British Pathé, the world-famous newsreel archive, has this month launched a new North American licensing service. This marks the first time in more than two decades that media professionals in these territories will be able to license footage from British Pathé directly rather than dealing with third-party representatives.

Richard Goldthorpe has been appointed to oversee the service as British Pathé’s first Business Development Manager for North America. Goldthorpe, 32, has extensive licensing experience, having worked at ITN Source, BBC Motion Gallery and Fremantle Media. He joined British Pathé in 2009 with responsibility for UK broadcasters, chiefly the BBC.

“I’m looking forward to working with, and getting to know, producers in North America,” says Goldthorpe. “I think most clients will see this as a welcome change. Dealing with us directly has significant advantages for them, not the least of which is that our entire collection is already fully digitized.”

Rare among archives, every frame of British Pathé’s 90,000 newsreels, documentaries and cinemagazines is viewable and searchable online. Crucially, this resource is complemented by free, 24/7 screener downloads. “That’s a popular tool,” says Goldthorpe. “It saves clients time and money at the offline edit stage.”

Other services proven in the UK that will now be available to North American customers as well include a free and comprehensive bespoke research service, same-day delivery of broadcast quality material and HD transfers from the original 35mm film.

“It’s an exciting time to be launching this,” Goldthorpe continues, referring to the upcoming Great War centenary. “British Pathé has one of the best collections anywhere of First World War footage – everything from zeppelins and u-boat attacks to trench warfare and American soldiers on the Western Front.”

The British Pathé archive is also particularly strong in its coverage of North American politics and culture. “There’s enough to keep a researcher occupied for weeks,” says Goldthorpe. “But we shouldn’t forget that it’s our British focus that makes us unique in the marketplace. For instance, we’re the definitive source for anything on the Royal Family in the twentieth century.”

North American customers can begin licensing from British Pathé immediately.

For further information, please contact British Pathé on +44 (0)20 7665 8340 or email info@britishpathe.com. Visit British Pathé’s website at: www.britishpathe.com.

Background information on British Pathé is on the following page.
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

British Pathé was once a dominant feature of the British cinema experience, renowned for first-class reporting and an informative yet uniquely entertaining style. Now considered to be the finest newsreel archive in the world, British Pathé is a treasure trove of 90,000 films unrivalled in historical and cultural significance. Spanning the years from 1896 to 1976, the collection includes footage from around the globe of major events, famous faces, fashion trends, travel, science and culture. It is an invaluable resource for broadcasters, documentary producers, and archive researchers worldwide.