

## **Canadian indie launches distribution arm**

MIPCOM NEWS: Canadian production outfit Lone Eagle Entertainment has announced the launch of a new programme distribution arm, which has bagged its first sale here in Cannes.

Representing another step in the company's growth strategy, the new division will distribute international programming to Canadian broadcasters in its start-up phase.

Heading up the division is Tom Powers, Lone Eagle's vp of business development, who said: "We intend to grow this division rapidly and are actively looking for international programming to serve this market."

The division has already closed its first deal, following the sale of 77 hours of the UK version of French adventure gameshow format, Fort Boyard, to Global Television Network's niche service, Men's TV.

The Adventure Line format, which sees contestants completing challenges on a Napoleonic island fortress off France, has been locally reversioned in 23 countries since 1990, including Quebec, where a French-language version has aired for eight seasons. The UK version will be the format's first English-language outing in Canada.

Toronto-based Lone Eagle was founded in 1994 by Michael Geddes. It is best known for producing Popstars, Supermodels, in association with Ford Models, and its own formats Hooked Up and The Call.

It is currently producing primetime comedy/reality hybrid, The Temps (10x 60') for Global. The format has recently been picked up by Fox Studios and Fox Worldwide for coproduction with Lone Eagle in the US, as well as for international distribution.

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