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## **Nation's leading water technology cluster to convene first program in D.C. spotlighting Wisconsin's water industry**

**Milwaukee, WI, Aug. 24, 2017** – A. O. Smith Corporation (NYSE:AOS) and The Water Council will be hosting ***Fostering Public-Private Innovations in the U.S. Water Market – Wisconsin's Leadership*** on September 6, 2017 from 9:00 – 11:30 am ET (8:00 – 10:30 am CT) at the U.S. Capitol Visitor's Center in Washington, D.C. The program will highlight the value and successes of public-private partnerships in the water industry, using Wisconsin as the model, and innovative technology solutions and management strategies that can be deployed across the U.S. to help address safe drinking water and infrastructure challenges.

This is the first time A. O. Smith and The Water Council have jointly brought an informative program to D.C. for policymakers highlighting the need to increase innovation and investments in water technologies, a topic that has been garnering increased attention and support in Milwaukee for nearly a decade through research, development and deployment of clean water technologies.

"I've seen firsthand the important work The Water Council and A. O. Smith are doing to help transform Milwaukee into the world hub for water innovation," said U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin. "I'm happy to join this event at our nation's capital to help share the tremendous progress we've made in Wisconsin to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century water technology that will make an important impact locally, nationally, and globally."

***Fostering Public-Private Innovations in the U.S. Water Market*** will feature three conversational-sessions: Safe Drinking Water, Novel Water Infrastructure and How Wisconsin is Leading the Way.

"Fresh water is a growing issue throughout the country as citizens are becoming more concerned with the quality of their water," Ajita G. Rajendra, chairman and chief executive officer of A. O. Smith Corporation, observed. "Thanks to our long-time partnership with The Water Council, we are developing new approaches and new technologies to address this issue, and we look forward to sharing our story in Washington, D.C."

Other guests in attendance at the day's events will include several key stakeholders on the subject from multiple sectors, including: Americas Energy Services, Badger Meter, Ernest Maier, Inc., Global Environment & Technology Foundation, Hudson River Watershed Alliance, Marquette University, Michael Best & Friedrich

LLP, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Opti RTC, PaveDrain, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. National Science Foundation, U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (invited), U.S. Senator Ron Johnson (invited), U.S. Water Alliance, Virginia Tech, Water Environment Federation, Water Environment & Reuse Foundation and Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

Policy makers, congressional staff, administration officials, non-governmental organization leaders, industry trade groups, businesses and academic programs from around the U.S. are encouraged to attend.

This program will be held in-person in D.C. at the U.S. Capitol Visitor's Center. Registration for the program is required and closes at 12:00 pm ET (11:00 am CT) on September 5. Register here:

<https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/266442>

### **About The Water Council**

Headquartered in the Global Water Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, next to the world's largest freshwater system, The Water Council is a non-profit organization that drives economic, technology and talent development to support the global water industry. As the leading U.S. cluster, and one of the most powerful water technology hubs in the world, the organization convenes global water leaders and supports more than 190 members from small and mid-sized businesses and large global corporations to engineers, entrepreneurs, utilities, government agencies, education programs and non-profits, with valuable services, programming and networking opportunities. Established as a 501(c)(3) in 2009, the driving force behind its success is the vibrant spirit of collaboration between public, private and academic sectors with a strong, shared commitment to finding innovative solutions to critical global water challenges. Visit [www.thewatercouncil.com](http://www.thewatercouncil.com) for more information.

### **About A. O. Smith Corporation**

A. O. Smith Corporation, with headquarters in Milwaukee, Wis., is a global leader applying innovative technology and energy-efficient solutions to products manufactured and marketed worldwide. The company is one of the world's leading manufacturers of residential and commercial water heating equipment, as well as a manufacturer of water treatment and air purification products. For more information visit [www.aosmith.com](http://www.aosmith.com)

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