

## Press Release

6 September 2019

### **Jon Penn appointed Executive Vice President, APAC as BBC Studios creates Asia-Pacific Regional Business**

BBC Studios has brought its Asia and Australia & New Zealand regions together to create a newly formed Asia-Pacific (APAC) regional business comprising its international sales and distribution business, under the leadership of Jon Penn, formerly Managing Director, Australia & New Zealand, BBC Studios.

The move follows the departure of Myleeta Aga, Acting EVP, Asia, and comes after all BBC Studios' international sales and distribution business, encompassing content sales, branded services and ancillaries, came together as a single global distribution group from 1 September under Paul Dempsey. In his expanded role, Penn will continue to report to Dempsey.

Paul Dempsey, President, Global Distribution said, 'Jon's ability and experience makes him ideally suited to extend his remit across our successful Asia business. He has overseen an impressive growth story in Australia and New Zealand and this is a great opportunity to bring our fast growing Asia business into a formidable APAC region.'

Jon Penn said, 'Having spent many years working throughout the region, I'm thrilled to be offered the opportunity to bring the ANZ and Asia teams together for the first time. We will continue to bring the very best of the BBC's world-class content to customers throughout Asia Pacific.'

Prior to his successful tenure as Managing Director, Australia and New Zealand Jon was, for four years, CEO Asia-Pacific for Fremantle's International distribution division.

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#### NOTES TO EDITORS

##### About BBC Studios

BBC Studios, a global content company with British creativity at its heart, is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC Group. Able to take an idea seamlessly from thought to screen, it spans content financing, development, production, sales, branded services, and ancillaries from both its own productions and programmes and formats made by high-quality UK independents. Award-winning British programmes made by the business are internationally recognised across a broad range of genres and specialisms, including factual, drama, entertainment and comedy. BBC Studios has



offices in 22 markets globally, including six production bases in the UK and production bases and partnerships in a further nine countries around the world. The company, which makes around 2,500 hours of content a year, is a champion for British creativity around the world and a committed partner for the UK's independent sector. Created in April 2018 by the merger of two existing commercial subsidiaries, BBC Worldwide and BBC Studios, the company has revenue of around £1.4bn. In the year to March 2019, it returned £243m to the BBC Group, complementing the BBC's licence fee and enhancing programmes for UK audiences.

#### About BBC Studios in Australia & New Zealand

The BBC Studios business in Australia and New Zealand is primarily content sales and branded services, with a newly established production arm. It wholly owns seven channels: BBC First, BBC UKTV, BBC Knowledge (shortly to be replaced by BBC Earth) and CBeebies on Foxtel and Fetch TV in Australia; BBC Living on Fetch TV; and BBC UKTV and BBC Earth on Sky TV in New Zealand. It distributes great British content from the BBC and other British producers to free-to-air, subscription channels and SVOD platforms and works with partners to bring BBC Studios DVDs, consumer products and live events to the local market. The new production arm in Sydney produces BBC formats for the local market and creates new IP.

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