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Pirates Invade LEGOLAND® California

All-new area opens with a friendly takeover and a few surprises...

CARLSBAD, Calif. (June 21, 2006) – More than twenty pirates raided **Pirate Shores** surprising hundreds of people today at the grand opening ceremony of the largest expansion in the history of LEGOLAND® California.

The swashbucklers seized President and General Manager John Jakobsen, initiated him into piracy and alas, allowed him to inaugurate Pirate Shores by smashing a LEGO® bottle against the bow of Soak-N-Sail, one of the new signature attractions. The 18-inch bottle, designed especially for the occasion by LEGOLAND California's Model Shop, was created with more than one-thousand LEGO elements and shattered into pieces when Jakobsen smashed it against the vessel. Following the christening, Jakobsen became one of the first to be drenched by the tidal wave of 600 gallons of water that pours from the huge bucket atop Soak-N-Sail.

Pirate Shores is the Parks' seventh themed block, represents a \$10 million investment and features four new attractions based on water play. With the opening of Pirate Shores, LEGOLAND California has added 13 new attractions in the last 2 ½ years.

The cornerstone of the new area is the adventurous ride **Splash Battle**. On Splash Battle, families board pirate ships and cruise through pirate-infested waters equipped with their very own water cannons. Each pirate-ship vehicle carries four passengers on an exciting high-seas journey through twists, turns and magnificent scenes including exploding volcanoes, roving bands of pirates and a scary sail-through skull. Riders taking this voyage are destined to get wet as both they and ride spectators are armed to the teeth with water cannons to take their best watery shot at one another.

Treasure Falls introduces young guests to a traditional mini-flume log ride. Each log-shaped ride vehicle transports two adults and two children through a swashbuckling adventure featuring two daring drops. Riders are sure to get cooled off as they plunge nearly 12 feet amidst a tropical jungle. Nearby, vacationing pirates enjoy a feast as a snake settles on a branch of their makeshift hut.

Pirate Shores includes two new play areas where guests can soak up some fun playing in and with water. **Swabbies Deck** is designed for younger guests with pop-up water jets, water fountains, and squirt cannons. **Soak-N-Sail** takes water play to a new level with hundreds of gallons of water coursing through more than 60 interactive features. The play structure is modeled after a shipwrecked pirate vessel with a mast measuring 38 feet tall.

Throughout Pirate Shores, more than 150 detailed LEGO models abound including a lively pirate band providing festive sea shanties, a group of renegade mice raiding provisions and a spectacular sinking galleon. LEGOLAND California invites all guests to come aboard and experience Pirate Shores...if ye dare!

LEGOLAND® California is a 128-acre interactive theme park dedicated to families with children between the ages of two and 12. Just like with LEGO® play materials, kids are the ones who create the action at the Park. They drive, pedal, squirt, climb, jump, stomp, slide, steer, pull, click, push, gallop, laugh, build and program their way through more than 50 rides, shows and attractions. There are three other LEGOLAND Parks in the world – LEGOLAND Billund in Denmark, LEGOLAND Windsor outside of London and LEGOLAND Deutschland near Günzburg, Germany. The LEGOLAND theme parks are a part of Merlin Entertainments Group. For the most current information, log on to www.LEGOLAND.com or call (760) 918-LEGO.

