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BBC Worldwide



BBC Worldwide signs NHK Japan as major co-producer of HD series

11 October 2003 - NHK has signed a co-production agreement for the forthcoming BBC/Discovery Channel landmark HD TV series *Planet Earth*, in a deal brokered by BBC Worldwide and the BBC Commercial Agency with BBC Production.

Planet Earth, the new 11-part series currently in production by the world-renowned BBC Natural History Unit, follows the hit series *The Blue Planet*, which achieved global acclaim. Together, the series will deliver the ultimate portrait of our planet.

Representing the BBC's first major natural history series shot in HD, *Planet Earth* is scheduled for completion in autumn 2006.

Alix Tidmarsh, Director Intellectual Property Management, Factual, BBC Worldwide, said of the new agreement, "Having NHK on board for this major new production is key to the scope and scale of the series. We welcome their commitment to the project and look forward to working with them."

Masaru Ikeo, Executive Producer, Science & Environment Programmes, NHK, expressed his delight at working with BBC saying, "We are excited with the BBC decision to originate and complete the major natural history series in HD. I am convinced this series will be an epoch of natural history filmmaking in the next decade."

Discovery Channel also plans to show this series in its HD Theater Channel in North America.

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