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## **PRESS RELEASE**

# JETIX EUROPE ACQUIRES EUROPEAN AND MIDDLE EAST RIGHTS TO BREAKTHROUGH ENTERTAINMENT AND HEROIC FILM COMPANYS' CAPTAIN FLAMINGO

- Jetix Europe acquires Europe and Middle East Pay TV, TV distribution, home video and consumer product rights to cartoon-comedy Captain Flamingo
- TV Distribution to be serviced by Buena Vista International Television on behalf of Jetix Europe
- 11' x 52 series co-produced by Breakthrough Entertainment, Heroic Film Company, Atomic Cartoons and Philippine Animators Group

Amsterdam, The Netherlands and London, UK – Jetix Europe today announced that it has acquired the European and Middle East Pay TV rights to the popular animation series *Captain Flamingo*. The 11' x 52 cartoon-comedy series - from the creators and producers of hit *Atomic Betty* - will air on all Jetix Europe Channels, with the exception of France, from Autumn 2006.

Jetix Europe has also acquired TV distribution, home video and consumer product rights to the series, for Europe and the Middle East, with the exception of Spain and Portugal. Buena Vista International Television is to service the distribution of television rights to *Captain Flamingo* on behalf of Jetix Europe. Philippine Animators Group holds television rights for the series in Asia while Breakthrough Entertainment retains rights for all remaining global territories.

Captain Flamingo follows the adventures of an imaginative little superhero. Tired of being overlooked by big kids, tiny Milo Powell dons his pink terrycloth cape as Captain Flamingo and transforms himself into the hero of little kids everywhere. Armed with his backpack of powerful joke store novelty items, Milo saves the day each time with a little help from his best pal, anonymous sidekick and not-so-secret admirer, Lizbeth. Who else would rescue little kids from a tree house full of mutant squirrels, a hair-destroying barber, or a bathing suit gone missing in the deep end of the pool? Captain Flamingo fights for justice ... in a big beaked way!

A YTV Canada original production, *Captain Flamingo*, already airs on YTV in Canada and was created by John May and Suzanne Bolch and developed with Kevin Gillis and Rob Davies. It is a co-production between Breakthrough Animation, Heroic Film Company, Atomic Cartoons and Philippine Animators Group.

Michael Lekes, Senior Vice President Programming, Jetix Europe, says: "Captain Flamingo is another great addition to the Jetix Europe portfolio that illustrates our search for more comedy and shorter formats, alongside the recent acquisition of Decode's Planet Sketch. Kids will love the spoofy comedy that hero Milo and Lizbeth's unique adventures bring to the screen."

Kevin Gillis, Managing Partner of Breakthrough Animation, Inc. and an Executive Producer/Producer of the series says: "We are thrilled to have Jetix introduce Captain Flamingo to Europe across a variety of mediums. Our hero to kids everywhere has captivated audiences worldwide and this new partnership with Jetix will make a tremendous contribution towards fully realising the potential this brand possesses."

-Ends-

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#### **Notes to Editors:**

#### **Jetix Europe**

- Jetix Europe is a leading kids' entertainment company with localised television channels, programme distribution and consumer products businesses in Europe and the Middle East.
- Jetix Europe's 14 Jetix television channels deliver a unique combination of action, adventure and cheeky humour for kids aged 6-14, in 58 countries and 18 languages, reaching over 43 million households. In addition the company has launched GXT a pay-TV channel in Italy targeting teenage boys.
- Jetix is the global kids' entertainment brand launched by Jetix Europe and The Walt Disney Company (ABC Cable Networks Group and Jetix Latin America) in 2004.
- Jetix programming reaches over 270 million\* television households in 80 countries and 25 languages worldwide.

### Breakthrough Animation, Breakthrough Films & Television and Breakthrough Entertainment

Toronto-based Breakthrough Animation was formed in 2003 when Breakthrough Films & Television's Co-Founders Ira Levy and Peter Williamson joined forces with Kevin Gillis, Breakthrough Animation's Managing Partner and Executive Producer. The company's first collaboration, Atomic Betty, has been sold in over 120 territories to date. Kevin Gillis has executive produced and produced a number of award-winning series and films broadcast in over 180 territories worldwide. Over the past 21 years, Executive Producers Ira Levy and Peter Williamson have built a creative partnership to establish themselves as one of Canada's most prolific providers of children's, factual, drama, variety and lifestyle programming, having produced over 550 half-hours of programming in the last two years. Breakthrough Entertainment handles worldwide sales for all productions in both divisions.

<sup>\*</sup>through channels and branded blocks.