

*New product launches for Water Journey™ and PlayNuk*

## **Vortex International Expands Range of Aquatic Play Products Catering to Toddlers and Preschoolers**

**Montreal, September 25, 2018** – Vortex Aquatic Structures International, a world leader in the aquatic play industry, is pleased to announce the launch of three new members of its Water Journey™ family – Pico, Alto, and Hop – as well as the PlayNuk, a new kind of elevated structure. Making their debut at the NRPA Annual Conference in Indianapolis on September 25<sup>th</sup>, these new aquatic play elements are specially designed to appeal to children aged 2 to 5 years.

The new Water Journey™ elements zero in on a crucial period of childhood development, stimulating the emotional, cognitive, and motor skills of newcomers just discovering the world of aquatic play. The result is a trio of highly tactile events that are scaled for toddlers and preschoolers, but interactive enough to appeal to older siblings and encourage social play. Inspired by mountainside cascades and stepping stones, Pico, Alto, and Hop expand the Water Journey™ playscape, which has received several design awards, including Most Valuable Product by Aquatics International Magazine in 2016.

Where Water Journey™ focuses on ground-level play, PlayNuk adds to the Elevations™ family with a two-deck exploration hub that is specially scaled for children in the 2-5 age group. Softer spray features, smaller steps with double handrails, strategically shaded spaces, and age-appropriate games get young girls and boys exploring exciting new frontiers on their own safely. By respecting their unique scale, perspective, and play tempo, these new elements fully engage little ones in the discovery of aquatic play.

“We’re very excited to expand our award-winning Water Journey™ line,” says Stephen Hamelin, President and CEO of Vortex Aquatic Structures International. “Fun is a core value of ours. We understand that bold water features and large structures that involve high-energy play can sometimes be intimidating for toddlers and preschoolers, and that’s no fun. With Pico, Alto, Hop, and PlayNuk, we’ve created a series of play spaces little ones can proudly call their own.”

The new Water Journey™ and PlayNuk elements will be on display in booth 1023 of the trade show at the NRPA Annual Conference, a premier event that brings together more than 8,000 parks and recreation professionals, advocates, and industry suppliers for three days of networking, training, and discovery of the latest products the industry has to offer.

### **About Vortex**

Vortex Aquatic Structures International, headquartered in Montreal, Canada, was founded in 1995 with the introduction of the first Splashpad®. With over 7,000 installations worldwide, Vortex’s mission is to lead the aquatic play industry by continuing to develop the most fun, innovative and safe products for families and children of all ages and abilities.

Vortex is among the fastest growing companies in Canada, making the Growth 500 list for the fourth consecutive year.

Proud winner of two [International Design Awards](#) in two Product Design categories, Gold in Leisure Games and Fun and Silver in the Designs for Social Impact category for its Explora Collection.

For the third time, a Vortex product has caught the eye of industry peers and customers. The PrecisionRide™ waterslide series has been named [Most Valuable Product 2018](#) by Aquatics International's readers. Previously, Vortex won a Most Valuable Product award in 2015 for Watermark and in 2016 for Water Journey™.

The award-winning Water Journey™ has also won the Grand Prix du Design and the Good Design by the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design.

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