

PRESS RELEASE 01 JULY 2020

- For immediate release -

DAL PRODUCTIONS & ECAVEO CAPITAL PARTNERS TO PRODUCE THE INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY OF MARK ORMROD'S RECOVERY FROM A LIFE SHATTERING IED EXPLOSION - "MAN DOWN"

ONE MAN'S STORY OF A LIFE IN PIECES AND HIS ROUTE TO RECOVERY

DAL Productions today announced that in association with Ecaveo Capital Partners, it will produce "Man Down". A high octane story of Mark Ormrod's life as a Royal Marine Commando and how it shattered in a moment on Christmas Eve 2007 in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. Mark became the UK's first triple amputee to survive the Afghanistan conflict.

Mark Ormrod grew up with the ambition of becoming a Royal Marine Commando. After a tumultuous start to his military career, a return to civvie street and his eventual reenlistment, Mark was deployed to Afghanistan and was on a routine foot patrol when he stepped on and triggered an Improvised Explosive Device. "Man Down" is his harrowing, hard told, but inspirational story.

Mark said *"three months into my posting to Afghanistan we were on a routine patrol when there was a huge explosion. I thought we had come under attack but as I tried to compose myself in preparation for fighting off the attack I realised I wasn't moving. Then as the sand and the dust settled, I looked down and I realised I'd stepped on a landmine – both of my legs were gone"*.

DAL's David Coleman said: *"We are excited to be bringing such an incredible, courageous story to our audiences. Mark's journey is an amazing story and this is reflected in the early work on our screenplay. We have plans for an exceptional cast, and this, coupled with the authenticity of the military action, accuracy of the medical drama and the touching but difficult nature of Mark's recovery, means we are confident we will bring this outstanding story to life."*

With offices in Bournemouth and London, the team are alert to the, at times, dark and gritty nature of the story and are keen to ensure that that story is told with authenticity on the big screen. *"During the emergency helicopter journey to hospital, medics performed an innovative and risky procedure to try to stabilise Mark. Thanks to the swift action of his fellow Marines on the ground and the skilled Medical Emergency Response Team, Mark survived. A film like this is an exceptional story for screen in which we will capture a balanced mix of action, drama, emotion, struggle and success"* says Ecaveo Capital Partners' Producer, Paul Forrest.

The deal was negotiated with Mark by Paul Forrest of Ecaveo Capital Partners and with David and Lynn Coleman of DAL Productions. Of the deal, Lynn Coleman said: *"We are thrilled that DAL are working with Mark and Paul to bring this important story to a global audience and I am confident that collectively we can tell this story in a way that shows how tough it was for Mark and how his life changed as he became what Prince Harry famously described as "Britain's answer to Superman"*.

Mark's injuries were devastating for all concerned. However, with single minded focus he decided he had to master walking with his prosthetic legs. Incredibly, just five gruelling months later, Mark was able to march onto the packed parade ground to receive his campaign medal, proudly standing shoulder to shoulder with his fellow Marines who he had fought alongside in Afghanistan. Mark, continued to develop his fitness to an extremely high level going on to win top awards at the 2017 and 2018 Invictus Games.

Mark continued *"Waking up that first time in Selly Oak, I couldn't imagine that my life would possibly turn out the way it has. I'm really lucky to be married to Becky, who has been so supportive, and to have three fantastic, healthy kids. Now I'm thrilled at the chance to see my story played out on the big screen."*

I'm a film buff myself and I am most looking forward to becoming part of the production team bringing my story to life through film. I want this film to reflect my journey and to become a genuine and heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped to save my life."

About the production:

Development continues with Production expected to begin early in 2021 and a theatrical debut towards the middle of 2022.

Producer(s): David Coleman, Lynn Coleman, Paul Forrest and Mark Ormrod.

Writer: Vincent Woods

About DAL Productions

DAL Productions Following successful careers in the City of London, wife and husband team Lynn and David Coleman are now developing a number of film and tv projects. Based in Bournemouth, DAL focus on real life events and contemporary world issues that play a large role in the creation and development of their scripts and/or characters.

About Ecaveo Capital Partners...

ECP is a development, finance and production consultancy based in London. ECP has numerous films in development, pre-production and production and continually considers new material in the form of books, scripts and ideas subject to the material meeting its investment criteria and creative requirements.

London-based producer **Paul Forrest** is the Senior Partner of Ecaveo Capital Partners

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Additional Images Folder:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o5xzslsvqf8p2pbn/AAAGysQLamM_sqleyOf5AZcYa?dl=0

