

**CE FRANKLIN LTD. ANNOUNCES MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENT
AND REVISED THIRD QUARTER EARNINGS RELEASE
AND CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION**

CALGARY, Alberta (October 16, 2001)... CE Franklin Ltd. (TSE:CFT; AMEX:CFK) today announced that John E. Gilbank has resigned as Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company in order to pursue other opportunities. Mr. Gilbank has also resigned from the Company's Board of Directors. Gordon R. Schnell, member of the Board and former President and Chief Operating Officer of the Company, will serve as Chief Executive Officer on an interim basis. Mr. Schnell has remained active in the Company since his retirement in 1998. The Board of Directors will form a special committee to initiate a search for a permanent Chief Executive Officer.

Further, due to this recent management change, CE Franklin has revised the timing of its third quarter earnings release and conference call. The Company will release third quarter results, through Canada NewsWire, after the market closes on Monday, November 5, 2001. The information will also be posted on the company's website at <http://www.cefranklin.com>. A conference call to review the quarterly results, which is open to the public, will be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2001, beginning at 11:00 a.m. EST (9:00 a.m. Calgary time MST). Participants may join the call by dialing 1-888-280-8349 at the scheduled time. A recording of the entire call may be accessed by 1:00 p.m. EST (11:00 a.m. MST) on the same day by calling 1-888-509-0081 and will be available until midnight Monday, November 12. The call will also be webcast live at <http://www.newswire.ca/webcast/pages/CEFranklin20011023/> and will be available on the company's website at <http://www.cefranklin.com>.

CE Franklin is Canada's largest distributor of supplies for the drilling, production, processing and pipelining of hydrocarbons. In addition to its complete range of production equipment, including artificial lift technology, the company sells pipe, valves, fittings and maintenance supplies and provides complete customer inventory procurement and management services through its 41 locations across Canada. The company also manufactures and packages specialized products for the energy industry and provides supply packages for projects in the hydrocarbon processing industry through its Piping Resources Division.

This news release includes forward looking statements within the meaning of section 27A of the United States Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the United States Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Although the Company believes that its expectations are based on reasonable assumptions, it can give no assurance that expected results will be achieved. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward looking statements herein include economic conditions, seasonality of drilling activity, commodity prices for oil and gas, currency fluctuations and government regulations, and other risks and uncertainties as described in the Company's 2000 Annual Report on Form 20-F as filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

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