

For Immediate Release

'Guard Center 24' to premiere on GEM in first-ever same-time-as-Japan drama telecast outside Japan!

GEM to be the first channel to simulcast a Japanese drama series in Singapore



SINGAPORE (September 6, 2016) – Asian entertainment channel GEM is set to break new ground with the simulcast of *Guard Center 24*, as it marks the first time in history that international audiences can watch a Japanese drama at the same time as it is telecast in Japan. The 1-episode special drama produced by Nippon TV will premiere in Singapore on **16 September at 8pm**, first and exclusively on GEM (Singtel TV Channel 519).

“This is an unprecedented opportunity for fans of Japanese entertainment to get access to premium Japanese programmes at the same time as it airs in Japan. The decision to simulcast *Guard Center 24* reinforces our strategy to bring quality Japanese programming to viewers in this part of the world, faster than ever before,” said Virginia Lim, Senior Vice President & Head of Content, Production & Marketing, Sony Pictures Television Networks, Asia.

Set against the backdrop of a private security company, the action-suspense drama features Kento Nakajima (member of idol group Sexy Zone); Takaya Kamikawa (*Angel Heart*, *Hanasaki Mai Speaks Out*); and Chiaki Kuriyama (*Battle Royale*, *Kill Bill*) as part of its star-studded cast.

Amidst the dramatic cases encountered by emergency responders at this security company, the series spotlights Nakajima's character as a newly hired responder who finds he must hit the ground running in order to serve and protect the company's clients.

More thrilling action abounds with two other top-billed Japanese dramas also premiering in September – ***Ms. Sadistic Detective*** and ***The Last Cop***. Premiering on 19 September and airing every Monday and Tuesday at 9pm, *Ms. Sadistic Detective* stars prolific young actress Mikako Tabe and idol group Kanjani Eight member Tadayoshi Okura as crime-fighting partners. Comedy ensues when the former sheds her usual good-girl image to play a detective obsessed with sadism and torture, often at the expense of her nice-guy partner.

The Last Cop takes a different spin on the buddy cop theme and features Toshiaki Karasawa and Masataka Kubota respectively as a brash, bossy detective freshly awakened from a 30-year coma and his stickler-for-the-rules partner, with the pair often at odds with each other due to their opposite personalities. The series will premiere on 21 September and airs every Wednesday and Thursday at 9pm.



Ms. Sadistic Detective



The Last Cop

Guard Center 24 premieres on 16 September at 8pm at the same time as Japan, first and exclusively on GEM (Singtel TV Channel 519).

Ms. Sadistic Detective premieres on 19 September and airs every Monday and Tuesday at 9pm. ***The Last Cop*** will begin on 21 September and air every Wednesday and Thursday at 9pm.

For more information, please see www.GEMtvasia.com or visit GEM's official Facebook page www.facebook.com/GEMTVASIA.



About GEM

GEM is the glittering jewel of Asian general entertainment. A joint venture between Sony Pictures Television (SPT) Networks and Nippon Television Network Corporation, GEM enjoys access to more than 500 hours of Japanese content per year exclusively from Nippon TV.

The channel features first-run and exclusive dramas, comedies and variety entertainment shows from Japan as well as other Asian territories including South Korea, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. This also includes selected prime time dramas on the same day and within the same week of their broadcast in Japan. GEM also made history for being the first channel to broadcast Nippon TV's music festival 'THE MUSIC DAY' LIVE, and for simulcasting the Japanese drama series 'Guard Center 24' at the same time as Japan. In addition, GEM takes its shows beyond the screen and into the lives of viewers, and most recently brought Japanese star Hayami Mocomichi on a promotional tour to meet with his fans in Hong Kong.

GEM Vietnam, which is also part of the Asian channels portfolio, is wholly-owned and operated by SPT Networks.

See www.GEMtvasia.com for more.

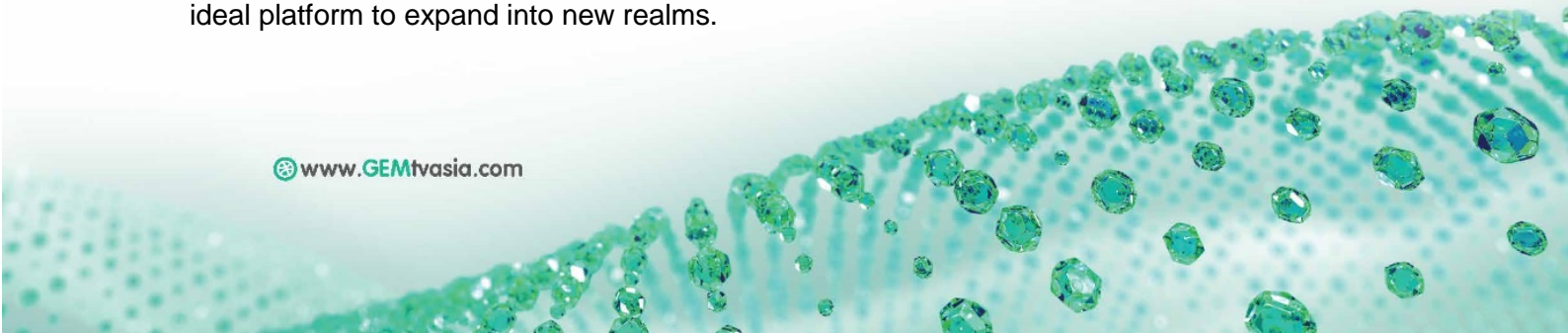
About Sony Pictures Television Networks, Asia

Sony Pictures Television Networks, Asia was established in 1997 with Singapore as the Asian headquarters of Sony Pictures Television's networks business. It operates five ad-supported 24/7 channels which are wholly-owned by Sony Pictures Entertainment.

AXN is Asia's home of thrilling entertainment; Sony Channel is the premier destination for female-skewing Hollywood entertainment; Animax offers anime for all; ONE is powered by prime and current South Korean entertainment content; and GEM serves up star-studded and popular general entertainment programming from Japan, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and South Korea. The company also operates joint-venture Indonesian telenovela channel FMN and children's content channel BabyTV.

About Nippon Television Network Corporation (Nippon TV)

Since becoming Japan's first commercial broadcaster in 1953, Nippon TV has become the country's undisputed ratings champion and finest producer of all genres of programs. One of the biggest successes for Nippon TV is its format Dragons' Den, which has been sold in over 27 countries and regions. With well-established companies that deal in a broad range of businesses from movies, animation, events, to fitness clubs, Nippon TV is leveraging its ideal platform to expand into new realms.



THE GEM OF ASIAN ENTERTAINMENT



Recently launching a channel in Southeast Asia named GEM through a joint venture with Sony Pictures Television Networks, and taking a stake in the SVOD market through wholly-owned subsidiary Hulu Japan, Nippon TV is steadily solidifying its presence and brand as a global media powerhouse.

<http://www.ntv.co.jp/english/>

For further information, please contact:

Timothy Oh

Sony Pictures Television Networks, Asia

T: +65 6622 4201

E: timothy_oh@spe.sony.com

