

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Contact:** IWSH Press Office  
[info@iwsh.org](mailto:info@iwsh.org)**Lixil and P.I.P.E. Step Up as Sponsors for IWSH's Navajo Nation Community Plumbing Challenge**

**Washington, D.C. (Aug. 9, 2018)** — Lixil, the pioneering manufacturer of such brands as American Standard and Grohe, and the Piping Industry Progress & Education Trust Fund (P.I.P.E.) have generously extended support, both financial and products/materials, to the International Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (IWSH) Foundation's 2018 International Community Plumbing Challenge (CPC) in Northwestern New Mexico from Oct. 22-26.

As Gold Level sponsors, Lixil and P.I.P.E. become invaluable partners with IWSH and DigDeep's Navajo Water Project as the CPC team provides households in the Baca-Prewitt area of the Navajo reservation with access to water and improved sanitation. The inclusion of products and materials in Lixil's sponsorship ensures project recipient homes will be equipped with some of the highest quality, most dependable products the industry has to offer.

"For more than 140 years, American Standard protected the health of our nation by providing access to safe plumbing," said Troy Benavidez, vice president, public affairs, LIXIL Americas. "Now, as part of LIXIL, we have a commitment to bring safe sanitation to communities around the world and in our own backyard. We are thrilled to support IWSH and the DigDeep Navajo Water Project and are committed to assuring residents in the Baca-Prewitt area of the reservation access to clean water and improved sanitation to make their lives healthier and safer."

The Navajo Nation CPC assembles a multi-disciplined team of skilled tradespeople to execute plumbing and construction projects that will improve living conditions in approximately 10 households nominated by U.S.-based nonprofit organization DigDeep. Inside homes, a range of bathroom and kitchen renovations will be carried out, including the installation of new basins, taps, toilets, water tanks, water pumps, and hot- and cold-water pipework. Meanwhile, efforts outdoors will address the installation of, and connection to, new wastewater systems.

"We are committed to community-oriented projects that improve what surrounds us," said Jaime Valdivia, P.I.P.E. director. "That is why we are excited to partner with and support the IWSH Foundation's CPC. This challenge brings out the best in people and helps build a better future for the beneficiary families."

IWSH is actively recruiting team members, sponsors, and partners for October's Navajo Nation CPC. If you wish to be a sponsor, please direct your web browser to <https://commplumbing.org/sponsor/>. If you would like to participate in the Navajo Nation CPC, go to <https://commplumbing.org/join/>. For more information about the event, visit the project website at [www.commplumbing.org](http://www.commplumbing.org) or email [info@iwsh.org](mailto:info@iwsh.org).

"Having strong support is vital to any humanitarian project, and the philanthropic work IWSH is convening this year in the Navajo Nation is no different," said Dan Daniels, chairman of the IWSH Board of Trustees. "We are thrilled to have Lixil and P.I.P.E. committing to be gold sponsors for our project this fall. Securing support from manufacturers and labor, as we see from their high-level support, shows the breadth, backing, and enthusiasm the industry holds for our upcoming Community Plumbing Challenge."

**ABOUT IWSH**

IWSH is uniquely positioned to maximize the standardization and implementation of water and sanitation services by combining a near century of technical expertise, promoting international codes, standards, and regulations across the industry. It works to create innovative strategies, partnerships,

and in-country programs that will result in direct real-world impact through the enhancement of physical schools, facilities, and the upskilling of thousands of workers across the globe. The foundation's vision goes beyond clean water and sanitation — it is to build the framework, work force, and supply chains to sustainably grow these services in every country.

#### **ABOUT LIXIL**

LIXIL makes pioneering water and housing products that solve every day, real-life challenges, making better homes a reality for everyone, everywhere. Drawing on our Japanese heritage, we create world-leading technology and innovate to make high quality products that transform homes. But the LIXIL difference is how we do this; through meaningful design, an entrepreneurial spirit, a dedication to improving accessibility for all, and responsible business growth. Our approach comes to life through industry leading brands, including LIXIL, GROHE, American Standard and FIAT. Over 70,000 colleagues operating in 150 countries are proud to make products that touch the lives of more than a billion people every day.

Learn more at [www.lixil.com](http://www.lixil.com), [facebook.com/lixilgroup](https://facebook.com/lixilgroup) and [www.linkedin.com/company/lixil-group](https://www.linkedin.com/company/lixil-group).

#### **ABOUT P.I.P.E.**

P.I.P.E. was formed in 1980 to improve communications between labor and management, to explore joint approaches to problems and to prevent potential problems, to improve occupational safety and health and other working conditions. The P.I.P.E. Partnership is a 3-way partnership between Labor, Management, and the customer. We are the joint Labor and Management cooperation committee and trust fund for the unionized plumbing, piping and HVACR industries in Southern California. We are the vehicle through which union contractors and union pipe trades workers advance the industry.

Learn more at [www.pipe.org](http://www.pipe.org).