

**Press Release** For Immediate Release

## HK's Digital Entertainment Leadership Forum 2009 Draws On New Zealand's Expertise Rejuvenates HK Practitioners to Innovate Locally and Collaborate Globally

12 February, 2009 (New Zealand) – The sixth Digital Entertainment Leadership Forum (DELF) organized by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (Cyberport) will be held at Hong Kong Cyberport on 24 March 2009. With the theme of "Innovate Locally, Collaborate Globally: The Success of Wellington, NZ", DELF 2009 will bring the world class creative community Wellington, New Zealand to Hong Kong as well as a group of renowned international film-makers and industry experts, who will share their valuable insights and experiences in digital entertainment at this annual Cyberport signature event.

"Wellington is the capital city of a small country distant from its market. Yet, it has built and continues to grow viable and successful international digital media business," said Nicholas Yang, Chief Executive Officer of Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited. "We hope that through DELF 2009, Hong Kong's digital entertainment practitioners can learn and emulate from Wellington's successful experience, and make Hong Kong become an exemplar and globally successful creative digital community," he continued.

The Mayor of Wellington Her Worship Kerry Prendergast will deliver opening remarks and joined a panel discussion at DELF 2009. More than 12 internationally and locally acclaimed speakers will share their insights and achievements at the forum. Barrie Osborne, Academy Award Winner and Producer of "The Lord of the Rings" Trilogy, will present a keynote session sharing his unique view of making media for global entertainment markets.

In addition, Jia Zhang-ke, Director of the film "Still Life" that won the Golden Lion Award for Best Film at the 2006 Venice Film Festival, will also speak at one of the panel sessions. Jia is one of the leading figures of the "Sixth Generation" of Chinese directors who is actively involved in independent filmmaking in China.

DELF 2009 is organized by Cyberport under the full support from the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) of the Hong Kong SAR Government. Co-organizers include China Game Publishers Association (Hong Kong), Hong Kong Comics and Animation Federation, Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Association, Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Industry Support Centre and Hong Kong Film Development Council. The forum is also supported by more than 30 well-known industry associations, educational institutions and semi-government organizations. DELF 2009 is one of the nine core events of Entertainment Expo Hong Kong.

For more information about DELF 2009, please visit http://delf.cyberport.hk or call us at 3166-3838, or via email: delf@cyberport.com.hk.

## **About Cyberport**

Cyberport is a US\$2 billion (HK\$15.8 billion) landmark project managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, and wholly owned by the Hong Kong SAR Government. Focusing on enterprise and professional development, Cyberport helps commercialise creative ideas and incubate start-ups. We have an energetic cluster of creative ICT and digital content tenants who enjoy synergies from co-locating with each other, and we are Hong Kong's unique Creative Digital Community. Interconnected by a state-of-the-art broadband network, the Cyberport community is home to four Grade-A intelligent office buildings, a five-star hotel, a retail entertainment complex and about 2,800 deluxe residences.

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## **Media Enquiry**

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## **Speakers Fact Sheet**

Keynote Speakers:	
Matt Aitken Visual Effects Supervisor, Weta Digital Limited	<ul> <li>Worked as Digital Models Supervisor on "The Lord of the Rings Trilogy", pre-production / R&amp;D Supervisor for "King Kong"</li> <li>Recent project includes "The Day The Earth Stood Still"</li> </ul>
<b>Barrie Osborne</b> Producer of "The Lord of the Rings Trilogy"	<ul> <li>Winner of the 2004 Academy Award and the British Academy of Film and Television Award for Best Picture</li> <li>Executive produced many other movies including renowned ones such as "The Matrix", "The Waterhorse", and John Woo's "Face/Off."</li> </ul>
Panel Speakers:	
<b>Dave Gibson</b> Founder and Producer of The Gibson Group	<ul> <li>One of the leading producers in the New Zealand film and television industry</li> <li>Produced feature films and television programmes that have sold in over eighty countries worldwide</li> <li>The Gibson Group specialises in the production of high-end television drama, documentary, comedy, arts magazine and factual programming</li> </ul>
Laurence Greig General Manager, Grow Wellington's Centres of Excellence	<ul> <li>Responsible for identifying resources and building facilities to support Wellington's commitment to building exemplar companies in bio, digital and eco- tech industries</li> </ul>
Scott Houston General Manager, The New Zealand Supercomputing Centre	<ul> <li>Chief Technical Officer for "The Two Towers" and "The Return of the King" of "Lord of the Rings" movies.</li> </ul>
<b>Jia Zhang-ke</b> Film Director of "Still Life"	<ul> <li>Winner of the Golden Lion Award for Best Film at the 2006 Venice Film Festival</li> <li>Founder of the Youth Experimental Film Group in China</li> </ul>
<b>Steve La Hood</b> Director of Story Inc Ltd	<ul> <li>Executive member of the Screen Directors' Guild of New Zealand</li> <li>Chair of the Board of Studies of Toi Whakaari, the New Zealand Drama School</li> <li>Story Inc Ltd is a New Zealand-based company which creates original and intelligent exhibitions and experiences for museums and tourist sites round the world</li> </ul>
Leo Lo Vice Chairman of Hong Kong Digital Entertainment Association	<ul> <li>Owner of Asia Legend, a digital post-production facility providing special effects and digital mastering services for TV, advertising and films, including award winning movie "Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon."</li> </ul>
Aimee McCammon General Manager of Park Road Post Production	<ul> <li>11 years in the advertising industry, five of those at Saatchi and Saatchi NZ and New York</li> <li>Park Road works on film post production projects</li> </ul>

	including US blockbusters "King Kong", "Lord of
	the Rings Trilogy " and the latest Chinese film "Red Cliff"
The Mayor of Wellington Her Worship Kerry Prendergast	
	<ul> <li>The second woman to serve as the Mayor of Wellington</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Instigated the policy of making Wellington the</li> </ul>
	"Creative Capital" during her time as Mayor
	<ul> <li>Chairman of the New Zealand Games, Animation</li> </ul>
.Ios Ruffell	and Visual Effects Trust
Business Development Executive, Sidhe Interactive	<ul> <li>Currently working with the New Zealand</li> </ul>
	Government to develop national strategies for
	Digital Content sector growth
	<ul> <li>Sidhe Interactive is the largest videogame</li> </ul>
	development studio in New Zealand
Panel Chairs:	• •
	<ul> <li>Specializes in strategic marketing planning,</li> </ul>
Hal Josephson CEO and President MediaSense Inc.	international business development consultation and
	project management services for the creative
	industries
	• Extensive experience in large-scale event design,
	development, planning and production management
	Programme Director for DELF 2009
<b>Chris Lipscombe</b> Founder and CEO, Ground Zero	<ul> <li>Works with Wellington's regional development</li> </ul>
	agency to help grow wealth and jobs in the film,
	creative, ICT, manufacturing, education, science and professional consulting industries in the greater
	Wellington region
	<ul> <li>Focuses on strategic planning and business</li> </ul>
	facilitation work
	<ul> <li>Promotes business relationships with China through</li> </ul>
	the Wellington-Xiamen Association and the NZ
	China Trade Association.
<b>Henry Oh</b> CEO, Socialutions, Inc.	Worked in the Judicial Council's Court Technology
	Committee and California's Administrative Office
	of the Courts' Technology Policy and Planning
	Division
	<ul> <li>Recently has been working with a Brazilian film</li> </ul>
	production company, written songs for a Brazilian
	album and was the associate producer and script
	consultant for a short film
Michael Stanhons	<ul> <li>Leading NZ Film &amp; Entertainment Lawyer</li> <li>Closely involved in the development of NZ Film</li> </ul>
Michael Stephens Chairman	<ul> <li>Closely involved in the development of NZ Film Production and Digital Post Production Sector</li> </ul>
NZ Asia Pacific Film	<ul> <li>Chairman of the NZ Asia Pacific Film Fund, and a</li> </ul>
Fund Limited	Senior Adviser – Screen & Digital Technologies for
	Grow Wellington