

# WILLIAM STATION A L WWW.VideoAgeDaily.com

DAY 1

October 13, 2014

### MIPCANNES: MIPCOM Vies For Cannes-Style Glamour

alk the red carpet and meet the stars" is how Reed MIDEM promoted MIPCOM this year. With the problem of filling up the aisles with exhibitor stands checked off, MIPCOM organizers, who have sold out the exhibition space, are now aiming to transform the market into a glamorous Cannes Film Festival-style event.

One could even say that MIPCOM is turning into "MIPCANNES," with many film and TV stars walking along the Croisette and posing for pictures at various hotels (see complete list starting below). Clearly, the market organizers weren't satisfied with the traditional flock of trade journalists; they wanted to attract a horde of consumer reporters — possibly with



TV cameras on their shoulders — by flaunting celebrities.

And it's not just a matter of TV personalities, but also TV executive stars, such as 21st Century Fox's James Murdoch as a keynote speaker, Televisa's Emilio Azcárraga Jean set to deliver a presentation and Simon Cowell as the Personality of the Year.

(Continued on Page 4)

## MIPJunior Goes To Palm Beach To Gamble

ven if participants went to MIPJunior for just one important meeting, the organizers made sure that no one was bored during the two-day event that this year took place at the Casino Palm Beach, on the newer port area opposite MIPCOM's Palais.

Tired, yes, but bored, no. After schlepping for about three kilometers along the Croisette from the Carlton Hotel (as the half-way mark), participants surely enjoyed sitting down for any one of the 24 events on the schedule, which included seminars, conferences, pitches, presentations, showcases, lunches (on both days) and the

(Continued on Page 4)

My 2 Cents: Net neutrality means free access to the highway Page 22

INSIDE: Highlights of German and Canadian television fare

Pages 6, 16

COMING UP: Latin
American TV special,
Prix Italia report

April 15

VideoAge
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the go



### Glitz and Glam at MIPCOM Add Costs

The Croisette is glittering with an unusually large number of stars to promote television programs at MIPCOM 2014. Indeed, market organizer Reed MIDEM is purposely mirroring all the glam associated with the Cannes Film Festival, most evident in their choice for Personality of the Year: TV and film producer, music label executive and talent show judge Simon Cowell. Cowell will deliver a keynote interview moderated by television personality Piers Morgan today in the Grand Auditorium. He will accept the award at a gala tomorrow.

Entertainment One is pulling out all the stops and heading to MIPCOM with the cast and creative talent of *Matador* and *The Book of Negroes*, which is being shown tonight at 6 p.m. as the World Premiere TV Screening Event in the Grand Auditorium of the Palais. A question and answer session will follow with actors Aunjanue Ellis, Cuba Gooding, Jr. and Lou Gossett, Jr., author Lawrence Hill, director

(Continued on Page 4)







(Continued from Cover)

### **MIPCANNES**

Last year, when MIPCOM was not yet "MIPCANNES," the award was bestowed on DreamWorks' co-founder Jeffrey Katzenberg, who despite not drawing a full crowd at the Award Gala Dining Hall at the Carlton Hotel with top-level executives, was nevertheless of marquee value (top studio executives who compete with DreamWorks preferred to honor their own clients with separate dinners).

This year, "MIPCANNES" participants will therefore be walking on extended red-carpeted pathways, while tourists will be taking pictures of various spots on the carpet believed to have been stepped on by some TV star or other.

Indeed, Entertainment One's (eOne) Stuart Baxter told *VideoAge Daily*, "We're definitely going to have a bigger presence this year with the A-list talent we're bringing.

But "MIPCANNES" also means business, lots of business, due to a record crop of new U.S. TV series and a larger than usual output from indie companies.

"MIPCOM is the most important market for us," said Studio 100 Media's Patrick Elmendorff.



"Especially with MIPJunior two days before the main event, it's the perfect arena to meet with our worldwide clients and partners," he added.

"I'm ever optimistic that MIPCOM will be a great market. It is for us probably the single most important market of the year," said Joel Denton of A+E Networks. "And with the global economic improvement, the growth of OTT, the launch of new channels...we have very high expectations for the upcoming market," he said.

Bob McCourt of FremantleMedia International explained that MIPCOM is "probably our most important TV market, and it provides a great time to mix with clients, as well as colleagues." In addition, MIPCOM is coming at a great time because, as McCourt said, "The economy is certainly on the upturn and there is a lot of optimism." Plus, McCourt anticipates a larger contingent of buyers as compared to MIP-TV because more studios will be present — and reaching buyers is really what this is all about.

When participants aren't busy with meetings, they'll be plenty entertained with a number of other special events. Tonight is the World Premiere Television Screening of eOne's *The Book of Negroes*. eOne will also host its annual press breakfast again this year, while A+E is hosting a welcome cocktail at Club 21 today. A+E's Lifetime Networks is sponsoring the Women in Global Entertainment Lunch.

### Glitz & Glam

and co-writer Clement Virgo and executive producers Damon D'Oliveira and Carrie Stein. On-hand for action-adventure series *Matador* are actors Gabriel Luna and Nicky Whelan, as well as producer Roberto Orci.

Lionsgate is here with stars from its new hourlong drama series *The Royals*. Elizabeth Hurley, William Moseley and Alexandra Park are walking the red carpet at tonight's Opening Night party at the Martinez Hotel.

Armando Nuñez, president and CEO of CBS Global Distribution Group and David Stapf, president of CBS Television Studios, will deliver a Media Mastermind keynote tomorrow at 4:20 p.m. in the Grand Auditorium. Other top executives sharing their insights include Steve Mosko of Sony Pictures Television, Televisa's Emilio Azcárraga Jean and James Murdoch of 21st Century Fox.

Chris Philip's Sierra/Engine Television and Kiss frontman Gene Simmons are launching a new reality format series called *Coliseum*, and Simmons will be at MIPCOM to pitch the show and offer his talent services for local versions across the globe.

FOX International Channels' newly formed Content Sales division is in Cannes with actor Matt Dillon and M. Night Shyamalan, executive producer of the 10-episode event thriller *Wayward Pines*. Shyamalan will present the series and take part in a panel titled "From Cult to Mainstream: Film & TV Crossroads Case Studies" on Wednesday. Street magician Zack Mirza is here for Peacock Alley's *Illusions of Grandeur*. Endemol Studios is bringing Frank Grillo, Nick Jonas and creator/executive producer/showrunner Byron Balasco to promote the drama *Kingdom*. British actors Eddie Marsan and Bertie Carvel are also in Cannes with producer Nick Hirschkorn for the BBC adaptation of *Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrell*.

Tandem Communications is on the scene with actors Marc-André Grondin, Denis Ménochet, Brendan Coyle and Miranda Raison for drama *Spotless*. Additionally, Donald Sutherland is also attending Tandem's press luncheon today as coproducer, co-writer and voice talent for the new animated family adventure film *Pirate's Passage*, which is distributed worldwide by Tandem. Production executives attending on behalf of Tandem are Rola Bauer and Jonas Bauer and Canal+ executives are Fabrice de la Patelliere and Dominique Jubin.

Actors Tchéky Karyo, James Nesbitt and Frances O'Connor are in Cannes for *The Missing*, while actors Dominic Monaghan and Michael Nyqvist and showrunner Bobby Moresco are onhand for Red Arrow International's *100 Code*. BBC Worldwide has actors Mira Sorvino and John Simm and executive producer and creator Glen Morgan in tow for *Intruders*, while Sky Vision is here with actors Richard Dormer, Luke Treadaway and Sienna Guillory for *Fortitude*. Newen Distribution has brought Hervé Hadmar, director of *Witnesses* (*Les Temoins*).

Other personalities lighting up the Croisette include Yann Arthus-Bertrand, photographer, director and president of GoodPlanet Foundation; Indian actor/director/writer/producer Aamir Khan; and master of hypnosis Messmer.

Without a doubt, celebrities add glamour to MIPCOM, but at the same time observers report

that this glamour comes at a cost, since bringing stars to Cannes is expensive.

Understandably, after years of hardship, perhaps serving tables in Los Angeles or New York City restaurants — when traveling to promote new shows — top talent want to be pampered and revered by a cadre of adoring PR reps, photographers and accommodating executives. However, all that comes with a big price tag that includes first class travel arrangements, hotel accommodations and entourages. These expenses will inevitably erode or add to the already high MIPCOM budgets, eventually creating tension between exhibitors and market organizers.

### **MIPJunior**

opening night party. Indeed, very few participants had enough energy left to make multiple trips to the MIPJunior venue.

The Junior market that over the years has migrated among various locations (the Carlton, Martinez and Marriott hotels) was held for the first time at the Casino Palm Beach, reportedly because it offered lower costs to Reed MIDEM.

The unofficial version is that Junior organizers did not contact the traditional hotels before other events claimed the spots on the October calendar. Officially, the move to the expanded Palm Beach venue was required to meet the needs of a growing market and offer a more close-knit environment.

Strangely, all three versions circulating about the move seem to be correct, and, to maintain the good relationship with the Cannes hotels, Paul Zilk, Reed MIDEM's CEO, met with the hotels' representatives late last month.

For some participants the new venue was better than some of the previous ones. However, children's television is a tough and risky business and many producers take a gamble with this genre, so the casino affiliation was apropos.

Trying to reach the elusive seven to 10 age group for many TV producers seemed just as hard as finding buyers willing to pay some money for their shows. This in addition to trying to come up with shows that appeal to both boys and girls, knowing the reluctance of boys to watch girl-centered shows (while girls don't mind so-called boy shows).

Despite it all, many producers and distributors alike are drawn to the genre as the 649 MIPJunior participating companies from 52 different countries attested, though some attendees may have been siphoned off by Brand Licensing Europe, held in London from October 7-9.

Among the largest companies in attendance, Disney spotlighted its *Star Wars Rebels* from the Lucasfilm stable, while Viacom highlighted new episodes of its animated preschool series, *Dora and Friends: Into the City*.





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### **Content Journeys to Cannes**

ontent Television boasts a variety of programming, including feature films, drama series, documentaries and more. Blending CGI and live-action, drama series Olympus (pictured) delves into the ancient realms of humans, Gods and monsters.

God commands the Biblical Noah to build a giant floating vessel in order to ensure the future of the world in feature film The Ark.

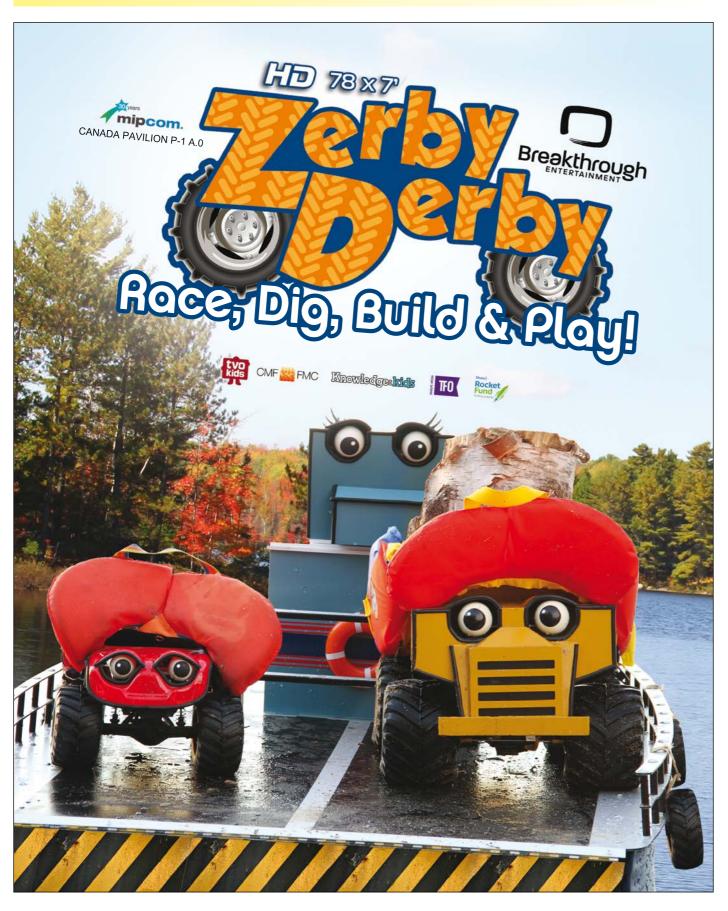
When taxi driver Vince accepts an offer to work as The

**Driver** for the head of a crime syndicate, his world is quickly turned upside down.

Sir Patrick Stewart narrates **Journey to Le Mans**, a documentary special about British privateer team Jota Sport's mission to succeed in the 24 hours of Le Mans, the world's oldest endurance race.

Season two of drama series 19-2 follows Montreal Police Department partners Nick Barron and Ben Chartier as they patrol the 19th precinct in Cruiser Number 2.

Stand C15.A6 www.contentmediacorp.com



### Zodiak Rights is Fortune-ate

odiak Rights' roster is topped by **The Operatives** (pictured). Eco-warrior Pete Bethune and his elite band of former military commandos use the latest high-tech equipment to bring poachers and other environmental criminals to justice.

Drawn from the case files of the Pinkerton National Detective Agency that solved crimes in the 1860s American Wild West, action-adventure crime procedural **The Pinkertons** tells the tale of a group of innovative investigators who are considered the originators of the fingerprint, the mugshot and the use of surveillance.

Set in the not too distant future when Norway is **Occupied** by Russia in order to control its oil resources, this series delves into what happens to a subjugated nation. Will they rebel?

Two teams of celebrities are blindfolded and **Dropped** into remote locations without food or a map. Will they find their way back to civilization, or will this reality prove to be too much



for these typically coddled stars?

From rabbits with broken legs to dogs suffering from cancer, **The Supervet (Series 2)** shows us some of the fascinating cases seen at Fitzpatrick Referrals, a hospital for Britain's sickest pets.

In game show **Sitting on a Fortune**, three couples are in it to win it. As one of the pairs completes a challenge, their opponents sit back and rack up cash...for simply doing nothing. The longer the duo takes to complete the challenge, the more money the other couples make.

Follow canine lovers Matt and Leon as they open the U.K.'s first luxury spa and **Dog Hotel.** Will the locals pamper their pooches there?

Stand R8.D3

www.zodiakrights.com











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SEASON 1 – 8 X 60 MINS. SEASON 2 – 10 X 60 MINS. (NOW IN PRODUCTION)





### **ITV Pays The Cost of Love**

stanbul-based ITV Inter Medya is at the Palais to showcase an assortment of dramas. When Omer's fiancée and Elif's father are both found dead in the same car in Black Money Love (Kara Para Ask), they quickly discover that the murders are linked to stolen diamonds. Will the search for the precious jewels bring the pair together? (pictured)

Neriman and Sinasi grew up together and are expected to eventually marry in drama In Between (Fatih Harbiye). But is that what Neriman really wants?

Two brothers at war with each other take center stage in drama Black Rose (Karagul). The oldest has always been jealous of the youngest. In the end, the youngest brother's wife realizes that he has been living a double life, and she must fight for everything she's lost.

After a blood feud that ended in Omer's banishment from his homeland, Law of the Land (Adini Kalbime Yazdim) follows the young exile as he creates a life for himself and falls in love.





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A deranged kidnapper bent on revenge abducts a young mother and sends an imposter back in her place. Will she be found out or will the family pay The Cost of Love (Askin Redeli)?

Stand R9.A14 www.itv-intermedya.com

### **Power Seeks Absolution**

ower comes to Cannes from London with a slew of crime thrillers and truelife tales.

Steven Seagal stars in Mercenary: Absolution, an action thriller about an exoperative recruited by his old boss to kill an Afghan drug dealer...and uncovers a larger conspiracy.

Factual entertainment The program Birdman Chronicles introduces viewers to a real-life group of adrenaline junkies who jump off mountaintops and high-rise buildings in wingsuits.

Despite having Syndrome, Sheri has managed to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles to finish school, become a teacher and travel the world as a motivational speaker. This documentary special tells her story.

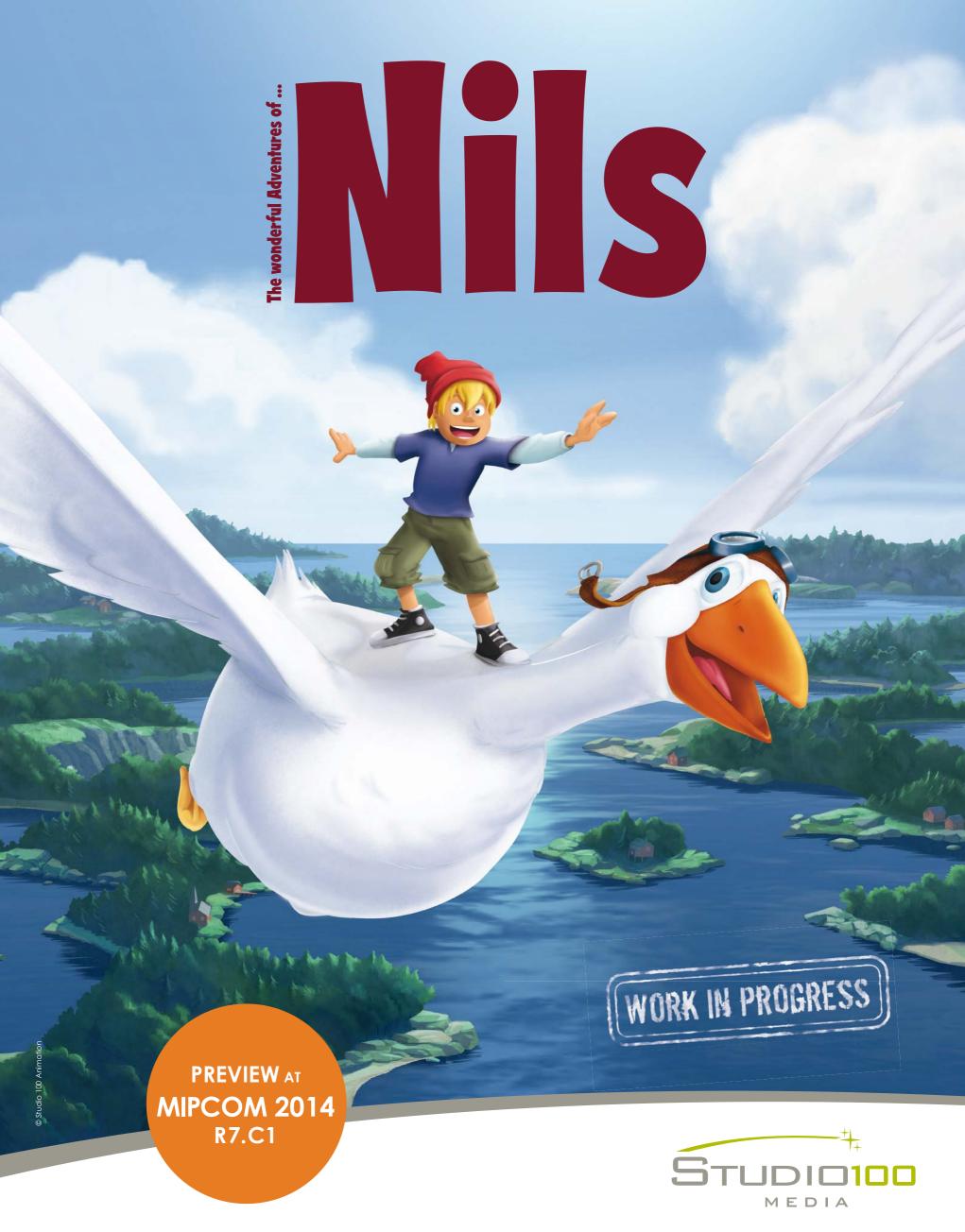


When a dirty cop covers up the murder of an innocent teenager in crime thriller Badge of Honor, an internal affairs agent is sent in to investigate. Will she uncover the truth?

A secret tipster works in tandem with a National Transportation Safety Board investigator to bring down a group of "fixers" who are behind the worst disasters in the country in crime thriller The Fixer.

Stand R7.C31

www.powerentertainment.tv



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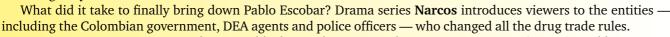




### **GIT Grooves with Grove**

aumont International Television presents a plethora of dramatic series. Hannibal (pictured) delves into the early relationship between psychiatrist (and cannibal) Dr. Hannibal Lecter and Will Graham, an FBI profiler with a bizarre ability to empathize with serial killers. When will Will realize that Dr. Lecter is the most dangerous killer of them all?

From the minds of famed director Eli Roth and author Brian McGreevy comes **Hemlock Grove**, a series about a community that begins to unravel following a mysterious death.



OB/Gyn Dr. Romain Lucas works at a public hospital in Paris in drama series Interventions. He and his team — including Dr. Prespo and Nurse Agnes — face life and death each and every day.

Four families gather together every year at the Hotel de la Plage for a month-long beach vacation. But will what happens at the Hotel de la Plage stay at the Hotel de la Plage?

Stand R8.C1

www.gaumontinternationaltv.com



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### Alfred Haber Rocks the Riviera

lfred Haber Distribution arrives in Cannes with a wide-ranging lineup topped by You Can't Lick Your Elbow, a guide to the weird things that can and can't be done with the human body.

CBS special Movies Rock gathers some of the biggest names in the entertainment world today to acknowledge the enduring influence that music has on films.

Music's biggest stars get together to see and be seen at the 2015 57th Annual GRAMMY Awards — one of the most important nights of the year for the music industry.

Hosted by Ryan Seacrest, Fashion Rocks demonstrates the indelible connection between fashion and music. Performers include Nicki Minaj, Jennifer Lopez, Pitbull and more.

Actors vote for other actors and honor the best performances in movies and TV in the 2015 21st Annual Screen Actors Guild Awards.

An unsentimental corporate executive is unexpectedly swept



away by the Christmas spirit in made-for-TV movie **Let it Snow** (pictured). Will she follow through with her plans to tear down a beloved resort lodge?

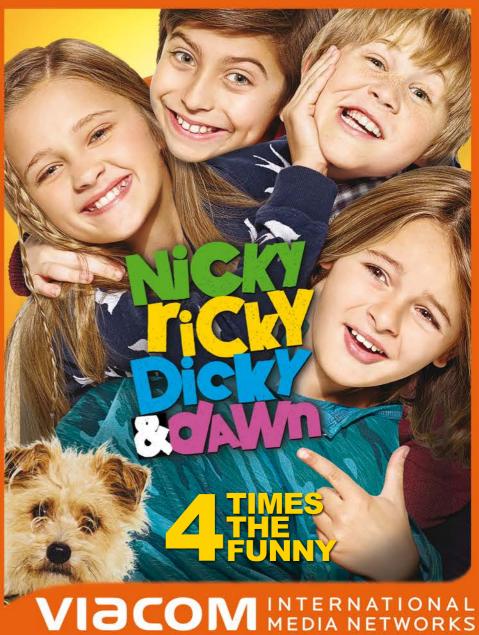
Count down the world's **Top Twenty Funniest** viral videos, home movies, surveillance clips, news bloopers and more.

**Stand P-1.L50** www.alfredhaber.com

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### Breakthrough's Living La Dolce Vita

reakthrough Entertainment has something for the entire family, from superheroes to celeb chef David Rocco. Twelve-year-old Newt is captain of the ship the Pirate Express (pictured), and it's his job to watch over a motley group of misfit mariner miscreants and keep the former captain and his shipmates out of trouble.

Pint-sized cars live and play in a life-size forest in live-action series **Zerby Derby**, where remote-controlled friends **Zack**, Lily, Rex and Axle have new adventures every day.

Jack Keller, his friends Chloe and James and Jack's dog, Barky, take on bad guys in the Yukon Wilderness in family movie Bark Ranger.

Max and Me follows seven-year-old Danny and a dog named Max. Max's owner is a rich older woman who is very kind, but her greedy nephew plots to take over her fortune. It's up to Danny and Max to try to stop him.

Preschool series **The Adventures of Napkin Man** follows the adventures of a new kind of superhero who helps kids understand how to handle their feelings. Every episode starts in a preschool classroom with teacher Mr. Anthony, who brings Napkin Man to life to help kids when they're upset.

Set against the backdrop of Florence, Sicily and the Amalfi coast, David Rocco's Dolce Vita puts a spotlight on



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MIPCOM Booth: P-1.A51



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healthy, simple food to share with family. It's living life Italian-style.

The Culture High tells the story behind those who support and oppose existing laws about marijuana.

Stand P1.Ao

www.breakthroughentertainment.com

# Tricon Gets Over The Divide

ricon Films & Television offers drama series **The Divide.** A bleeding heart caseworker for The Innocence Initiative clashes with a passionate district attorney as she investigates the case of a death-row inmate she believes was wrongly convicted of a family's murder.

TerraCycle's company mission is to "eliminate the idea of waste." Follow the unusual team as they try to accomplish this rather lofty goal in comedy series **Human Resources** (pictured).

Watch as comedy duo Riki Lindhome and Kate Micucci try to make it in Hollywood



one satirical song at a time in comedy series **Garfunkel and Oates**.

Thanks to the popularity of his podcast and the wonders of sobriety, comedian Marc Maron — a formerly drunk, twice-divorced, angry mess — is finally getting his life back on track.

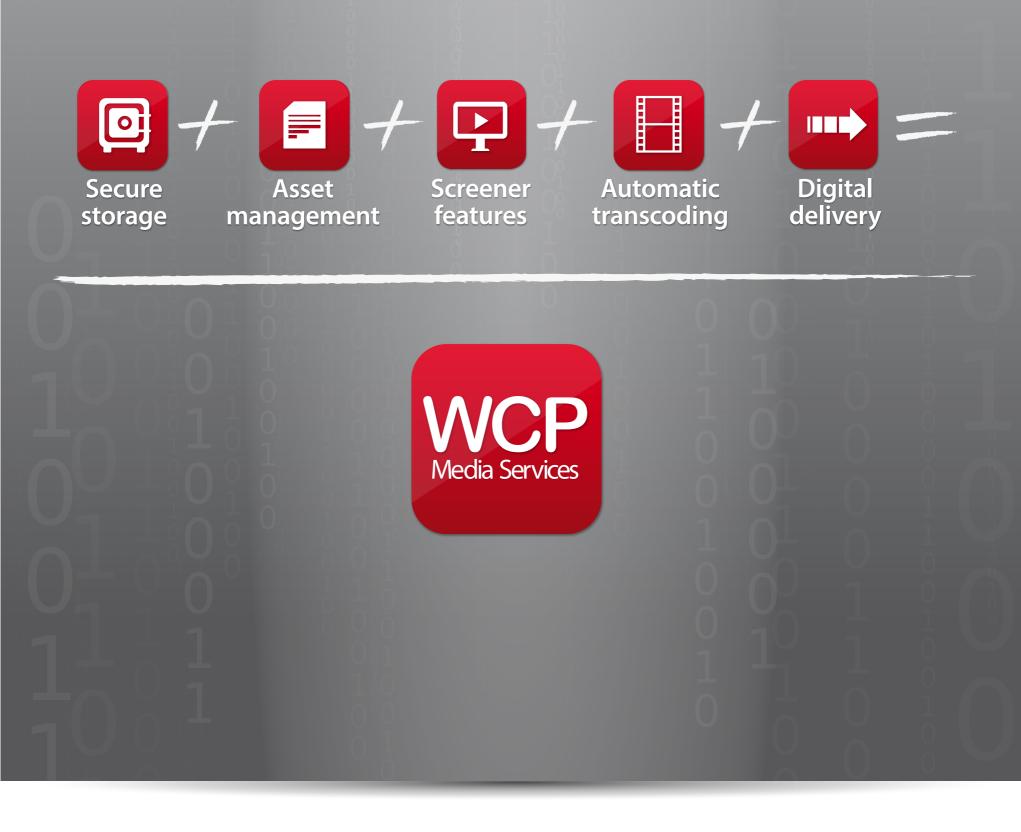
Documentary series **The Restorers** chronicles the daily lives of the men and women who restore warbirds and other antique aircraft.

Animated preschool series **Shutterbugs** uses comedy, discovery, exploration and reasoning skills to help kids better understand the world.

Based on the BBC show of the same name, dramedy **Sensitive Skin** stars Kim Cattrall as Davina, as she and her husband decide to move downtown to a modern condo in an effort to recharge their lives.

Stand R7.J7

www.triconfilms.com



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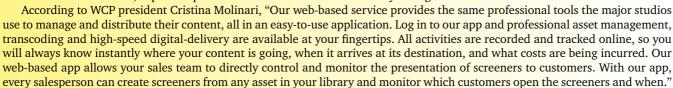




### WCPMedia's Studio-Quality Standards

ugano-based WCPMedia Services, a business-to-business, many-to-many web platform that empowers customers to directly control content management, promotion and distribution, is growing, with over 500 companies in 50 countries using its services.

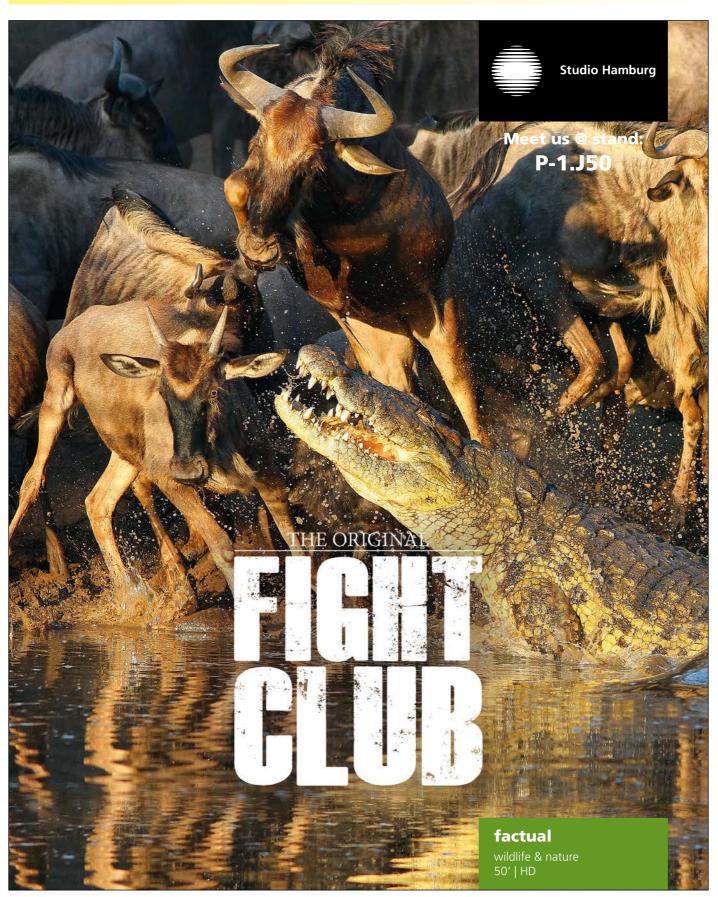
New clients, from producers to distributors to sales agents and buyers, have been experiencing WCP solution and its new, expanded platform features with time and money savings.

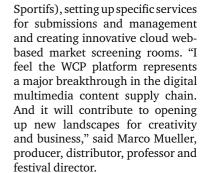


Last June, Sierra/Engine Television used WCPMedia Services to deliver screeners and licensed content of *Crossbones* to over 50 customers worldwide and track each recipient's engagement with the materials in real-time.

MonteCristo International currently uses WCPMedia Services to distribute feature films directly to licensees worldwide. "Using our cloud-based platform, MonteCristo International has taken direct control of their deliveries, avoiding the time and cost associated with traditional shipping and customs clearances," stated Molinari.

WCP has also enhanced its partnerships with Rome Film Festival and Ficts Festival (Fédération International Cinéma Television





Several producers of ACE — Association du Cinéma Européen will soon explore how WCP solution can be an easy-to-use tool in their daily job from set to distribution. "The ACE association is happy to become a partner of WCPMedia Services as this new online tool will be precious to all independent producers who co-produce in Europe and all over the world," said Ronan Girre, CEO of ACE, the most effective producers network spread across 42 countries. He added, "Its flexibility and its cost efficiency make it totally suitable for all sizes of production. The secure exchanges it allows for visual material of all kinds — dailies, trailers, full films and others - makes it extremely useful for international collaborations requiring permanent and easy communication.

WCPMedia Services has also continued to expand its digital asset management, transcoding and delivery services with the launch of WCPApp 2.3, offering an enhanced platform that delivers turn-key, cloud-based content management.

The company's core WCPApp is a robust solution that manages, stores, transcodes and delivers entertainment content assets via a secure cloud-based infrastructure. The new WCPApp 2.3 offers enhanced features speed, ease-of-use, increasing accessibility and reliability for both content licensors and licensees alike. WCPMedia Services has integrated delivery and transcoding solutions from three of the most trusted technology developers in the business: Signiant, Harmonic and Telestream. It has also added an online screening interface and a new tablet screening room application, which offers integrated viewing on the Web and on iOS and Android mobile devices to select audiences.

WCPMedia Services is in fact considered not just a web App, but an integrated technical platform of cutting edge software tools with a secure and fully scalable infrastructure (hardware, storage, networking).

To supply clients worldwide with effective and timely sales and support, WCPMedia Services has also expanded its staff to cover customers' needs.

These improvements are on display at WCPMedia Services' new booth P<sub>3</sub>.B<sub>10</sub> at MIPCOM.

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#### A+E Networks Are Un-real

+E Networks comes to MIPCOM with a diverse programming slate. Dark comedy **Un-Real** takes a look at the sinister side of reality dating shows and follows a woman whose job it is to manipulate contestants to get the insane footage viewers crave.

A new miniseries depicts the **Sons of Liberty** (pictured) — including Sam Adams, John Adams and Paul Revere as they plot to build America into a nation.

Based on a story by Stephen King, movie Big Driver stars Maria Bello as a famous writer who takes a shortcut home from a book signing and is attacked and left for dead by a deranged serial killer. Will she get revenge before she loses her mind?

Making her directorial debut, Angela Bassett chronicles the volatile relationship between the late, great Whitney Houston and her bad boy husband, Bobby Brown in the movie Whitney (wt).

Using interviews and recreations, Gangland Undercover (wt) takes viewers inside the investigations of Charles Falco — one of the only men in America to infiltrate three separate outlaw biker gangs.

The Critics' Choice Movie Awards are often the most accurate predictor of Academy Award winners. Many of last year's winners — including 12 Years a Slave for Best Picture and Matthew McConaughey for Best Actor — went on to win Oscars. Will it happen again this year?

In each episode of lifestyle series Tiny House Nation, the crew creates a different mini-home and showcases the most unique spaces they can find that are under 300 square feet.

Stand P3.C10 sales.aenetworks.com



cripps Networks International heads to Cannes with cooking, home and travel shows galore. The star of Bitchin' Kitchen and her trusty crew travel across America to taste whatever they can and share some regional cooking tips in Bite This with Nadia G.

Sneak a peek inside some of America's largest and most tech-savvy Mega

Mansions (pictured), including popular tourist attractions and privately owned

Watch third-generation alligator farmers Britney, Kasey and Chelsea Brooks farm in **Growing Up Gator**.

the highways of America for leftovers that can be turned into refurbished treasures in



Four chefs must cook three-course dishes using only the ingredients found in their mystery baskets. Who will reign supreme and who will be **Chopped**?

House Hunters International: Where Are They Now? follows some of the series' most unforgettable families to find out what they did with the house after they succeeded in hunting it down.

The owners of architectural salvage firm Black Dog Salvage bid on condemned homes and buildings in the hopes of finding vintage pieces in Salvage Dawgs. Stand P4.C13 sales.scrippsnetworks.com

### **GRB Gets Twisted**

RB Entertainment has a selection of spirited series at this year's MIPCOM. A scripted dramedy tells the tale of four Mohawk Girls (pictured) looking

for love and their place in the world. Automotive docu-series American M.C. follows a motley crew of riders to find out if they have the goods to become a real motorcycle club.

From the mind of Tyler Perry comes a sitcom about the turbulent relationship between a married couple. Will they live together For Better or Worse?

Sneak a peek at the most salacious and scandalous stories from the business world in docu-soap Twisted Tales of My 9 to 5.

"Drinkaloguer" Zane Lamprey spans the globe to discover local customs, food and alcohol in travel series Chug.

A former beauty queen brings her own brand of justice to her New York City courtroom in **Judge Faith**.

Documentary series I'm Asian American And... follows the occasionally hilarious lives of an eclectic group of Asian-American folks.

Stand R7.K17 www.grbtv.com

### **CBSSI** Goes Cyber

BS Studios International offers up a slew of drama series, starting with CSI: Cyber (pictured). This spin-off of the famed CSI: Crime Scene Investigation stars Patricia Arquette in a story inspired by real-life cyber psychologist, Mary Aiken.

A local field office looks into criminal cases that affect military personnel in The Big Easy in series NCIS: New Orleans.

Inspired by a true story, drama series **Scorpion** tells the tale of an eccentric genius and his ragtag team who serve as the last line of defense against hightech threats.

Téa Leoni stars as Elizabeth McCord, the newly elected Secretary of State, in drama series Madam Secretary. The drama explores the global and domestic issues she faces each day both in the White House and at home.

When a doctor accidentally artificially inseminates her with a specimen meant for the patient in the next room, Jane the **Virgin**'s life is changed forever.

The Dovekeepers stars Cote de Pablo in a drama that depicts the true events of 70 C.E. when 900 Jews were forced out of Jerusalem by the Romans and installed in a fortress at Masada — a mountain in the Judean desert.

Set at an exclusive Connecticut country

club, Members Only is a classic upstairs/downstairs drama that delves into the lives of both the club's members and its employees.

www.CBSSI.com Stand R7.E2



### **Priority's Brand Activation**

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- Localising Asian Format
- Fundamentals Of Digital Programming
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### My 2¢

If broadband is analogous to a superhighway, then the maximum speed should be regulated, not the access to the lanes. Access to the fast (left) lane and slow (right) lane should be free and available to all.



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ver the past few years, *VideoAge* has covered network neutrality (or net neutrality) several times, but now that the FCC, the U.S. communication authority, has asked for my (and other people's) two cents, here I am with the traditional winning proposition.

"Net neutrality" refers to an open, nondiscriminatory Internet pathway. The idea is that all Internet traffic that is legitimate should be treated equally. Broadband providers want to offer "fast lanes" to premium customers willing to pay a toll.

This issue is now pitting the White House, the FCC and the Courts against one another, and in the entertainment sector, it is pitting the MPAA (studios) against the IFTA (indies) and NAB (broadcasters) against NCTA (cable). The irony is that "open

Internet" advocates also want an unregulated Internet, just as much as broadband providers. All of it makes for a messy discussion.

The net neutralists seek to prevent preferential treatment in order not to create "have" and "have-not" consumers. To them, without net neutrality a telephone company can even block phone service over the Internet. Broadband providers argue that net neutrality would stifle innovation, especially for the expensive "last-mile," the line to consumers' homes.

For the FCC the basic question remains whether the Authority should subject broadband service (including Wi-Fi) to utility-like regulation, similar to telephone service or cable-TV companies. This would mean that broadband providers would be defined as common carriers that have to sell their services to all consumers without discrimination, like the utilities have to do. However, common carriers are heavily regulated.

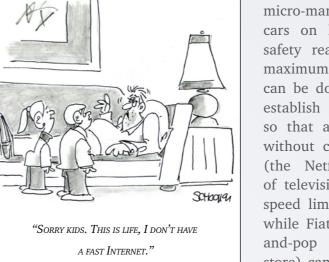
According to some people, the Internet is an information service that doesn't have to be regulated. So far the FCC has classified the broadband provider

as a "telecommunications service."

These are the facts. Now here's my opinion, formulated by analyzing three elements:

- I) Broadband providers are common carriers like cable companies and telephone companies, which after all, they are. Why is a telephone company a common carrier if it carries voice, but only an information service if it carries data? The infrastructure is the same, after all.
- 2) The Internet should be divided into information and transport. Regulations don't control what is said over the phone, but only how the voice and data is carried over the wires and airwaves which, in this case, is the broadband network.
- 3) Using "transport," "traffic," "fast lanes," and "superhighways" analogies associated with the

Internet brings to mind the fact that authorities don't micro-manage the speed of cars on highways, but for safety reasons only impose maximum speeds. The same can be done for broadband: establish a maximum speed so that all traffic can flow without congestion. Ferraris (the Netflix and YouTube of television) can reach the speed limit in the left lane, while Fiat 500s (your momand-pop mail-order online store) can leisurely cruise in the right lane.



Then, if the mom-and-pops are willing to invest in new engines that make the 500s run faster (while still respecting the speed limit), the added burden is on innovation, not on changing lanes.

The FCC's final action is expected this month, and be assured that it will be linked to the approval of mergers between Telco AT&T and satellite TV provider DirecTV, and between MSOs Comcast and Time Warner Cable. But these are topics for tomorrow's "My 2¢."

Dom Serafini

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