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EXHIBIT AND MUSEUM RENEWAL PROJECTS: 2007 THROUGH THE PRESENT

The following exhibits and areas are part of the Museum of Science and Industry's renewal effort through the *Science Rediscovered* campaign. Renewed exhibits will create improved original, awe-inspiring and hands-on experiences that will make Museum guests excited and inspired by science and technology. Facility upgrades will ensure that the Museum remains a good steward of its historic building, as well as help all guests have a convenient and comfortable visit.

Farm Tech

The recently modernized *Farm Tech* exhibit, which opened in late summer 2007, now invites guests to explore the innovative technology that farmers use to be more efficient, effective and eco-friendly in delivering crops to market. The exhibit experience challenges guests to: plant, grow and harvest crops using GPS technology; put their milking skills to the test against a timer; gain insights into hydroponics and other advanced crop-growing techniques; and learn about the unique occupations in the agriculture field today, including animal nutritionists, agriculture meteorologists and custom-feed cattle farmers.

Transportation Gallery

In 2007, the Museum began work on creating a new, sophisticated interpretation of the story of aviation in the Transportation Gallery. Conserved aircraft, including a World War II British Supermarine Spitfire and a German Stuka, have been dramatically repositioned in the gallery to represent movement and flight and to showcase each aircraft's chronological importance within the field of aviation. A new interpretative presentation of the Museum's authentic Wright Flyer replica is being incorporated into the gallery space.

Boeing United 727

The Museum's United Airlines Boeing 727, part of the Transportation Gallery, has been refurbished with new seats as well as a new "in-flight" presentation about the mechanics and physics of flight. The 727 has been at the Museum since 1994: It landed at Meigs Field, was towed across Lake Michigan and over Lake Shore Drive, and was cantilevered in its new home in the Museum's East Balcony. In the 727 and the surrounding *Take Flight* exhibit, numerous hands-on activities, interactive displays and experiences, including real United Airlines pilots that volunteer in the exhibit, make the wondrous world of flight come alive.

999 Steam Locomotive

This historic locomotive, which became the fastest land vehicle when it reached a record speed of 112.5 mph in 1893, has been one of the Museum's beloved transportation artifacts since 1962. A new staircase built alongside the engine will allow guests to climb aboard the 999, inspect the technologies of the past and experience the feeling of conducting this 124,000-pound, record-breaking locomotive.

Henry Crown Space Center

This recently renovated gallery, which re-opened in late fall 2007, offers an expanded and more interactive exploration of the space program from the early years of the Space Race to what our future in space may hold. Guests are now invited to "dock" at the International Space Station, "remote control" a Mars Rover, explore an inflatable moon base and discover the upcoming technologies of human space exploration. A new and dynamic multimedia presentation has been added depicting the historic journey of the Apollo 11 lunar lander to the surface of the moon.

Coal Mine

The *Coal Mine*, a favorite experience at the Museum since it first debuted in 1933, reopened in April 2008 with new

interpretative media depicting the history of coal mining during the early 20th century and a completely refurbished *Coal Mine* experience, with new lighting, infrastructure, sound, interpretative elements and graphic displays. More than ever, guests will enjoy the experience of descending “600 feet” into a mineshaft, riding the rails and learning the technology behind mining.

Idea Factory

This exhibit space inspires the inventive genius in the Museum’s youngest guests, from toddlers to third graders. A revitalized *Idea Factory* debuted in March 2008, featuring enhanced interactive experiences. In the *Idea Factory*, children experiment using basic objects and test their own theories about the fundamentals of construction, simple machines, light, color, magnetism, balance, air and water.

Omnimax[®] Theater

The Omnimax theater will soon be updated with an entirely new sound system, including all new speakers and a soundtrack player. Improvements to lighting and automation will ensure that the pre-show is almost as impressive as the films. New seating and carpeting will also be added. By September, the only five-story, domed, wrap-around theater in Chicago will offer an even more incredible film experience for Museum guests as they explore the deep seas, journey to ancient civilizations, discover the mysteries of the dinosaurs—and more.

Building Façade

The Museum’s building was constructed in 1893 as the Palace of Fine Arts for Columbian Exposition, and it is the only building remaining from the spectacular “White City.” In 1929, the building received a new limestone façade when it was repurposed for use as the Museum of Science and Industry. To remove more than 75 years of pollution and grime from its surface and ornate classical architectural detailing, the Museum’s façade is in the process of being cleaned. The process—which involves soaking the façade with a fine water mist—began in July 2007 and will be completed this year. When complete, the impressive building will fully regain the soft sand color of the Indiana limestone with which it was refinished in the late 1920s.

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