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**MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY LAUNCHES WIRED TO WEAR™,
FIRST-EVER EXHIBITION DEDICATED TO WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY**

*Globally curated exhibit showcases how technology and clothing
will combine to unlock human potential and radically alter how we live*

CHICAGO (FEBRUARY 28, 2019) – On March 21, 2019, the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) will launch *Wired to Wear™*, the first-ever exhibition dedicated to wearable technology. Throughout the 8,000 square-foot exhibit, guests will learn how merging technology into clothing will transform what we wear into devices that will make us healthier, stronger and smarter.

“Wearable technology sits at the intersection of design, technology and innovation, and we are proud to bring together compelling examples of how it is changing the world,” said David Mosen, MSI’s president and chief executive officer. “We designed *Wired to Wear* to showcase the possibilities that wearable technology presents for society now and help guests understand how it can create opportunities for them they could have never imagined.”

The exhibit brings together more than 100 artifacts that represent the most cutting-edge technology from across this emerging industry’s pioneers that encompass:

- Global brands such as Dainese, Google, Intel, Microsoft, NASA and Gravity Industries;
- Renowned universities and laboratories including Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Johns Hopkins University, Northwestern University and The Shirley Ryan Ability Lab;
- Celebrated artists and designers that include [Anouk Wipprecht](#), [Behnaz Farahi](#), [Melissa Coleman](#), [Suzi Webster](#) and [Jordan Reeves](#).

Experiencing the Future

True to MSI’s signature hands-on approach, guests will be able to touch and feel many of these emerging technologies, including:

- SpiderSense Vest – using the concept developed by Chicago-based entrepreneur Victor Mateevitsi and built out by technological futurist firm Quantum XPR, guests will navigate a space relying on the haptic feedback the vest provides to alert them to obstacles in close proximity.
- Electric Dreams – designed by new media installation artist Suzi Webster and Quantum XPR, this headdress will change color in response to the guest’s brainwaves using a microcontroller, EEG sensors, fiber optics and LEDs.
- The Latest Lab – this design/gallery hybrid space will feature a rotating gallery of prototypes from across industries while providing a space for guests to contribute their ideas for the wearables of the future.

“*Wired to Wear* celebrates designers, makers, engineers, artists across titles and ages who are working together in the spirit of creativity and invention,” said Anthony

Vitagliano, vice president of exhibitions and experiences, MSI. “The story we’re telling is as much about the people who have explored this exciting mash-up of technology and our clothing as much as it is about the products themselves.”

Looking into the Future

Throughout *Wired to Wear*, guests will see examples of how wearable technology is fueling innovation to revolutionize the benefits clothing can and will provide, including:

- Gravity Industries’ Jet Suit, which is comprised of five miniature jet engines and an exoskeleton, can travel more than 30 miles per hour and ascend to 12,000 feet
- Nike’s self-lacing shoes from *Back to the Future Part II*, on loan from the collection of Ripley’s Believe It or Not!, along with Nike’s HyperAdapt 1.0 and the recently announced Nike Adapt BB shoes
- Seismic’s Powered Clothing™, a lightweight alternative exoskeleton providing extra strength for standing and sitting to help reduce injury and preserve mobility
- Dainese’s D-Air Racing Suit monitors the wearer’s position 1,000 times per second to determine if embedded airbags need to instantaneously inflate to protect the wearer from injury

Designing the Future

As an institution dedicated to hands-on learning, MSI is simultaneously launching Makers United, a design experience where guests will build their own wearable product. The process will take guests through circuit building and teach them more about the digital and manufacturing processes, as well as allow them to see examples of equipment they can utilize to continue creative ideation at home.

Wired to Wear is sponsored by BMO Harris Bank and will be at MSI through May 2020. It is not included in Museum Entry and requires an additional timed-entry ticket, \$12 for adults and seniors, and \$9 for children.

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI), one of the largest science museums in the world, offers world-class and uniquely interactive experiences that inspire inventive genius and foster curiosity. From groundbreaking and award-winning exhibits that can’t be found anywhere else, to hands-on opportunities that make *you* the scientist—a visit to MSI is where fun and learning mix. Through its Welcome to Science Initiative, the Museum offers a variety of student, teacher and family programs that make a difference in communities and contribute to MSI’s larger vision: to inspire and motivate children to achieve their full potential in science, technology, medicine and engineering. Come visit and find your inspiration! MSI is open 9:30–4 p.m. every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Extended hours, until 5:30 p.m., are offered during peak periods. The Museum is grateful for the support of its donors and guests, who make its work possible. MSI is also supported in part by the people of Chicago through the Chicago Park District. For more information, visit msichicago.org or call (773) 684-1414.

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