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# DR PEPPER AND EPIC RECORDING ARTIST CARTEL TO MAKE ROCK HISTORY WITH BAND IN A BUBBLE LIVE EVENT AND MTV MUSIC SPECIAL

Cartel Will Be Sealed in a See-Through Bubble in New York City for Almost a Month to Record Their Next Album

Experience Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble as it Happens at www.drpepperbubble.com

**PLANO**, **Texas and NEW YORK – April 23**, **2007 –** Dr Pepper, MTV, and Epic recording artist Cartel are giving music fans more of what they want this summer...a first-time, real-time look into the making of the band's newest album during Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble. In what is sure to be the most talked-about music event of the year, Cartel will be sealed inside a huge transparent bubble on Hudson River Park's Pier 54 in New York City from May 24 through June 12, and every move they make will be live for the world to see as they eat, breathe, sleep and record the follow-up to their breakthrough debut album, *CHROMA*.

Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble, produced by Mediaedge:cia and True Entertainment, an Endemol company, is an interactive multimedia event that will bring new meaning to "up close and personal." Cartel will enter the bubble during a live MTV broadcast on May 24 and stay there with no escape until the bubble "bursts" on June 12. While the band is in the bubble, the drama and excitement of Cartel's recording process can be viewed in-person, on-air and online. Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble Web cams will stream live on www.drpepperbubble.com and the event will air as a music special with four 30-minute episodes on MTV, which will also be available on-demand at MTV.com.

"Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble is an authentic mix of music and pop culture that only Dr Pepper can deliver. There's always more to Dr Pepper and only Dr Pepper will give consumers exclusive access to life in the bubble," said Andrew Springate, vice president of marketing, Dr Pepper. "We're going to have cameras capturing every moment, from every angle, so the fans can watch it live as it happens. This is going to be a unique experience for the band and their fans and the biggest event of its kind."

"This special event, *Band in a Bubble presented by Dr Pepper*, will be a fascinating and intimate forum for our viewers to witness the process of creating music first-hand from one of today's most promising bands, Cartel," said Tim Rosta, senior vice president, integrated marketing, MTV. "These unique music specials are yet another great example of MTV's ongoing commitment to deliver compelling and engaging content alongside our advertising partners to present the music and artists that our audience loves in innovative ways on-air and online."

#### **Cartel: The Band in the Bubble**

Cartel will literally be THE Band in the Bubble. The five-member group, consisting of singer and keyboard player Will Pugh, guitarists Joseph Pepper and Nic Hudson, bass player Jeff Lett, and drummer Kevin Sanders, will share the ups and downs of the creative process with their fans – giving them an inside look at what it's like to make an album from start to finish. The band's new album will be available on July 24 – just six weeks after the bubble bursts.

"We're doing something that's never been done before and that's exciting," said Cartel frontman Will Pugh. "Making an album is a very personal and emotional experience, and in the past we've never wanted anyone around when writing or recording. But given that this is probably the biggest opportunity we'll ever have to show the world what we're made of, we can't wait to invite the fans into both the studio and our lives."

Atlanta-based Cartel, recently highlighted as a "Breaking Band" in *Rolling Stone*, is generating major heat thanks to the success of Epic Records debut *CHROMA* and hit lead single "Honestly." While the song garnered airplay on radio stations nationwide, its companion video went into rotation on MTV, MTV2 and Fuse. In addition, the group – dubbed "A Band You Need To Know" by *Alternative Press* – has blanketed the Internet, winning Yahoo! Music's "Who's Next" competition, nabbing the AOL Music Breaker Spotlight and racking up millions of streams on MySpace. In addition, Cartel performed on TRL, was highlighted on MTV's "Discover & Download," spent the summer on the Warped Tour, made their national TV debut on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and appear on the soundtrack to the mega-popular video game, "Madden NFL '07." The band will appear on an upcoming episode of MTV's "Cribs," and just concluded their first-ever headlining tour.

"Cartel has always maintained a special relationship with their fans and this is an opportunity for the band to tear down that final barrier and literally allow their audience a window into the creative process. I admire their courage to do so," said Doug McVehil, vice president, digital media marketing and promotion, Epic Records. "We're excited to team with such creative partners on what's sure to be a truly unique and memorable music experience."

## **Bringing More to the Consumer**

Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble is a multi-platform initiative that reaches consumers nationwide through online and offline channels including television, online, radio, in-store and on select Dr Pepper products. Purchasing Dr Pepper gives fans deeper access to Band in a Bubble, including opportunities to interact with the band, obtain exclusive views inside the Bubble and to download free Cartel ringtones and wallpaper.

Dr Pepper is also offering a sweepstakes for a chance to win a variety of prizes, including guitars signed by Cartel and VIP trips to New York to see Cartel's concert when the bubble "bursts" on June 12. The event will officially kick-off Hudson River Park's RiverRocks summer concert series and will be free and open to the public. Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble will live online at www.drpepperbubble.com, allowing Dr Pepper consumers to view unique content for up to 23 continuous days, including the 20 days while the band is in the bubble, and three days of special wrap-ups and outtakes.

## Taking the Bubble to Television

Throughout Cartel's days in the bubble, MTV will capture the most interesting and outrageous moments. The show, *Band in a Bubble presented by Dr Pepper*, will air during four 30-minute music specials on MTV and MTV2 in May and June. The first show will air at 11 p.m. EDT on May 24 as Cartel prepares for and enters the bubble. The final episode will highlight the band's days in the bubble and culminate with coverage of the bubble "burst" concert. Footage from the bubble will also be available online at MTV.com, where viewers will be able to check out additional content and episodes on-demand.

#### **Building the Bubble**

Currently being constructed on Hudson River Park's Pier 54 in New York City, the bubble is a 40-by-40 foot state-of-the-art recording studio equipped with everything Cartel needs to record their next album. Designed by international firm TPG Architecture, the 2,000-square-foot structure will consist of 55,000 pounds of steel truss and quarter-inch-thick fireproof rigid fiber glass. Three semi-circular steel arches will loop the bubble and act as light trusses to provide a glowing effect. While in the bubble, Cartel will have access to a custom kitchen and dining room, a casual lounge area and a spa-like bathroom as well as a "Sleeping Bubble," or mezzanine level, which will be a giant pod elevated nine feet off the ground and hung in place with airplane hanger cables, that will house the band's sleeping quarters.

The bubble will feature interactive Web cams that will stream every moment live so fans can watch on www.drpepperbubble.com. These cameras will capture everything from the band members' waking moments and creative differences to their jam sessions and appearances by special guests. Special two-way microphones built into the window of the bubble will provide opportunities for the public to speak to band members on a daily basis.

#### **Band in a Bubble Partners**

Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble partners include industry leaders such as MTV – the world's leading broadcast and online music company; Epic Records – a subsidiary of Sony BMG Music Entertainment; Mediaedge:cia – Dr Pepper's global communications planning and implementation agency of record; and True Entertainment – a subsidiary of Endemol, a global leader in television and entertainment.

"We're very excited to deliver such a complete entertainment experience which perfectly fits with the Dr Pepper brand," said Lee Doyle, chief executive officer of Mediaedge:cia North America. "Consumers will be actively engaged with Band in a Bubble through many touch points, further connecting with each other through music, television and Dr Pepper."

KFC is also partnering with Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble and, beginning May 7, participating KFC restaurants will offer a special code on in-store P.O.S. materials and large to-go food bags with coupons attached that grant access to exclusive Band in a Bubble content at www.drpepperbubble.com, including a free song download from Cartel and a chance to win a VIP trip to NYC on June 12 for the bubble "burst."

For more information about Dr Pepper Band in a Bubble, visit www.drpepperbubble.com.

#### **About Dr Pepper**

Dr Pepper is a leading brand in the beverage portfolio of Plano, Texas-based Cadbury Schweppes Americas Beverages (CSAB), a subsidiary division of Cadbury Schweppes plc (NYSE: CSG). CSAB is one of the largest producers of soft drinks and premium beverages in the Americas. CSAB's brand portfolio includes Dr Pepper, 7UP, Snapple, Mott's Apple Juice, RC Cola, A&W Root Beer, Sunkist Soda, Canada Dry, Hawaiian Punch, Schweppes, Diet Rite, Clamato, Mr & Mrs T Mixers, Holland House Mixers, Rose's, Mistic, Yoo-hoo, Orangina, IBC, Stewart's, Nantucket Nectars and other well-known consumer brands. For additional information on CSAB and its products, visit http://www.brandspeoplelove.com/.

#### **About MTV**

MTV Networks, a unit of Viacom (NYSE: VIA, VIA.B), is one of the world's leading creators of programming and content across all media platforms. MTV Networks, with more than 130 channels worldwide, owns and operates the following television programming services – MTV: MUSIC TELEVISION, MTV2, VH1, mtvU, NICKELODEON, NICK at NITE, COMEDY CENTRAL, TV LAND, SPIKE TV, CMT, NOGGIN, VH1 CLASSIC, LOGO, MTVN INTERNATIONAL and THE DIGITAL SUITE FROM MTV NETWORKS, a package of 13 digital services, all of which are trademarks of MTV Networks. MTV Networks connects with its audiences through its robust consumer products businesses and its more than 200 interactive properties worldwide, including online, broadband, wireless and interactive television services. The network also has licensing agreements, joint ventures, and syndication deals whereby all of its programming services can be seen worldwide.

## **About EPIC RECORDS**

EPIC RECORDS, a division of SONY BMG Entertainment, is the creative music habitat of some of today's most vital musical artists. The company is home to chart-topping artists and trailblazing icons such as Modest Mouse, Incubus, Natasha Bedingfield, The Fray, Augustana, Franz Ferdinand, Ozzy Osbourne, Los Lonely Boys, Ben Folds, Tori Amos, Shakira, Wyclef Jean, Fiona Apple and Jennifer Lopez. Epic's hot newcomers include Atlanta punk pop band Cartel, hip-hop artist Yung Berg, bi-lingual Latin trio The Dey, pop singer-songwriter/pianist Nikki Flores, charismatic singer-songwriter Sara Bareilles and fiery dancehall diva Kat De Luna. Epic recently partnered with MTV to re-launch Latin supergroup Menudo.

# About Mediaedge:cia

Mediaedge:cia (MEC) is the first global communications planning and implementation agency. MEC gets consumers actively engaged with its clients' brands leading to relevant awareness, deeper relationships and stronger sales. MEC services include consumer insight and ROI, communications planning, media planning and buying, interaction (digital, direct, search), sponsorship consultancy and activation, retail consultancy, branded content and entertainment marketing. MEC's 4,500 highly talented and motivated people work with local, regional and global clients from 210 offices in 76 countries. MEC is a founding partner of GroupM, WPP's media investment management group. For further information, visit www.mecglobal.com

#### **About True Entertainment**

True Entertainment is a subsidiary of Endemol, a global leader in television. True Entertainment is a multi-Emmy award winning production company that has staked out a leading position at the intersection of fact and fiction. In both television and film, True Entertainment creates reality and documentary programming with the emotional impact of fiction -- and scripted programming with the grit and realism of documentary for a wide variety of broadcast outlets including network, cable and syndication. True Entertainment was founded in 2000 by partners Steven Weinstock and Glenda Hersh. For more information go to www.trueentertainment.net.

## **About Endemol**

Endemol (Euronext; EML) is a global leader in television and other audiovisual entertainment. The Company creates premium entertainment ideas and sells them to the world's leading broadcasters. Endemol then produces these shows to the highest standards, creating hits with strong brand value. Subsequently, the company exploits the value of its brands across other media and communications platforms, including, for example, mobile phones and the Internet. Endemol, with its head office in Hilversum, the Netherlands, now has subsidiaries and joint ventures in 25 countries, including the UK, the US, Spain, Italy, France, Germany and the Netherlands, as well as in Latin America, India, South Africa and Australia. Endemol is a publicly traded company on Eurolist by Euronext Amsterdam. For more information, please visit www.endemol.com.

# **About KFC**

KFC Corporation, based in Louisville, Ky., is the world's most popular chicken restaurant chain specializing in Original Recipe®, Extra Crispy™ and Colonel's Crispy Strips® with home-style sides, Honey BBQ Wings, and freshly made chicken sandwiches. There are more than 14,000 KFC outlets in more than 80 countries and territories around the world, serving some 12 million customers each day. KFC Corporation is a subsidiary of Yum! Brands, Inc., Louisville, Ky. (NYSE: YUM)

#### About Hudson River Park's Pier 54 and RiverRocks

Hudson River Park's Pier 54 has been featuring shows with emerging talent for a number of years as part of its RiverRocks concert series. The series started in 2001 and focused on bands that were on the verge of making it big. Since then, the RiverRocks series and the Hudson River Park's Pier 54 venue have continued to grow in stature.