

fully informed of the intentions of the production company whether they are used for filming or not, give a reasonable site rental fee in accordance with the budget of the film, issue a location contract clearly stating the terms agreed between themselves and the production company, proof of adequate public liability insurance.

- All locations must be assessed for risk and hazard. When necessary a Health & Safety professional should be consulted. A qualified first aid should always be present during filming.
- Filmmakers activities should be limited to areas and times for which permission has been granted.

For further information contact:

- **Film London**
56 Shoreditch High St. #6.10, Tea Bldg.
London E1 6JJ
UNITED KINGDOM
Tel: (011) 44-20-7613-7676
Website: www.filmlondon.org.uk

4. UK FILM COMMISSIONS

A. Ayrshire Film Information, Scotland

Tel: 011-44-1292-670-147
Website: www.ayrshirefilm.org

B. Bath Film Office

Tel: (011) 44-1225-477-711
Website: www.visitbath.co.uk/site/film-office

C. Bristol Film Office

Tel: 011-44-117-922-3958
Website: www.filmbristol.co.uk

D. Edinburgh Film Focus, Scotland

Tel: 011-44-131-622-7337
Website: www.edinfilm.com

E. Glasgow Film Office, Scotland

Tel: 011-141-287-0424
Website: www.glasgowfilm.com

F. Guernsey Film Commission

Tel: 011-44-1481-256-444
Website: www.guernseyfilms.com

G. Hounslow, Islington & Hackney

Tel: 011-44-20-8980-8771; 8773
Website: www.filmoffice.co.uk

H. Isle of Man Film Commission

Tel: 011-44-1624-682-354
Website: www.isleofmanfilm.com

I. Manchester Film Office

Tel: 011-44-870-609-4481
Website: www.northwestvision.co.uk

J. Northern Film & Media

Tel: 011-44-191-269-9200
Website: www.northernmedia.org

K. Northern Ireland Screen

Tel: 011-44-28-9023-2444
Website: www.northernirelandscreen.co.uk

L. Scottish Highlands & Islands Film Commission, Scotland

Tel: 011-44-1463-710-221
Website: www.scotfilm.org

M. Scottish Screen Locations, Scotland

Tel: 011-44-141-302-1724
Website: www.scottishscreenlocations.com

N. Aberdeen City & Shire Film Office, Scotland

Tel: 011-44-1224-665-093
Website: www.filminginscotland.com

O. South West Screen

Tel: 011-44-117-952-9977
Website: www.swscreen.co.uk

P. South West Scotland Screen Commission, Scotland

Tel: 011-44-1387-263-666
Website: www.sw-scotland-screen.com

Q. Wales Screen Commission

Tel: 011-44-1970-627-186
Website: www.walescreencommission.co.uk

5. WORKING IN THE UK

In an increasingly competitive international audiovisual market, the UK has shown again and again that it can deliver product of the highest quality.

British Product - not just feature films but television, commercials, corporate films and pop promos - is recognized worldwide for its creative originality. Just as importantly, UK talent on both sides of the camera is recognized for its professionalism, expertise and cost-effectiveness. While our actors, writers and directors win international acclaim for their work, we also have some of the finest technicians, studios, facilities and processing back-up in the world. Despite being fragmented and modestly financed, the UK has a world-class industry.

The last few years has seen a steady rise in the number of overseas producers choosing to work in the UK. In the features sector, many of these are co-productions, reflecting a trend towards co-production with European partners, encouraged by various European funding and support bodies.

Producers from the US and beyond have taken advantage of a vibrant freelance craft and technical community, some of the largest studio sound stages in Europe and a state-of-the-art post-production sector. In all these fields, as well as the sourcing of locations, the UK's growing network of film commissions provide an invaluable service for would-be-producers.

The UK industry prides itself on the skills available. Prospective producers can be assured that the UK's workforce will deliver quality work on time and to budget. Moreover, the industry's commitment to training, shared by employers and trade unions alike, ensures that the skills base is constantly maintained and developed.

The European Union *right to work* for citizens of its member countries also means that crew members in all EU countries (except the Republic of Ireland), can work in the UK without hindrance, and vice versa, making the UK the ideal production base for the whole of Europe.

Social Security in the UK, known as National Insurance is set at 10.2%. This compares very favorably with the obligatory fringe payments levied on behalf of IATSE or DGA members, not to mention European countries such as France, where they reach well over 40%.

Working practices vary between different sectors in the industry, but it would be fair to say that today's industry is characterized by freelance rather than permanent employment. It is common for production companies to come to an agreement with individuals on a production-by-production basis, but on a large scale, many employers use the templates agreed by the employers associations and the trade unions. These provide a flexible, fair, and agreed basis on which to work, and are used by overseas as well as British producers.

Another advantage for US producers seeking to work in the UK is that the British media legal base is more highly developed in the UK than in mainland Europe. Moreover, Anglo-Saxon copyright law mirrors US copyright law, and the primacy of the producer and distributor as copyright owner is long established in the UK, as distinct from the rest of Europe.

PACT, the employers' association for feature film and television personnel, recognizes BECTU, the main technical and production union, and others as the appropriate bodies with which to negotiate minimum terms and conditions of employment for all types of production from low budget documentary to multi-million dollar international productions. These agreements and guidelines are not just for the use of UK based producers but are equally available for use by foreign producers and production companies who want to film in the UK.

6. ENTRY INTO THE UK - WORK PERMITS

A. Work Permits: When a producer needs to bring into the UK a star from the US (or elsewhere), the director, cameramen, child actors and perhaps even animals, the following guidelines will explain UK employment and immigration regulations.

Work permits are governed by the 1971 Immigration Act - The Work Permit Scheme and are administered by the Overseas Labour Service (OLS) at the Department for Education and Employment (DEE) from which application forms are available. Although these forms are relatively straightforward it is advisable to seek professional advice prior to lodging an application, since the criteria for acceptance are strictly applied.

B. The Need of Work Permits: It is important to understand the philoso-