



## **Media Statement**

**[Hong Kong – 4 November 2003]** The organizers of *Hong Kong Harbour Fest* would like to make the following statement regarding recent media reports on the production of the *Harbour Fest* TV special.

In ATV's *Newsline* interview on 2 November, Mr James Thompson commented on the skills and facilities required to make the festival's TV special. The *Harbour Fest* organizers would like to point out that Mr Thompson had mistakenly believed that the programme was entirely a work produced by an overseas company. In fact, both the crew and equipment used in filming the TV special are entirely based in Hong Kong. The *Hong Kong Harbour Fest* wishes to apologise for the misunderstanding and any offence that may have been caused and is hereby setting the information in the right light.

The *Harbour Fest* organizers would like to take the opportunity to provide further background on the overall production. *Harbour Fest* has hired the Los Angeles-based company InMotion Film as the producer and director of the program. It was determined a US-based firm was needed to make sure the TV special is tailored to fit the American TV market and production requirements which is a primary target audience. In addition, being based in the US, they are simply closer to the networks whom they have been meeting with about production issues. Hong Kong-based Video Channel Productions, provides the production equipment and crew in Hong Kong. There has also been work undertaken with other local producers for interstitial and interview segments.

Approximately half of the budget spending for the TV special will be spent in Hong Kong. The TV special will be broadcast in the US and other networks around the world.

As *Harbour Fest's* organizers, we believe that the festival is a worthy project, contributing significantly to the increase of profile for Hong Kong as a global entertainment venue and tourist destination. All international artists who performed in Hong Kong have / will be documented, with Prince, Craig David, Santana, Michelle Branch, Neil Young and Rolling Stones to be featured prominently, based on demands by the US television networks.

The program's final contents and broadcasting dates will be announced as soon as the editing and schedules are confirmed.

The organizers would like to take this opportunity to express full confidence in the quality and professionalism of those working in documentary and media production in Hong Kong and apologize for any offence that has been unintentionally caused.

**By the Organizing Committee of the *Hong Kong Harbour Fest***