albert launches Creative Offsets scheme

EMBARGOED UNTIL 00:01 on TUES 24 NOV 2020

* albert’s new Creative Offsets scheme will enable productions to offset their carbon impact, making their programmes carbon neutral.
* To launch the scheme, albert has selected to work with Natural Capital Partners, leading experts in carbon neutrality and climate finance.
* From 2021, offsetting will become a mandatory part of achieving albert Certification in the UK.
* *Dancing on Thin Ice* *with Torvill & Dean* and *A Perfect Planet* are the first productions to be certified through the scheme as carbon neutral
* ITV is committing to make all its programming carbon neutral from 2021.

**Tuesday 24 November.** Today, albert, the BAFTA-led project and industry authority on environmental sustainability for film and TV announces the launch of its Creative Offsets scheme which has been designed to enable TV and Film productions to offset their unavoidable emissions.

The launch of the scheme is a further positive step for the project which supports the screen industry in making positive contributions to the environment while actively eliminating waste and carbon emissions from production.

albert has selected to work with Natural Capital Partners, leading experts in carbon neutrality and climate finance, to run the scheme. Natural Capital Partners' offset projects are all validated and verified to recognised third party carbon standards.

‘We searched far and wide to find the right offset scheme, one which we felt confident could deliver to the standard we required but which also went further, offsetting our industry’s carbon impact and at the same time, delivering on the UN’s global goals for maximum impact’ Michelle Whitehead, project manager for albert.

By taking part in albert’s creative offset scheme productions will be supporting a portfolio of high quality, impactful REDD+ emission reduction projects that protect and restore landscapes, enhance biodiversity, and improve health and livelihoods around the world including projects in Brazil, Malawi and Cambodia. In addition to this, productions will be supporting the creation of new woodland in the UK in accordance with the Woodland Carbon Code.

The new scheme launches ahead of the roll out of an updated, international version of the albert carbon calculator and certification toolset. The new toolkit will have increased functionality allowing users to accurately measure their impact when filming outside of the UK as well as enhanced reporting features to help identify when carbon reduction changes can be made

Roser Canela-Mas, albert’s Industry Sustainability Manager commented: “As an industry our goal has to be net-zero. The updated calculator and certification toolkit is part of a package of solutions we’re offering to the industry to help them achieve this. These tools, alongside our Creative Energy and Creative Offset schemes will help our industry to achieve the UK’s target of net zero by 2050”

The creative offsets scheme will become a mandatory part of albert Certification in 2021, meaning that any UK production which wants to achieve albert Certification and add the albert credit to their production’s endboard will need to offset the remainder of their carbon footprint after first reducing it as much as possible. However, a handful of productions including A Perfect Planet have chosen to offset their productions this year in order to reduce their impact on the planet.

Series Producer Huw Cordey from Silverback Film, the production company behind A Perfect Planet said: ‘We are delighted to have offset the total carbon footprint of ‘A Perfect Planet’ through albert's Creative Offsets scheme. Over the four years of production, across 86 shoots in 34 countries, we recorded all of our carbon usage: every flight and car journey, every hotel stay and edit suite – everything from generators to office waste disposal! By using the albert calculator, we were able to very accurately measure our carbon footprint and reduce our impact as much as possible, and by using the Creative Offsets scheme we were able to offset our remaining footprint in full. Our series is all about how our Earth is truly unique – a perfect planet – and how oceans, sunlight, weather and volcanoes are powerful yet fragile forces that allow life to flourish in astonishing diversity. But now - as we reveal in our fifth and final episode - humanity is becoming a dominant force that is changing the face of Earth. We felt it was only right to offset the carbon footprint of our production in keeping with our message of trying to become a force for good.’

ITV will mark its own commitment to the Creative Offsets scheme by releasing *Dancing on Thin Ice* *with Torvill & Dean* as a highlight of this year's festive schedule – the first ITV show to achieve the new standard of albert Certification. The show, produced by Wingspan Productions, follows Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean as they travel to Alaska on an extraordinary quest to fulfil a life-long dream that also provides a first-hand insight into the effects of climate change.

Producer Helena Braun from Wingspan Productions, said "Right from the start we wanted our film to help raise awareness about climate change, and to minimize our own impact on the planet as much as possible. When we came to offsetting the carbon footprint of our production, we were very pleased to discover that albert's new Creative Offset scheme would make it so straightforward. We were reassured that they have done the thorough research and due diligence to ensure that we will be offsetting with schemes that will genuinely make a difference."

Kevin Lygo, MD Media and Entertainment at ITV, said "Across all of ITV's output we remain focused on producing the most entertaining and informative shows, but all with a continued commitment to being produced in the greenest way possible. It is imperative that we act on climate change now, and we're proud that Dancing on Thin Ice with Torvill & Dean will be the first programme in albert’s new Creative Offsets scheme.”

Julian Bellamy, Managing Director at ITV Studios added “ITV Studios is committed to producing the biggest shows with the smallest footprint. Ensuring albert certification, and achieving net zero across all of our productions requires tenacity and resolve, but it is an important step we must take as we protect the future of our industry, and indeed our planet."

It is projected that the launch of this scheme could see over 90,000 tonnes of

CO2e offset in its first year, helping to restore the planet as well as actively supporting communities in the UK and abroad.

Find out more: [www.wearealbert.org/creative-offsets](http://www.wearealbert.org/creative-offsets)

About albert

albert is the screen industry authority on environmental sustainability. Founded in 2011, the project supports the industry in eliminating its environmental impact as well as developing on-screen content that is compatible with a sustainable climate.

A BAFTA, indie and broadcaster backed project, albert is proudly industry funded, meaning all our activities are available at the lowest possible cost to organisations and zero cost to individuals.

With events, online tools and training, practical guidance and thought leadership, albert is enabling all screen industry professions to identify and act upon opportunities on and off screen, for effective climate action.
Find out more [www.wearealbert.org](http://www.wearealbert.org/)

About Natural Capital Partners

With more than 300 clients in 34 countries, including Microsoft, Sky, Logitech and PwC, Natural Capital Partners is harnessing the power of business to create a more sustainable world. Through a global network of projects, the company delivers the highest quality solutions which make real change possible: reducing carbon emissions, generating renewable energy, building resilience in supply chains, conserving and restoring forests and biodiversity, and improving health and livelihoods.

naturalcapitalpartners.com