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UNEARTH THE MYSTERIES OF ANCIENT EGYPT AT THE CONNECTICUT SCIENCE CENTER

New Traveling Exhibit LOST EGYPT opens February 1

Hartford, CT, January 29, 2014 — Have you ever translated ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics, or taken part in an archaeological dig? At LOST EGYPT: ANCIENT SECRETS, MODERN SCIENCE, on view at the Connecticut Science Center from February 1 through May 4, you can do those things and much more. Presented by United Technologies Corporation (UTC) with support from media sponsor WFSB, Lost Egypt blends ancient artifacts and hands-on activities to create an exciting, immersive learning experience for families, students, and all those with a passion for the compelling subjects of Egypt and Egyptology. The exhibit is created and produced by COSI, the Center of Science and Industry in Columbus, Ohio, and built by the Science Museum of Minnesota.

While developing the riveting new exhibition, COSI traveled to Cairo and Luxor to work with and learn from some of the world’s foremost authorities on Egypt. Connecticut Science Center visitors won’t have to travel as far to connect with these leading scholars; video interviews and photographs from the field are presented as part of the Lost Egypt experience. The interactive exhibit features real human and animal mummies, as well as mummy scans and forensic facial reconstructions. Visitors can explore a re-creation of an Egyptian tomb and see authentic art and artifacts from the daily life and funerary culture of ancient Egypt, plus the first ever life-size rapid prototype of a mummy in a stage of "unwrapping". They can also build a pyramid, sit atop a friendly camel and read hieroglyphics as ancient Egyptians did thousands of years ago.

“United Technologies is a company founded by great innovators of the past. It is also a company that continually looks ahead to define new frontiers worldwide. By sponsoring exhibits like Lost Egypt, we can honor creative and scientific accomplishments throughout the ages,” said Dr. David Parekh, Vice President, Research, and Director, United Technologies Research Center—the central research organization of United Technologies Corporation (UTC). “It is our hope the exhibit will attract new and repeat visitors to the Science Center and inspire enthusiastic and curious future scientists.”

The exhibit is divided into four content areas, including the Orientation Entrance, a modern Egyptian street scene that transports visitors to Egypt, where they learn about some of the archeologists working in Egypt today; the Field Site, where visitors explore the tools, techniques, science and technologies used to uncover the Lost City of the Pyramid Builders on the Giza Plateau; Ancient Egyptian Culture, where visitors see a human mummy, funerary artifacts and exhibits about the art and language of ancient Egypt; and the Laboratory, where visitors discover animal mummies, X-rays and CT scans of human and animal mummies, facial reconstructions and rapid prototypes of ancient Egyptians.
“Lost Egypt makes an unforgettable connection between past and present customs, cultures and sciences. This exhibit is particularly inspiring for young people, illuminating the roles they can play as future archaeologists, scientists, engineers, technicians and life-long learners,” said Matt Fleury, Connecticut Science Center President & CEO.

Thanks to support from presenting sponsor UTC, the Connecticut Science Center is working with COSI to develop a science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)-focused educational unit that teachers across the country will be able to use in their classrooms. The new teaching tool, to be released later in 2014, will make connections to the fascinating subject matter featured in Lost Egypt.

Exhibit Highlights:

- A real human mummy and a life-size rapid prototype, displaying the mummy in a stage of "unwrapping", plus scans and forensic facial reconstructions of mummies
- Animal mummies, plus scans and information about animals in ancient Egypt
- Art and artifacts from the daily life and funerary culture of ancient Egypt
- Connections to real scientists working on projects in Egypt, including video interviews, written graphics, objects and photographs from the field
- Connections to the scientific process used by archaeologists and other scientists, including hands-on challenges, interactive exhibits and technology
- Connections to how ancient Egyptian people and culture relate to us today

Lost Egypt will show visitors how mummies, artifacts and other material remains contribute to our scientific understanding of past cultures while they learn about archaeology and the work of archaeologists. They'll see how science changes over time as new techniques are developed and new information is uncovered.

A great way to see LOST EGYPT and all of the Science Center’s upcoming traveling exhibits is to become a Connecticut Science Center member. Members enjoy unlimited visits for a full year plus great perks like members-only previews, $5 flat-rate parking in the Science Center garage, discounts at the gift shop, as well as discounted birthday party packages and camp tuition. The fully tax-deductible membership is available online, by phone or in person at the ticket counter. To purchase membership and learn more, visit www.CTScienceCenter.org.

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About the Connecticut Science Center The LEED-Gold certified Connecticut Science Center, located in downtown Hartford, sparks creative imagination and an appreciation for science by immersing visitors in fun and educational hands-on, minds-on interactive experiences while maintaining an environmentally conscious presence. Serving 1.5 million people since opening in 2009, the Science Center features more than 165 exhibits in ten galleries and a range of topics, including space and earth sciences, physical sciences, biology, the Connecticut River watershed, alternative energy sources, Connecticut inventors and innovations, a children’s gallery, and much more. Other features include four educational labs, a 200-seat 3D digital theater, function room, gift store, and ongoing events for all ages. The Science Center is a non-
profit organization dedicated to enhancing science education throughout the state of Connecticut and New England, providing learning opportunities for students and adults of all ages, and engaging the community in scientific exploration. The Connecticut Science Center is also the home to the Joyce D. and Andrew J. Mandell Academy for Teachers, offering powerful Professional Development for educators. More information: www.CTScienceCenter.org or 860.SCIENCE.

Lost Egypt: Ancient Secrets, Modern Science was produced by COSI in cooperation with the Science Museum Exhibit Collaborative, and was designed and built by the Science Museum of Minnesota. Artifacts are on loan from the Brooklyn Museum and the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Photography © 2008 Brad Feinknopf. Mummy scans © 2005 Akhmim Mummy Studies Consortium. Exhibit is still in development; content subject to change.
Lost Egypt at the Connecticut Science Center
New Exhibit Opens February 1

The following are available as high resolution images. If you are a member of the media and would like access to these photos, contact Tracy Shirer, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, at tshirer@CTScienceCenter.org.

Images 1 and 2: COSI and Connecticut Science Center personnel, along with Mimi Leveque, conservator, undertake the painstaking process of removing Lost Egypt’s mummy, “Annie,” from her protective crate.

Images 3 and 4: Leveque, who completed the restoration of Annie and her coffin, inspects Annie after her journey to Hartford. Annie’s elaborately painted coffin is also on display in Lost Egypt.

Above photos © Connecticut Science Center
Images 5 and 6: The crew moves Annie into position in a special room within Lost Egypt.

*Above photos © Connecticut Science Center*

Image 7: A family finds clues to a puzzle while investigating an archaeological dig site.

*Above photos © COSI*

Image 8: Families piece together pottery shards to see what ancient Egyptians used in their kitchens.
Image 9: Two young boys try their hands at moving heavy blocks as ancient Egyptians would have when constructing pyramids.

Above photos © COSI

Image 10 (top): Young girls use their engineering skills to construct a pyramid from different types of blocks, all with different shapes.

Image 11 (above): Lost Egypt shows us that hieroglyphics are not only beautiful, but were the sophisticated written language of the ancient Egyptians.

Image 12 (at left): Meteorologist Mark Dixon of WFSB, Cleopatra, Dr. David Parekh of United Technologies, and Hank Gruner, Vice President of Programs at the Connecticut Science Center cut the ribbon to open Lost Egypt on January 30, 2014. The exhibit is presented by United Technologies with support from media sponsor WFSB. Photo © Connecticut Science Center