven conference that will set the direction for the next decade of ocean observation and research."

Late registration is open through Sept. 16, 2019, at by visiting [www.oceanobs19.net](http://www.oceanobs19.net).

Other major scientific and medical meetings at the Center this year have included the American Stroke Association's International Stroke Conference in February, the Society of Gynecologic Oncology's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting on Women's

Cancer in March, the American Roentgen Ray Society's annual meeting in May, and the IUTOX International Congress of Toxicology and National Medical Association's 2019 Annual Convention & Scientific Assembly in July. The Center will also host the Health Span Hawaii Summit in November.

**About OceanObs'19**

The OceanObs'19 conference is a community-driven conference that brings people from all over the planet together to communicate the decadal progress of ocean observing networks and to chart innovative solutions to society's growing needs for ocean information in the coming decade. For more, visit [www.oceanobs19.net](http://www.oceanobs19.net).

**About the Hawai'i Convention Center**

"Where Business and Aloha Meet," the 1.1 million-square-foot Hawai'i Convention Center provides a spacious, modern and flexible meeting space in the heart of Honolulu – all with an award-winning team and renowned aloha spirit. Conveniently located between East and West, the Center is a global leader for a diverse array of meetings and events, just steps from 30,000 hotel rooms in iconic Waikiki. The Center is a state-owned facility opened in 1998, and is managed by AEG Facilities. For more, visit [HawaiiConvention.com](http://HawaiiConvention.com).

**About AEG Facilities**

AEG, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Anschutz Company, is the leading sports and live entertainment company in the world. AEG Facilities, a stand-alone division of AEG, and its affiliates owns, operates or consults with more than 150 of the industry's preeminent venues worldwide, across five continents, providing complete venue management, as well as specialized programs in operations, guest services, ticketing, booking, sales and marketing. AEG Facilities also provides resources and access to other AEG-affiliated entities, including AEG Presents, one of the largest live music companies in the world, AEG Global Partnerships and AEG Real Estate, as well as such industry leading programs as AEG 1Earth and AEG Encore to support the success of its venues across the globe. The Los Angeles-based organization owns, operates or provides services to the world's most elite venues, including STAPLES Center and Microsoft Theater (Los Angeles, CA), StubHub Center (Carson, CA), Sprint Center (Kansas City, MO.), Valley View Casino Center (San Diego, CA), KFC Yum! Center (Louisville, KY.), AmericanAirlines Arena (Miami, Fla.), Barclays Center (Brooklyn, N.Y.), Target Center (Minneapolis, MN), Oracle Arena and Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum (Oakland, CA), PPG Paints Arena (Pittsburgh, PA), Mercedes-Benz Arena (Shanghai, China), Cadillac Arena (Beijing, China), The O2 (London, England), Mercedes-Benz Arena (Berlin, Germany), Barclaycard Arena (Hamburg, Germany), SSE Hydro (Glasgow, UK), RAC Arena (Perth, Australia), Qudos Bank Arena and ICC (Sydney, Australia), Ericsson Globe Arena (Stockholm, Sweden), Los Angeles Convention Center (Los Angeles, Calif.), Hawai'i Convention Center (Honolulu, HI), Puerto Rico Convention Center (San Juan, Puerto Rico) and the Oman Convention & Exhibition Center (Muscat, Oman). For more, visit [aegworldwide.com](http://aegworldwide.com).

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