



THE PRODUCTION GUILD

The Production Guild

Who We Are, What We Do and Why Indian Producers Shooting in the United Kingdom Should Employ Our Members?

1. Introduction

The Production Guild is the leading industry association representing and serving the interests of the United Kingdom's very senior level of physical production management and production accounting talent for major feature film and high-end television drama production.

Based at Pinewood Studios, the Production Guild has some 630 freelance and permanently employed members, and 50 Company Affiliate members involved in the supply of specialised equipment, facilities and services to the production sector, such as the major studios, camera and lighting hire companies, the processing laboratories and many of the post-production houses.

At any one point in the production year, we estimate that over 90% of all feature films being made in or out of the United Kingdom have Production Guild members overseeing and accounting for their physical production. Recent feature films 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.

Of the 78 Qualifying British Films made in and out of the United Kingdom in 2006, Guild members worked on 56 features with a total production spend of £817.9 million. This translates to approximately to 92% of the 2006 total spend.

2. The Production Guild – What We Do?

The Guild works on behalf of all of its members to achieve the following aims:

- Improve members' employment opportunities across all available incoming and domestic feature film and television drama production through the maintenance, development and promotion of the Guild Members' Availability Service.
- Inform, advise and promote Guild Members' understanding of all current legal, financial, fiscal and commercial developments within the US, UK and European production environments.

- Provide both general and individual industrial, legal and fiscal advice, information and guidance through members' seminars, on-line and printed publications and training and development initiatives.
- Encourage, develop and sustain recognition of members as being best practice practitioners in feature film and television production across the world by upholding the Guild's Code of Practice.
- Lobby and campaign Government and its Executives in partnership with the Film Council and other key UK Industry bodies on issues, which may impact on the competitiveness of the UK as a global feature film and television drama production centre.
- Encourage and foster new producing and accounting talent to adopt the same level of professional practice in the United Kingdom through delivery of industry-recognised skills training and access to supplementary membership of the Guild.
- Continue to increase and diversify the number and scale of Production Guild membership across all relevant grades and constituencies of membership in pursuit of achieving the above objectives.

3. The Production Guild's Services & Activities

The Production Guild delivers the following services and activities in pursuit of its aims:

- The most current and relevant information on all members availability for work for incoming UK and other feature film and television production via its website, email and fax notifications.
- The most current and relevant information on feature film and television drama projects in development and pre-production to support its members' opportunities for employment.
- Access to a confidential and free on-line Members Advisory Service provided by the leading industry practitioners in media finance, fiscal, legal and insurance issues.
- Access to information, advice and guidance on UK industry agreements, Inland Revenue and Customs & Excise issues via the website, member seminars and training events.
- Access to key information, advice and benefits to production through its growing Company Affiliate Members programme comprising the essential UK studios, equipment suppliers, post and VFX houses and media finance, insurance and legal advisors.
- The Guild's Board of Management and Secretariat advocates on behalf of its membership with the following industry organisations, Government Departments and other bodies:

- The UK Film Council
- The New Nations & Regional Screen Agency Framework
- Skillset
- Department of Culture, Media and Sport
- HM Treasury
- HM Revenue & Customs
- Department of Trade & Industry
- Health and Safety Executive
- Work Permits UK

4. Production Guild Members and Why Incoming Producers Should Use Them

The Guild will only consider applications for Full Membership from individuals who have worked as a minimum on 3 productions, either for theatrical release or broadcast, from beginning to end in one of the following physical production grades:

Associate Producer or Co-Producer
 Line Producer
 Production Manager
 Production Co-ordinator
 First Assistant Director
 Second Assistant Director
 Location Manager
 Post Production Supervisor

In production accounting, the same requirement of 3 productions must be met in one of the following grades:

Financial Controller
 Production Accountant
 Construction Accountant
 Location Accountant
 Post-Production Accountant
 Key Assistant Accountant
 Assistant Accountant

Each applicant must supply a full and current CV and the contact details of 3 referees, whom ideally should be current Guild Members that they have worked with and who are willing to comment on the applicant's professional competence, affirm the applicant's range of experience, and confirm their good standing within the wider feature film and TV drama sector in the United Kingdom.

All Membership Applications are reviewed, assessed and approved by a body of peers – the PG Membership Sub-Committee - as having the skills, knowledge and understanding and experience to work professionally within the industry. Equally importantly, approved membership of the Guild means that the individual will meet the approval criteria of the Completion Bond Companies. Through this process, all incoming producers are assured that PG members have the requisite experience and skills to fulfil their job functions competently and professionally.

Moreover, in the rare instances where there is a dispute, all incoming producers have a right to lodge a formal complaint against a Guild member under the terms of our

Code of Practice, whereon the Guild will investigate such a complaint and take appropriate action against said member where the evidence upholds the complaint.

5. How Do You Access Guild Members For Your Productions Shooting In The UK?

We run a free Availability Service for all incoming Producers. If you are looking for any one of the above listed grades, you can request by e-mail, fax or telephone (see contact details below) a full and current list of members and we will forward this directly to you, usually within minutes of receiving your request.

Each member entry on the Availability List provides you with the member's contact details and the last 5 productions they worked on. This enables you to get an idea of the scale and complexity of their production experience and whether they mostly work in feature film or TV drama production.

Alternatively, you can become a Registered User on the Guild website by visiting www.productionguild.com. This is currently a free service and following your registration being approved, you will be able to search and view across the entire Full Membership of the Production Guild. You will be able to search by Name, Grade, Production, Overseas Location, Language and IT Skills and secure the details of the Member who best fits your production.

PG staff are happy to assist you with any aspect of your production, but we do not act as Agents for our members and cannot provide you with details on individual member's rates of pay. This is subject to discussion and negotiation between you and the PG member in question. Finally, we do have Overseas Members and welcome applications from individuals with comparable experience as our UK Full Members from across the globe.

We very much look forward to assisting you to source the very best in production management and accounting skills for your next shoot in the United Kingdom.

David Martin
Chief Executive

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