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For more information, contact:
Stefanie Santo, ssanto@fi.edu | 215.448.1152

EMPOWERING OUR FUTURE

**The Franklin Institute and TE Connectivity
Collaborate To Engineer Innovative Tech Studio**

Partnership connects the development and facilitation of interactive exhibit space
with hands-on design and engineering workshops

*The Franklin Institute recognizes National Engineers Week on Saturday, February 23
with a full day of hands-on engineering activities and an opportunity to
meet local female engineers during
Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day from 10am-3pm.*

PHILADELPHIA February 21, 2019—Building engineering skills for a better world is the ultimate goal for new interactive exhibit space and facilitated workshop suite—the product of a new partnership announced today between The Franklin Institute and global industrial technology leader TE Connectivity. The powerful collaboration will utilize the Institute’s strength in providing high quality, hands-on exhibits and rich STEM-based experiences while leveraging the expertise of TE Connectivity to integrate into the exhibit experience some of the real-life challenges engineers face daily and the skills necessary to overcome them. **Tech Studio** is designed as a unique space where creative play and emerging technologies come together to foster the technical and critical thinking skills essential for developing the technology of tomorrow and opens to the public in May 2019.

How can we safeguard autonomous vehicles from collisions? How can sensors be used to solve flight control challenges? Beyond speed, what will a future with 5G enable? **Tech Studio** will feature multiple experiences to engage visitors in the engineering design process of questioning, predicting, testing, failing, and redesigning. Graphics and multimedia will surround the design challenges with impact stories of both engineering students and engineers at TE Connectivity, while a collection of 3D printers immerses visitors in the latest technologies and techniques of this ever-emerging industry.

Engineering and design challenges visitors will face at **Tech Studio** launch include:

- Design, build and test a spinning top using different materials and smartphone sensors to measure its performance.
- Build a robotic vehicle that can sense its environment, integrate information, and safely navigate treacherous terrain, inspired by TE Connectivity’s sensors for autonomous vehicles.
- Design an aircraft that can safely land on a runway, with sensors that indicate a “safe” landing.

Beyond the exhibit experience, the partnership will produce a series of workshops facilitated by museum educators to provide the option for a deeper dive into the diverse field of engineering, with a dedicated space within Tech Studio for workshop facilitation.

At its core, **TE Connectivity** is powered by a vision of creating a safer, sustainable, productive and connected future, while the ongoing mission of **The Franklin Institute** is to inspire a passion for learning about science and

technology. The partnership reflects each organization's ongoing commitment to fueling Philadelphia's STEM workforce.

"There is no better way to encourage and engage future scientists, entrepreneurs, and engineers than through real-world challenges that offer hands-on experimentation, critical thinking, and problem-solving," said Dr. Darryl Williams, a chemical engineer, and senior vice president of science and education at The Franklin Institute. "This important strategic partnership with TE Connectivity will allow our visitors the opportunity to experience the engineering design process and come away with an understanding of some of the everyday challenges engineers face, learn ways to overcome them, and be inspired to pursue a potential career path in a STEM-related field."

"We are excited to partner with the Franklin Institute to design a fun, interactive Tech Studio that will showcase the many ways TE's global engineers are creating a safer, sustainable, productive and connected future," said Kari Janavitz, chief marketing officer at TE Connectivity. "Through this exhibit, we hope to introduce visitors to the types of skills needed to solve tomorrow's technology challenges and to inspire the next generation of innovators whose imaginations will help build a better world."

Tech Studio is the first of two spaces at The Franklin Institute in 2019 that will employ a new exhibit approach of developing evolving content about people, places, and problem-solving in STEM fields through strategic partnerships. Along with the upcoming **Now/Next** gallery, which will explore the transformative power of batteries from electric cars to energy systems that harness the sun, these exhibitions will bring real-world applications of the most current science to the forefront for visitors.

The Franklin Institute

Located in the heart of Philadelphia, The Franklin Institute is a renowned and innovative leader in the field of science and technology learning, as well as a dynamic center of activity. Pennsylvania's most visited museum, it is dedicated to creating a passion for learning about science by offering access to hands-on science education. For more information, visit www.fi.edu.

ABOUT TE CONNECTIVITY

TE Connectivity Ltd. is a \$14 billion global technology and manufacturing leader creating a safer, sustainable, productive, and connected future. For more than 75 years, our connectivity and sensor solutions, proven in the harshest environments, have enabled advancements in transportation, industrial applications, medical technology, energy, data communications, and the home. With 80,000 employees, including more than 8,000 engineers, working alongside customers in approximately 140 countries, TE ensures that EVERY CONNECTION COUNTS. Learn more at www.te.com and on LinkedIn, Facebook, WeChat and Twitter.