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### **Society of Women Engineers National Conference kicks off in Minnesota**

*Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery welcomes women  
from across the country who are breaking boundaries*

**Rosemount, Minn.** – Last night, Flint Hills Resources was pleased to host a pre-conference reception for attendees of the [Society of Women Engineers \(SWE\) National Conference](#) in Minneapolis. With an expected 11,000 attendees – and an additional 7,000 virtual attendees – it is the largest conference for women engineers in the world.

The event included a panel discussion on engineering, innovation and leadership featuring the following female business leaders:

- Sheryl Corrigan, Director of Environmental, Health and Safety (Koch Industries)
- Nadine Dytko-Madsen, Global Product Manager (Molex)
- Deb Preschler, Operations Innovation Director (Flint Hills Resources)
- Carrie Shapiro, Vice President of Dixie Manufacturing (Georgia Pacific)
- Dawn Wurst, Vice President of Process and Asset Safety (Georgia Pacific)

This year's conference theme, "Let's Break Boundaries," acknowledges that all women engineers – as well as those pursuing a career in engineering – are breaking boundaries for women across the globe. According to 2017 data released by the Office of the Chief Economist at the United States Department of Commerce, women only hold 24 percent of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) jobs, despite comprising 47 percent of the national workforce. Furthermore, women who hold STEM degrees are less likely than their male counterparts to work in a STEM occupation.

"Too many girls and women don't know or think that there's a place for them in science and engineering fields," said Martina List, chemical engineer at Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery. "But the Society of Women Engineers is helping to change that, and I'm thrilled they've chosen Minnesota for their 2018 National Conference."

Flint Hills Resources is a sponsor of the SWE National Conference keynote speech, which will be delivered by Marillyn Hewson on Friday, October 19. Hewson is the chairman, president and CEO of Lockheed Martin and was recently named the most powerful woman in business by *Fortune* magazine. The conference officially begins today and goes through Saturday, October

20 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. For more information, visit [we18.swe.org](http://we18.swe.org) and follow #WE18.

Flint Hills Resources employs many extraordinary women engineers and scientists. By supporting efforts such as [Girls, Science and Technology](#), the Science Museum of Minnesota's *Science Matters* and *Experience Science* programs, the Works Museum, and SWE's National Conference, Flint Hills is actively working to foster an environment in which women and girls have opportunities to explore and pursue STEM careers, and feel inspired to break boundaries of their own.

[Click here](#) to download a photo of the panel from the pre-conference reception.

### **About Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend**

Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery produces transportation fuels used throughout the Midwest, including most of Minnesota's gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, as well as other products people rely on such as propane and asphalt. Located 17 miles southeast of Minneapolis, Pine Bend has a capacity of 339,000 barrels per day and is among the cleanest, most efficient, and safest oil refineries in the country. Flint Hills Resources directly and indirectly supports more than 4,000 Minnesota jobs and has invested nearly \$1.7 billion on upgrades and improvements to its Minnesota facilities since 2010. With 1,000 full-time employees, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery is one of the largest employers in Dakota County. More information about the company is available at [pinebendrefinery.com](http://pinebendrefinery.com).

### **About Flint Hills Resources**

Flint Hills Resources is an industry leader in refining, chemicals, and biofuels and ingredients, with operations primarily in Texas and the Midwest. Its manufacturing capability is built upon six decades of refining experience, and the company has expanded its operations through capital projects and acquisitions worth more than \$14 billion since 2002. Flint Hills Resources' subsidiaries produce and market gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, asphalt, ethanol, biodiesel, liquefied natural gas, olefins, polymers, intermediate chemicals, as well as base oils, distillers corn oil and distillers grains. Based in Wichita, Kansas, the company has more than 4,000 employees and is a wholly owned subsidiary of Koch Industries, Inc. For more information, please visit [www.fhr.com](http://www.fhr.com).

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