

Press Release
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Surfing sheep and mellow sunsets bring prize to Devon filmmaker

Maniac films win international film competition

Maniac Films have just been announced as one of the brand winners in the Cisco 'digital cribs' film competition. The competition run by international filmmaker website filmaka.com and sponsored by California-based Cisco systems, was designed to produce short films showing the use of technology in the home - in someone's 'crib' in an entertaining way.

The film submission by Maniac Films showed North Devon resident Mike Cotton in and around his home near top UK surf destination Croyde Bay, talking about the impact of technology and how it enabled him to operate his business whilst on surf trips abroad - even being able to check on and count new lambs arriving using his webcam! The film was chosen by Cisco from a range of films submitted from all over the world and will be used in Cisco marketing, shown on over 200 websites and at trade shows and exhibitions to showcase how technology is used in diverse ways.

'We had a very tight time scale for completing the film due to Mikes next surf trip but got really lucky with the weather at the end of September', said Mark Brindle, director of Croyde-based Maniac Films. 'I'm really pleased to win this competition and not just for the \$7500 USD prize money, although that's a real incentive! I am hoping that the exposure generated by Cisco and filmaka will help to raise our profile and perhaps lead on to some good things - it might also bring Mike some more visitors to his B&B and cafe too!' said Mark.

'This is fantastic news' said Mike Cotton from Baggy Lodge 'I might be famous!....its all in a days work for me though.' . Braunton based musician Douglas E Powell who's acoustic tracks form the music bed of the films said 'congratulations! It was the soundtrack that clinched it right?'

Coming so soon after their award at the Institute of Videography convention for their Scottish surf documentary 'Half Life', Maniac films are on a roll. 'Its a good time right now' said Mark 'we have a few short films selected at the Devon and Cornwall Open screenings at the Exeter Phoenix soon and Half-Life has been selected for the Newport International Film festival (Newport Wales) in December....we've just finished a music video for another one of Dougs new songs, filmed at the old Shapland factory in Barnstaple (also featuring Mikes daughter Rosie) as a thank you for using his music and everything is bubbling along really well'

ENDS

Further details can be found on these websites

www.filmaka.com	(Filmaka website)
www.digitalcribs.com	(Cisco digital cribs website)
www.baggys.co.uk	(Baggy lodge website)
www.douglasepowell.co.uk	(Dougs music website)

Press Contact Details

Mark Brindle - Maniac Films ltd, 6 Lorna Doone, Moor Lane, Croyde, Devon EX33 1NU
Telephone: +44 (0) 1271 891140
Website: www.maniacfilms.com
Email: mark@maniacfilms.com