



THE PRODUCTION GUILD

4th July 2007

Henry Hoppe
Head of Branch
Animal Welfare Division – Branch E
Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
1A Page Street
Westminster
London SW1P 4PQ

Dear Henry

I hope you are well. I am writing to express formally the Production Guild's support of Performing Animal Welfare Standards International (PAWSI) being recognised by Defra as the Regulating Body, overseeing the use of animals and their welfare in the United Kingdom Audio-Visual Industry.

The Production Guild is the leading association representing and serving the interests of senior physical production management and production accounting grades in feature film and TV drama production in and out of the United Kingdom. As illustration of our membership's reach, of the 78 Qualifying British Films made in 2006, Production Guild members worked on 56 feature films with a total production spend of £817.9 million. This translates to approximately to 92% of the 2006 total spend.

Significant projects such as Casino Royale, Harry Potter & The Order of The Phoenix, Children of Men, Stardust, Miss Potter, The Golden Age, Atonement, The Bourne Ultimatum, His Dark Materials - The Golden Compass and Sweeney Todd were all helmed by Production Guild members. I attach further background on the role, function and activities of the Guild for information.

We believe that PAWSI has taken great strides in establishing National Standards of Competence, Qualifications and Vocation Education and Training Providers to define, maintain and, where necessary, uplift standards of animal welfare across the wider entertainment industry. From this very strong foundation we believe that PAWSI will shortly progress to create and implement a quality assured Regulation and Inspection Framework that will deliver:

- A register of approved suppliers of animals to the audio-visual industry;
- A register of approved trainers of animals to the audio-visual industry
- A system of effective and ongoing monitoring and review of the use and welfare of animals in audio-visual production;
- An ongoing advice, guidance and information updating system in partnership with key industry organisations such as the Production Guild.

We believe that PAWSI's history and depth of collaboration with our members over the last thirty years or so places them in an unique position to take on the industry regulatory functions I have described above, and to work with the industry to ensure that the very highest standards of animal welfare are maintained.

The Production Guild will advise its membership that we recommend the use of the PAWSI system and the register of trained and qualified suppliers and trainers at the appropriate time. Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards



David Martin
Chief Executive

Cc Samantha Perahia – UK Film Council
Matthew Cummins – PACT
Rona Brown – PAWSI
Martin Spence – BECTU
Tim Gale - Equity