



BBCWW takes Mighty stake



20 mins ago by [Manori Ravindran](#)



BBC Worldwide is supporting the launch of a UK indie titled Mighty Productions, helmed by former CPL Productions exec Lynn Sutcliffe (pictured, right) and format creator Hugh Rycroft (left).

The commercial arm of the UK pubcaster has taken a 25% stake in the company, which aims to develop formats for global broadcasters. BBC Worldwide will also have global distribution rights to all Mighty Productions output over a five-year window.

In the venture, Sutcliffe will serve as MD while Rycroft is to be creative director. The pair has collaborated on such projects as ITV quiz format *Tipping Point*, which they worked on during Sutcliffe's former position as head of development at RDF Television. The company is currently developing a number of projects, include daytime quiz formats and shiny-floor programs.

Prior to launching the indie, Sutcliffe served as director of development at CPL Productions, where her credits include the 25-part series *Decimate* (BBC1), *Married at First Sight* (C4), *The Day the Cash Came* (BBC1) and *Who Repairs Wins* (UKTV). The exec began her TV career at the BBC where she worked on the development team for such programs as *The Weakest Link*, *Friends Like These*, *Dog Eat Dog* and *Strictly Come Dancing*. Prior to CPL, Sutcliffe worked at RDF Television where she developed and oversaw shows including *Don't Forget the Lyrics* (Sky), *The Truth About Size Zero* (ITV), *How The Other Half Live* (C4) and *Sing If You Can* (ITV).

Meanwhile, Rycroft got his start writing radio comedy, and later entered TV format creation. His credits include *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* (BBC2), *The Sack Race* (BBC2/CBS), and celebrity quiz show *School's Out* (BBC1). In 2012, he created *Tipping Point* with RDF Television and his latest daytime show *Decimate* (CPL for BBC1) launched this past April.

“We will strive to make programs that we are genuinely proud of,” said Sutcliffe in a statement. “Regardless of the genre, we want to make innovative TV that has a heart. Mighty will be a harmonious and creative environment where the whole team is respected and listened to. We will never forget that our runner has much more chance of ending up as director general of the BBC than either of us.”

Tracy Forsyth, BBC Worldwide's genre director of factual entertainment and entertainment, added: “Lynn and Hugh have a fantastic track record in creating clever, catchy ideas that appeal to a wonderfully broad audience. This, along with their expertise in delivering shows from quizzes to shiny floor to fact ent formats, means we are very excited to be working with them.”

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