



PRESS RELEASE

First German EEAP Film To Be Released in Eastern Europe: Til Schweiger's *Barefoot*

Berlin, 23 August 2005

With *Barefoot*, the first German film in the catalog of Eastern European Acquisition Pool GmbH (EEAP) is set to open in Hungary and Russia in September. BUDAPEST FILM, a longstanding partner of Berlin-based EEAP, will release five copies of the film in Hungary. GEMINI FILM, the largest film distributor in Russia, plans to release thirty-six copies in Russia.

Til Schweiger is currently on a promotional tour through both countries to present the movie personally to both the public and press.

To support the marketing and press activities crucial for a successful release of *Barefoot* in Eastern Europe, German Films has provided funding of € 9,000 for the Hungarian market and € 10,000 for Russia. EEAP and its partners are also planning to distribute the film to cinemas in other countries in the region, including Poland and the states of former Yugoslavia.

Til Schweiger sees Eastern Europe as an exciting market and hopes that *Barefoot* will be just as successful in Hungary, Russia and other Eastern European countries as in Germany. "The distributors are working very professionally on the release campaign, and they're full of enthusiasm. That's great advertising for German cinema."

With an eye toward the film's release, Alexander van Dülmen, managing director of EEAP, says: "We want to expand our licensing activities for German films in Eastern Europe. We would also like to participate in select projects as co-producers, or, if required, find producers from relevant countries for German projects. In my opinion, the pre-sale of *Barefoot* to EEAP was a very attractive arrangement for the film's producers since we can ensure a broad release of the film in Eastern Europe through our alliances with Eastern European partners."

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