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PSAI Announces 2nd Annual World Portable Sanitation Day

(BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA, USA, 22 April 2015) – The Portable Sanitation Association International (PSAI) today announced the second annual World Portable Sanitation Day (WPSD) will be celebrated on August 15, 2015. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 2.5 billion people globally – about a third of the world's population – lack access to adequate sanitation.¹

The PSAI chose Earth Day to make its WPSD announcement to highlight the relationship between portable sanitation and the earth-friendly practices of the industry. Portable sanitation saves an estimated 125 million gallons of fresh water each day – nearly 46 billion gallons per year.² In addition, most of the products the industry uses are environmentally friendly, its wastewater is recycled, and solid waste is often applied in fields to nourish the land and fertilize crops.

The inaugural WPSD event in 2014 kicked off an ongoing campaign to raise awareness and promote change by engaging people all over the world in expanding access to sustainable sanitation. Over time, it is the goal of the PSAI to transform the public's interest and ingenuity into local solutions that prevent the spread of disease, save water, improve the quality of life of people and the sustainability of our planet.

PSAI Executive Director Karleen Kos points out that the portable sanitation industry can play an integral role in addressing some of the biggest challenges currently facing the world's citizens. "Parts of the globe are facing severe droughts. Solutions that use less water are an essential part of coping with water shortages," she says. Kos notes that in some parts of the world, portable toilets may be the only practical answer. Sewer systems rely on water and infrastructure, which can be very limited. "Sustainable sanitation solutions are needed to help address the needs," Kos says.

PSAI company members will be celebrating World Portable Sanitation Day with a series of activities to be announced in each local market. They will engage non-profit stakeholders and the media in helping to educate their communities and to better understand how options such as portable sanitation can be part of a sustainable global sanitation solution. Additional information will be provided throughout the coming months, culminating with WPSD celebrations on August 15.

About PSAI

The Portable Sanitation Association International (PSAI) exists to expand and improve portable sanitation as part of a global approach to serving the public and sustaining the planet. As the largest trade association of its kind in the world, the PSAI is recognized internationally as a credible, authoritative voice providing education and tools to promote safety and health. Established in 1971, the PSAI develops and promotes industry standards; serves as a repository of information and resources for operators, suppliers, government entities and the general public; and provides recognition for excellence in the field. The PSAI has its worldwide headquarters in Bloomington, Minnesota, USA. Visit www.PSAI.org for additional Association news and information.

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¹ See http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/hygiene/en/

² See <http://psai.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Global-Water-Savings-Calculations.pdf>