## APACE MEDIA PLC

## APACE MEDIA ANNOUNCES SIGNIFICANT PROGRAMME COMMISIONS

(London August 30, 2006) Apace Media plc (APA.L) today announces the commissioning of a raft of BBC programmes from Steadfast Television, the group's factual production division. In total, eight hours of BBC programmes have been commissioned. This includes an extension from two hours to five hours of the peak time, documentary series Sky Cops, which starts transmission next week (BBC 1, 8.00pm 13<sup>th</sup> September).

Chris Rowlands, Apace Media's COO said, "These high-profile, peak-time commissions are an indicator of the success our programme production team is having, with 35 hours of factual content now in the pipeline for this year. The success is the result of having a highly experienced development team in place; strong international and UK broadcaster relationships; and the ability to deliver on time and on budget."

The following is the text of a trade press release issued:

## STEADFAST "CAPTURES" EIGHT HOURS OF CRIME AND POLICE PROGRAMMING FROM THE BBC

Steadfast Television, part of Apace Media plc, has been commissioned by BBC One to make eight hours of prime time popular factual programming about crime and the police. The raft of commissions marks a significant breakthrough for Steadfast which was launched late last year.

*Sky Cops* is a five hour series which follows the work of police air support units in South Yorkshire and London. The series starts screening on BBC One on 13<sup>th</sup> September. It features never-before-seen footage from inside police helicopters and a choice of up to 11 different video-sources for every story. The production team has been following a number of specific crew members for the past three months. It is the first-time that a documentary crew has been granted access to the Metropolitan Police Air Support Unit, which is based on the outskirts of London.

*They Stole My Life* (working title) is a one-hour special about identify theft, the UK's fastest growing new crime. The programme, which is due for transmission later in the year, follows a number of British police units specialising in fighting the crime, interviewing victims and showing how the crime is carried out.

*Closed Circuit Television* (working title) is two one hour BBC One specials about the use of CCTV in Britain over the years.

Charles Thompson, Steadfast's Executive Producer of all three series said, "These commissions firmly establish Steadfast in the field of popular police observational documentaries. Each one also has the potential to become long-running series over the years." Charles Thompson has been responsible for creating some of the BBC's best-loved and long-running police series including *Crime Beat; Car Wars; Traffic Cops,* and *Shops, Robbers; and Videotape.* 

All eight hours were commissioned by Richard Klein and Peter Fincham, with Charlotte Moore as BBC Executive Producer.

Steadfast Television was launched in October, 2005 by Charles Thompson, former Managing Director of Mentorn and Chris Rowlands, ex-CEO of Television Corporation, becoming part of Apace Media plc a month later.

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