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press release

Can Field Fisher Waterhouse fix it....? Firm advises on leading pre-school children's TV deal

Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP has advised international broadcaster and distributor of thematic television channels Chello Zone on its 10 year corporate joint-venture with HIT Entertainment.

HIT Entertainment owns popular children's programmes such as Bob the Builder™, Thomas and Friends™, Angelina Ballerina™, Pingu™, Barney™ and Fireman Sam™. The joint-venture will see Chello Zone and HIT Entertainment distribute these programmes internationally via a newly-acquired pre-school children's TV channel, JimJam. The channel, previously only broadcast in Italy, will launch across European cable and satellite platforms this month, with Africa and the Middle East to follow in 2008.

Chellomedia is the European content division of one of the world's largest cable operators, Liberty Global, Inc. Chello Zone, previously known as Zonemedia and Zone Vision, was acquired by Chellomedia in 2005. Chellomedia and Chello Zone became clients of the firm in 2006, following the arrival of corporate partner Neil Foster.

The team advising on the joint-venture with HIT Entertainment, and also on the acquisition of JimJam, consisted of Chello Zone's head of legal, Justin Wolfe, and a Field Fisher Waterhouse team comprising client partner Neil Foster, media partner Jeremy Miles, and corporate solicitor Tim Davison.

These deals reflect the firm's corporate media expertise. Earlier this year, the team advised Hammer Film Holdings on its US\$50 million leveraged fund-raising associated with the acquisition of Hammer Film Production Limited, the company responsible for the classic movie series of Dracula, Frankenstein and Quatermass. The firm also recently advised on BBC Worldwide's investment in Left Bank Productions, a new independent production vehicle set up by "The Queen" producer Andy Harries.

Other high profile media clients of the firm include the BBC, MTV, Twentieth Century Fox, Universal Studios, and a number of Hollywood majors. The firm's media group was recently boosted further by the arrival of partner Hamish Porter from Addleshaw Goddard in September.

Neil Foster said: "Having worked with Chello Zone for some years, it was great to be able to bring them with me to Field Fisher Waterhouse - a firm with such breadth of media sector expertise. We are delighted to have worked on this joint venture between Chello Zone and HIT Entertainment, which involves the distribution of some of the world's leading children's content. And it's fun to close a deal that, for the first time, my small children have some interest in!"

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About Field Fisher Waterhouse

Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP is a full service European law firm with offices in Brussels, Hamburg, London and Paris and exclusive relationships with leading firms in Spain and Italy. With a reputation for providing an excellent all-round service to an impressive list of domestic and international clients, the firm has 118 partners, over 200 other lawyers and over 300 support staff. The firm's main practice areas are corporate and commercial; finance, IP and technology and real estate.

About Chello Zone

Chello Zone is a leading international broadcaster, distributor and representative of thematic television channels. It has 18 offices and studios throughout Europe, Asia and Latin America. Chello Zone owns and operates ten thematic channels: Zone Reality, Zone Reality Extra, Zone Europa, Zone Romantica, Zone Club, Zone Horror, Zone Thriller, Zone Fantasy, Extreme Sports Channel and pre-school channel JimJam*. Collectively, Chello Zone's channels are broadcast in over 125 countries in 23 languages. It launched a new media division, Zone 360, in 2006 to exploit content opportunities across multiple platforms. In addition, Chello Zone has a successful channel representation business and

currently represents more than 30 international channels such as Sparrowhawk, Turner, Hallmark, MTV, Discovery and VOOM HD. Chello Zone's programme distribution business continues to syndicate formats, series and specials from the world's top producers. Chello Zone is a business unit of Chellomedia, a leading international media company and the European content division of Liberty Global, Inc.

**JimJam is a joint venture with HIT Entertainment*