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Sixty Companies Form Industry-First Globalization Association

Los Angeles, California, November 18, 2020 — Today, 10 founding companies and 50 forming companies have announced their collaboration to create the entertainment industry's first association focused specifically on entertainment globalization. Globalization is defined as Dubbing, Subtitling, and Audio Description services which allow content to be consumed in languages other than the original version. The founding companies of the association are Audiomaster Candiani, Deluxe, Hiventy, Iyuno Media Group, Keywords Studios, Plint, SDI Media, Visual Data Media Services, VSI, ZOO Digital. The additional 50 companies represent high caliber service providers from all around the world. The Entertainment Globalization Association (EGA) has been formed to create a closer connection to the creative community to better facilitate the "retelling" of their stories for global audiences. The association is primarily focused on creating educational resources, localization standards and generating consumer impact research of localization. Chris Fetner has been named as the managing director of the association. Before this role, Fetner led Netflix's content localization vendor strategy for nearly a decade and is widely regarded as an industry transformer among entertainment localization companies.

"I feel incredibly fortunate to be given the opportunity to work with these leaders in localization, every company in the association is an outstanding contributor to sharing stories globally, and I'm excited to see how we can all work together to help creatives share their stories more broadly," said Fetner.

The association is already the largest of its kind through the support of its named founders and forming companies, and is currently open to new members that work as individuals or companies providing globalization services in gaming, episodic television, feature film or access services. The association will begin forming committees in December 2020 and commence activities in early 2021. Among its early efforts are a full slate of standards to be established as well as educational outreach plans starting in Q1 of 2021. Given the huge industry support with 60 of the leading globalization companies already signed up, EGA has garnered a deep interest in the vision of the organization.

"The initial support of this group has been overwhelming. Every single member is excited about the work they do re-telling stories for the creative community and this is a signal to that community saying we're here to support you and help you tell your stories globally in what will no doubt be an unprecedented time of growth and opportunity to entertain the world," said Fetner.

According to Grand View Research, the entertainment industry will experience incredible growth over the next five years that will largely be driven by expanding streaming platforms moving outside of their domestic offerings into international markets. Entertainment globalization plays a significant role in this expansion by extending intellectual properties into new languages, regions and experiences by providing audio localization (dubbing), subtitling, and audio description. This work has largely been behind-the-scenes and traditionally takes place long after the original show's creatives have moved onto other projects.

With streaming platforms providing opportunities for global reach, creative talent and producers alike have realized that quality globalization plays a critical role in the success of a production. The new understanding is that globalization is less of a science and more of an art form that needs to be incorporated into the production process to ensure that stories are resonating with their global audiences. The EGA has been formed to give creative talent a resource to build their competency around globalization and a set of motivated partners to help them entertain audiences all over the world.

About the EGA:

The EGA is a California-based trade association primarily focused on building a stronger connection with the creative talent that entrusts them to "retell" their stories for audiences in different cultures and languages. Their main areas of focus are creating standardization, conducting localization research, creating industry education opportunities and celebrating high quality localization. The organization is narrowly focused on entertainment localization as defined by audio localization (dubbing), subtitling, audio description and graphic replacement for episodic, feature-length and gaming entertainment. The current member companies include 2G Digital Post, AbFab Productions, AC Create, Adrenaline Studios, Audio Design Digital Art, Audiomagick, Audiomaster Candiani, Centauro, CSC Studio, D-Hub Studios, Deluxe, Descriptive Video Works, Dicentia Studios, DINT, Dubbing Brothers, DW Agentura, EarCandy, EVA, Ezenhall, Firstlight Media, Glovision, GoPharzy, HALF H·P STUDIO, Hiventy, International Digital Centre, Iyuno Media Group, KM Studio, Kantana Post Production, Keywords Studios, Lylo, Mayukhi In Sync, Nexus TV, Pixelogic, Plint, PONYCANYON ENTERPRISE, Post Haste Digital, Prime Focus Technologies, Pythagor Studios, RRP Media, RuFilms, Sama Art Studios, Saran Digital Studios, SDI Media, Sierra Recordings, Silver Trak Digital, Sound & Vision India, Sound Stamp, ASCI Voice & Mind, Studio DSE, Tanweer Studios, Tecniart Studios, The Kitchen, Titles-On, TVT Media, VDM, Vista India, Visual Data Media Services, VSI, WhatSub Pro, ZOO Digital.

*Founding members are bolded