



Paris, 15 January 2024

Xilam Animation Locks New Deals for *Zig & Sharko* and *Karate Sheep*

Xilam ranks as the leading European animation studio providing kids content to Netflix

Academy Award®-nominated French animation studio Xilam Animation has secured a wave of global broadcasters for its popular titles *Zig & Sharko* and *Karate Sheep*, including new partners and renewals for both of the slapstick comedy series. Xilam's series have also seen strong performances on Netflix, with a cumulative total of 93.5 million hours of viewing for content from the studio recorded during the first reporting window from the streamer – January to June 2023. With 114 hours available on Netflix, Xilam has the largest number of titles and hourly volume on the service than any other European animation studio. Furthermore, within Netflix's top 15 original animated series for kids, Xilam placed two titles – *Karate Sheep* and *Oggy and the Cockroaches: Next Generation* – and was the only non-US producer within this ranking.

Commissioned by French broadcaster Gulli, iconic non-dialogue slapstick comedy series *Zig & Sharko* was Xilam's most sold brand of 2023, with K+ Vietnam, Media Prima Malaysia now on board for the first seasons alongside renewals by long-standing partners of the series Netflix, Warner Bros Discovery (Africa and Italy), Viacom 18 (India), ERT (Greece), and RTL (Hungary). Following presales to VRT Belgium, Warner Bros Discovery (Italy), DeAgostini (Italy) and Viacom 18 (India), Season 4 of the 78 x 7' series has also been sold to Warner Bros Discovery (France, Africa), DR (Denmark), NRK Super (Norway), Markiza (Slovakia), and ERT (Greece).

Xilam has also brought on new partners CG animated slapstick comedy series *Karate Sheep*, with Warner Bros Discovery (Italy), Sony (India), Youku (China), Nova (Czech Republic), and Etisalat (United Arab Emirates) boarding the series. Co-commissioned by Super RTL in Germany with Netflix, the 78 x 7' series

Xilam Animation

57, boulevard de la Villette – 75010 Paris – FRANCE / Tel: +33 (0)1 40 18 72 00 / www.xilam.com
Société Anonyme au capital de 491 150 euros – RCS Paris 423 784 610 – SIRET : 423 784 610 00051 – NAF 5911 A
TVA intra-communautaire : FR62423784610





premiered on Super RTL in late 2022. Xilam holds second-window global linear TV distribution and merchandising rights for *Karate Sheep*.

Based on the report published by Netflix titled 'What We Watched: A Netflix Engagement Report', which covers the first half of 2023, Xilam Animation's slapstick comedies achieved very strong performances. *Zig & Sharko* seasons two and three has garnered 40 million hours of views in this time period, and *Karate Sheep* has accrued 20 million hours of views in the first four months after its launch. The hit preschool spin-off to its iconic Oggy and the Cockroaches franchise, *Oggy Oggy*, had its first two seasons viewed for a total of 14.4 million hours, and *Oggy and the Cockroaches: Next Generation* also saw 19 million hours viewed.

Marc du Pontavice, Founder and CEO at Xilam Animation, said: "Slapstick comedy series are at the heart of our offering at Xilam and have seen global popularity across generations due to fun-loving characters who embark on hilarious escapades. *Zig & Sharko* and *Karate Sheep* are some of our most well-loved brands, and it's fantastic to have new and returning broadcast partners on board to bring these joyful adventures to audiences everywhere. We're also proud to see such strong performances on Netflix from our series, including the family favourite co-viewing franchise *Oggy Oggy* and *Oggy and the Cockroaches: Next Generation*, that underscores the enduring popularity of these brands globally".

ENDS

For further press information, please contact Charlotte Newcombe at The DDA Group:

+44 7726 901129 or xilam@ddapr.com

About Xilam

A major player in animation, Xilam is an integrated studio founded in 1999 that creates, produces and distributes original programmes in more than 190 countries for both children and adult audiences. Xilam content is broadcast on television, and is also available on SVoD platforms including Netflix, Disney+, Amazon and NBC Universal, and AVoD streaming platforms including YouTube and Facebook.

With its creativity and capacity for innovation recognised worldwide, as well as editorial and commercial expertise at the cutting edge of its industry, Xilam is positioned as a key player in a fast-growing market. Each year, Xilam builds real successes and capitalises on its powerful historical brands including *Oggy and the Cockroaches* and *Zig & Sharko*, as well as new properties such as *Oggy Oggy* for a preschool audience, *Mr Magoo* which has a second season in production, and Academy Award® nominated adult feature film *I Lost My Body*. Xilam's expanding and strong catalogue now consists of over 2,200 episodes and three feature films.

Xilam Animation

57, boulevard de la Villette – 75010 Paris – FRANCE / Tel: +33 (0)1 40 18 72 00 / www.xilam.com
Société Anonyme au capital de 491 150 euros – RCS Paris 423 784 610 – SIRET : 423 784 610 00051 – NAF 5911 A
TVA intra-communautaire : FR62423784610





Furthermore, Xilam's acquisition of Cube Creative's in 2019, provides the company with unique expertise in 3D and computer-generated imagery, alongside a programming portfolio that offers entertainment for families worldwide, with series such as *Where's Chicky?* and *Athléticus*.

Xilam employs more than 500 individuals, including 400 artists, across its studios in Paris, Lyon, Angoulême and Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam.

Xilam Animation

57, boulevard de la Villette – 75010 Paris – FRANCE / Tel: +33 (0)1 40 18 72 00 / www.xilam.com
Société Anonyme au capital de 491 150 euros – RCS Paris 423 784 610 – SIRET : 423 784 610 00051 – NAF 5911 A
TVA intra-communautaire : FR62423784610

