

**BROWN BAG FILMS® appoints Neil Court to its Board of Directors.**

**Dublin, Ireland, 26 June 2014**

Brown Bag Films, the award-winning animation studio, has appointed international media entrepreneur, Neil Court, to its board of directors. He has been advising the company on original programme development and production since November.

In 1997 Court co-founded Toronto’s Decode Entertainment, which became one of the largest international suppliers of children’s television series. When Decode became DHX Media in 2006, Neil became president of the international distribution subsidiary and was appointed to the DHX board of directors. Following his departure from DHX, Court remained a non-executive board member until 2011. Previous roles include Managing Director of Nelvana Enterprises and director of his own international media consultancy company. Court is currently Chairman and co-owner of Peacock Alley Entertainment, a reality TV and prime time scripted production and distribution company.

Commenting on the appointment Court said, “I’m very pleased and flattered to have been asked to join the Brown Bag Films board. My role is to help the company develop its long term strategy while continuing to advise on its owned IP business.  Brown Bag Films is the leading CGI animation studio in Europe and I’m looking forward to helping it achieve even greater success.”

Cathal Gaffney, CEO of Brown Bag Films said, “This is an exciting time for Brown Bag Films and we are delighted to add Neil to the board. We look forward to benefiting from Neil’s experience as we continue to invest in developing and producing original kids content for a global audience.”

Brown Bag Films recently celebrated three Daytime Emmy Award wins for their CGI animated series **Peter Rabbit** (Nickelodeon). Employing over 160 full time staff from their offices in Dublin and Los Angeles, Brown Bag Films are currently in production on a second season of Peter Rabbit, as well as the hit animated shows **Doc McStuffins** (Disney Jr), **Octonauts** (CBeebies), **Henry Hugglemonster** (Disney Jr). Brown Bag Films’ latest production **Bing** premiered on CBeebies in June 2014.

For more information, please visit [www.brownbagfilms.com](http://www.brownbagfilms.com) or contact Anahita Tabarsi at anahita.tabarsi@brownbagfilms.com

**About Brown Bag Films**

**Brown Bag Films are one of Europe's most exciting, original and successful creative-led animation studios. Celebrating 20 years in business this year, their Dublin-based headquarters have produced cutting-edge animation for the international market, bagging numerous awards along the way. These include Oscar® nominations for *Give Up Yer Aul Sins* (2002) and *Granny O’Grimm’s Sleeping Beauty* (2010), three Emmy® awards for *Peter Rabbit* (2014), and a host of BAFTA, Emmy® and Annie nominations for their hit shows *Octonauts, Doc McStuffins* and *Henry Hugglemonster*.**

Brown Bag Films' much-loved TV shows are viewed by millions of children worldwide and include *Doc McStuffins, Henry Hugglemonster, Peter Rabbit* *Olivia, Noddy in Toyland,* and *Octonauts.* Their most recent production is Bing, a pre-school series for CBeebies premiering summer 2014. With a second office in LA, Brown Bag Films are committed to producing the highest-quality, cross-platform animation with strong stories and engaging characters. Founded in **1994** by Cathal Gaffney and Darragh O'Connell, Brown Bag Films employs over 160 full-time staff. They have worked with some of the world’s biggest entertainment names, including Disney, Nickelodeon, BBC, Chorion, and Silvergate Media.

The studio is among the most technically-advanced in the world, with full animation, picture and audio post-production facilities in-house. Their motto is simple: ‘We love animation’. In fact, they love it so much they trademarked it: 'We Love Animation™.’

[www.brownbagfilms.com](http://www.brownbagfilms.com).

**About Neil Court**

Neil Court is Chairman of Toronto-based Peacock Alley Entertainment and works closely with Peacock’s President Carrie Mudd on Peacock’s production financing and corporate development.

He is a seasoned international media entrepreneur with over 30 years in the business.

Neil co-founded Toronto’s Decode Entertainment, which became one of largest international suppliers of children’s television series. When Decode became DHX Media in 2006, Neil became President of the international distribution subsidiary and was appointed to the DHX board of directors. He left DHX in 2009 but remained as a non-executive board member until 2011.

Prior to co-founding Decode in 1997*,*Neil had his own UK-based international consultancy business where his main clients included Film Roman, The Jim Henson Company as well as major European and American media companies such as MCA, BMG and PolyGram.

Before that, Neil was Managing Director of Nelvana Enterprises, the distribution and coproduction subsidiary of Nelvana (now part of Corus Communications), the major Canadian animation studio.

Neil is a Canadian who has lived in the UK since 1991.

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