



News Release

Record-breaking Astronaut Dr. Peggy Whitson Announced as Keynote Speaker for VIPAR Heavy Duty Family of Companies' IMPACT Conference

HOFFMAN ESTATES, III. (OCT. 3, 2023) – The VIPAR Heavy Duty Family of Companies announced that record-breaking astronaut Dr. Peggy Whitson will be the keynote speaker at the company's 2023 IMPACT™ Conference.

Known as "America's Most Experienced Astronaut," Whitson will address the audience with a speech titled "Record-Breaking: My Life and Career with NASA." Whitson achieved numerous records during her storied time as a NASA scientist and astronaut, including:

- More time spent in space than any other American (665 days)
- Most spacewalks completed of any female astronaut (10)
- Most time spent during spacewalks of any female astronaut and third most of any spacefarer (60 hours and 21 minutes)
- First female to command the International Space Station twice (2008 and 2013)

"We're very excited to feature Peggy Whitson at our annual conference and look forward to her sharing her truly unique perspectives and experiences," said VIPAR Heavy Duty Vice President of Marketing Jeff Paul. "Whitson's accomplishments, leadership and fearlessness carry a universal message that is inspiring and exhilarating. Her remarkable life story and daring tales of space travel will leave a lasting impact on our attendees."

The VIPAR Heavy Duty Family of Companies' IMPACT Conference is scheduled for Oct. 15-20 at the JW Marriott Marco Island in Marco Island, Fla. The weeklong event will bring together more than 850 distributors, suppliers and industry associates. In addition to the keynote speaker, the conference will feature business and industry updates, annual stockholder and member meetings, interactive panels, educational sessions, trade show, networking opportunities, and one-to-one distributor/supplier partner meetings.

The event will also include a GenNext speed mentoring session and young leaders programming focused on developing future aftermarket leadership; the Women in Business networking reception; and the IMPACT Memorial Golf Tournament to memorialize industry friends lost and raise contributions for various aftermarket charitable causes, including the nonprofit Wyakin Foundation that is dedicated to helping wounded and injured veterans transition to post-military careers.

For more information on VIPAR Heavy Duty, visit www.vipar.com or email: info@vipar.com.
For more information on Power Heavy Duty, visit www.powerheavyduty.net or email: info@powerheavyduty.net.

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Image Attached:

Download Image: <https://bit.ly/3EWTwMd>

About The VIPAR Heavy Duty Family of Companies

With more than 920 locations, the VIPAR Heavy Duty Family of Companies is North America's leading network of independent truck parts distributors and service providers serving the commercial vehicle industry's full range of aftermarket needs. It provides its VIPAR Heavy Duty and Power Heavy Duty distributors and its supplier partners with value-added, channel-specific tools to best deliver world-class products, services and satisfaction to customers throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico. The VIPAR Heavy Duty Family of Companies includes VIPAR Heavy Duty, which was founded in 1989 and is headquartered in Hoffman Estates, Ill., and two wholly owned subsidiaries, Power Heavy Duty LLC, founded in 1994 and acquired by VIPAR Heavy Duty in 2014, and Global Parts Network LLC, a leading manufacturer of brake related products and parts distribution center of heavy duty truck parts. VIPAR Heavy Duty is a proud member of NEXUS North

America and NEXUS Automotive International, a worldwide group of parts distributors committed to bringing a global approach to the automotive and commercial vehicle aftermarket industries. For more information about VIPAR Heavy Duty, visit www.vipar.com; for more information about Power Heavy Duty, visit www.powerheavyduty.net.

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