

PCP INDUSTRY NEWS UPDATE

The Producer's Creative Partnership
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BIG ACTION MOVIE ON LOW BUDGET IN JOHANNESBURG

PCP's partner Film Afrika has just completed filming an action-packed movie in Johannesburg for a leading US studio, starring Tom Sizemore.

Tied to a very tight budget and involving major stunts and SFX, filming was completed in just 20 days under the helm of Dutch director Roel Reine who is reputed for his fast pace on set.

Reine is known for his high-action films such as Death Race 2 and 3 and The Scorpion King 3. South African Theuns de Wet was line producer.

Filming took place in Johannesburg because of its great diversity of locations and "the real African" look ranging from bridges, rivers, vast African countryside, waterfalls, wild game and ruins to the vibrant modern city life.

This film was very local in terms of its crew composition with only the director and three actors being non-South African. Nearly half of the 100-strong crew were pulled in from Cape Town, a 2-hour flight away, whilst others were sourced locally.

Because of the large servicing industry and international films shooting in Cape Town, often called the "mother city", it is home to the most specialized crews such as special effects, stunts, grips and underwater works.

PCP's producer Malcolm Scerri-Ferrante closely monitored the production in Johannesburg as part of a new amalgamation forged earlier this year between Film Afrika and PCP.



Very diverse locations and a dry winter make Johannesburg a popular filming destination. (<http://www.the-pcp.com/johannesburg.html>)

"Every day cars or buildings were being blown up or riddled with bullets, and boats or vehicles thrown over a bridge or waterfall. Despite the obvious challenges for such a high-end action film of this nature, what is remarkable is the immense production value achieved from the very little money and time available. The existence of local professional crew at practically all levels, a healthy pool of local cast and the low production costs made it possible to realize this film for half the budget that it would normally have needed elsewhere" – PCP & Film Afrika producer Malcolm Scerri-Ferrante



A helicopter drone was used as a cost-efficient means of achieving aerials shots. 2014 will hopefully see the first such drone in South Africa to successfully carry a Red camera

NEW MALTA GOVERNMENT GIVES CONFIDENCE TO SERVICE INDUSTRY

In recent months the newly elected Maltese government has begun to tackle the need for government departments to become more film friendly.

One example was the appointment of an official of the local planning authority on the new film commission board. The planning authority is involved with location permits for areas of an environmentally sensitive nature.

In a recent symposium held by the Ministry of Home Affairs, which is responsible for the film industry, stakeholders were assured that government departments will work with the film industry in a more streamlined and efficient manner. The appointment of a government adviser to oversee the film industry is being largely regarded by stakeholders as a positive step towards setting the island and its future film commission in the right direction. Plans of a new soundstage to be built in the near future continue to be discussed.

The island experienced a high volume of international filming between 2005 and 2011, with tens of millions of Euros entering the economy in its peak year (2011). The island subsequently experienced a considerable slowdown in international productions. However, it is hoped that the aforementioned efforts will begin to reverse this trend.



Malta was used in Spielberg's "Munich" in 2005 to portray seven countries. The government has recently increased the cash rebate to 23% with an additional 2% if films portray Malta as itself.

"With minimal optimism, the new government's approach to the film servicing industry will result in a healthier situation where jobs and production services can be sustained in a more regular manner. I do not think we shall see the effect overnight but mid-2014 and especially 2015 may very well become busier than the present" –
Malcolm Scerri-Ferrante



A 3-metre model lighthouse is built for a commercial filmed mostly underwater in the famous Maltese water tanks. Malta is highly reputed for its skilled set construction labour and its SFX water tanks. The first tank in the world was built in Malta in 1964.

More tank info here:
<http://www.the-pcp.com/tanks.html>

PCP GETS INTO DEVELOPMENT

The PCP recently started a film development operation where projects shall be developed in collaboration with European co-producers.

One project already in advanced development is based on a true story that took place in Malta and which shocked the world, making international headlines. "We hope to shoot in Cape Town because of the very tight budget but we will shoot all our "money shots" in Malta because of the unique Mediterranean look that we need." explains PCP co-producer Christo Streak. Both Malta and South Africa will be providing a 25% cash rebate.

Another project is aimed to film in Cartagena, Colombia because of the Spanish architecture and the Caribbean look. Colombia currently provides an approximate 30% rebate.

"Our focus is on developing films based on true stories and excellent scripts, then we hope to film them in very cost-effective countries to ensure a recoupment for investors. We will not be engaging in typical popcorn movies and for this reason we think Europe is a better place to develop such films." explains Streak.

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FINEST SHOOT I HAVE EVER
EXPERIENCED!"**

**- CLAUDIO GORINI, PRODUCER &
ASST. HEAD OF TV AT RKCR/Y&R
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