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SEAWORLD'S DIVE COASTER 'EMPEROR' SET TO OPEN THIS SPRING

Conservation partner, Penguins International, will raise awareness for penguin conservation

SAN DIEGO (Feb. 17, 2020) -- SeaWorld San Diego's all-new dive coaster, **Emperor**, is on track to open this spring. This new roller coaster will be the tallest, fastest and longest dive coaster in California, as well as the only floorless dive coaster in the state! Named for the world's largest penguin, Emperor will mimic this species' amazing underwater diving ability. Emperor penguins can dive to a depth of 1,800 feet.

Climbing to 153 feet with feet dangling in the air, riders on Emperor will be suspended on a 45-degree angle at the crown of the ride before plunging down a 143-foot facedown vertical drop accelerating to more than 60 miles per hour! Riders will also experience inversions, barrel roll, Immelmann loop, hammerhead turn and flat spin as they race along the nearly 2,500 feet of track. Each of the floorless ride cars will hold 18 riders in three, six-person rows. This is the first seating configuration of its kind in North America.

"There will be no other coaster experience like this in California," said Marilyn Hannes, SeaWorld San Diego's park president. "Emperor will both thrill our coaster enthusiasts and also serve as an attraction that educates guests about the importance of animal conservation."

This exciting attraction will also highlight an important new animal-conservation partnership between SeaWorld and **Penguins International** that will focus on penguin awareness and the conservation needs of this special aquatic bird. A portion of the proceeds from sales of penguin merchandise will be donated to Penguins International to support their important conservation, education and research efforts.

"We are excited to enter into this partnership with SeaWorld," said David Schutt, president of Penguins International. "It's an amazing opportunity that will help advance our penguin conservation programs at several high-priority sites and our public awareness campaigns that highlight the threats penguins face in today's world."

Emperor will be located adjacent to Journey to Atlantis in the southeast corner of the park in an area that is currently a parking lot, and is being built by Bolliger & Mabillard, based in Switzerland.

About SeaWorld:

SeaWorld San Diego is one of the most popular marine parks in the world and is a global leader in marine animal care and welfare, education, conservation, research and rescue. Through exciting and educational attractions, shows and exhibits, SeaWorld creates fun and meaningful experiences where guests can explore, become inspired to care about animals and wild wonders of the world and to act to help protect them. SeaWorld San Diego, which opened in March of 1964, is one of 12 parks operated by SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment. With every ticket and visit to a SeaWorld park, guests help fund wildlife rescue and rehabilitation efforts, habitat protection programs, and ocean health initiatives. To date, SeaWorld has rescued 36,000 animals and counting.