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Dan Lin exits post at WB

Senior VP of production launches own film unit

By DIANE GARRETT

Dan Lin will exit his post as senior VP of production for Warner Bros. to hang his own shingle on the lot.

He will segue to Lin Pictures on Jan. 1, the same date that his boss, Jeff Robinov, segues into the post of prexy of Warner Bros. Pictures Group.

Lin plans to develop alternate ways to make projects under his long-term pact, the first three years of which are exclusive. Exec, who worked on pics such as "The Departed" and "The Aviator" for Warners, is expected to continue shepherding projects such as George Miller's "Justice League" for the studio.

Robinov said he would be happy with "one good-size movie a year out of Danny" under the pact, stressing Lin's wide-ranging taste and ability to work with high-caliber directors such as Martin Scorsese and Miller.

What's more, after nine years at Warners, "he has a real short cut with the studio," Robinov said. "He understands how it works."

Lin said he approached Robinov and prexy-chief operating officer Alan Horn this summer about setting up the company. He said the shingle will allow him to flex his entrepreneurial muscles and "act more nimbly than I would as a studio exec."

Lin cited the studio's recent deal with Media Rights Capital as an alternate way to develop projects and the 30 minutes of 3-D footage for "10,000 BC" as incorporating advances in delivery mechanisms. He said his experience developing a lot of "comicbooky movies" for the studio has proven instructive in ways to use technology in filmmaking.

Exec joined Warners as an intern during grad school. He was elevated to VP of production in 2002 and promoted to his current post last year.