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**THE ULTIMATE WAVE TAHITI IS LATEST COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE
STEPHEN LOW COMPANY AND K2 COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

Canadian director has teamed with K2 on recent film successes

The Stephen Low Company and K2 Communications, Inc. have collaborated on several giant screen projects in recent years; few have called more on the storytelling abilities of Canadian filmmaker Stephen Low as this blend of personalities, cultures, and ocean education. With nine-time surfing champion Kelly Slater and his Tahitian-born host and resident wave riding legend Raimana Van Bastolaer serving as the on-screen guides, *The Ultimate Wave Tahiti* melds the excitement of the sun-bronzed surfing lifestyle with the traditions of the islands of Tahiti and the underlying science of waves.

Offshore, on the reef at Teahupo'o, Tahiti, particular ocean conditions and bottom topography produce a great, heavy plunging breaker—a monster wave that is revered in surfing lore as a mountain to be tackled only by the sport's best and most daring. The wave is in fact very much dependent on natural forces acting elsewhere in the vast oceans - storms thousands of miles distant that drive powerful swells. It is the perfect wave at Teahupo'o, shaped from the energy of a distant storm that has its story told in Low's film, both through the eyes of the surfers and with the help of scientific data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and computer animation.

To bring this film to screens “eight stories high” in dimension required Low’s crew to venture into the Tahitian waters with camera equipment more suited to the back of a one ton truck than to a personal watercraft. Collecting the series of graphic shots that would help convey the power and majesty of Teahupo’o would present obstacles Low and his production team had to overcome on a daily basis.

“This film presented challenges that called on all of our collective experiences and helped create an even tighter bond amongst members of the crew,” said Low. They were forced to make last-minute adjustments that were caused by the ever-changing character of the weather and the waves they were in Tahiti to document.

“The surfers were great - eager to get the shot, and the Tahitians wonderful to work with. The weather and waves were the ultimate challenge. We always had to be ready to handle what we got dealt and having several different camera options and the crew expertise to handle each one was critical,” said Low.

Low’s company, which has received numerous international film industry awards and K2 Communications have had a rich association which has helped make possible this newest film. Their most recent collaboration - *Fighter Pilot: Operation Red Flag* - was produced for IMAX® and other large format film venues and released in 2005, enjoying an enduring popularity that has seen the movie continue to be shown on major museum screens to this day.

According to Mark Kresser of K2, *Fighter Pilot* has been seen by more than five million moviegoers.

“We see the same potential for longevity that we’ve continued to enjoy with *Fighter Pilot* because so much of this film relies on the personalities of Slater and Van Bastolaer,” said Kresser. The film, which will premiere at the California Science Center in Los Angeles, Feb. 8, will be followed shortly by an overseas premiere in Sydney, Australia. It will also open simultaneously in Boston, Tampa, Chicago and other major venues in February before beginning a worldwide roll-out the over the following months.

Among the other films that the two companies are working on are *Legends of Flight* (June 2010), and *Rescue* (Late 2010).

And viewing audiences for these collective efforts, while primarily found in museum facility IMAX theaters, are also generated from television, DVD distribution, and captive situations such as cruise ships, hotel video systems and the like.

The Ultimate Wave Tahiti is produced by The Stephen Low Company, producers of 15 films for the giant screen and distributed by K2 Communications Inc. K2's distribution arm counts more than 65 large screen format films in its library for non-theatrical distribution, plus more than 25 films for digital theater distribution, and another five for Giant Screen theatrical distribution. The company has become one of the industry's leading resources for Giant Screen films and has three additional projects due to be released over the next two years, with topics ranging from development of the futuristic Boeing 787 to realistic solutions to the world's energy issues.

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