



PRESS RELEASE

WARC to join Cannes Lions' new digital offering, The Work

Digital subscription business WARC brings expert guidance and insight on marketing effectiveness

15 June 2018 – Cannes Lions today announces that WARC, the global authority on advertising and media effectiveness, will become a part of its digital offering following its acquisition by Ascential.

Cannes Lions customers will now be able to unlock even richer analysis and benchmarking for their marketing campaigns, from conception to analysis. WARC brings expert guidance and insight on marketing effectiveness to Cannes Lions. In time WARC will come together with Cannes Lions' The Work to form a digital product that spans creative excellence and marketing effectiveness.

Launched in May this year by Cannes Lions, The Work is a unique digital platform that enables businesses to access over 200,000 pieces of Cannes Lions-winning creative work, allowing customers to intelligently access the world's greatest examples of creativity, as well as the data and insights surrounding it.

WARC, a long-time partner of Cannes Lions, is a global digital subscription service offering advertising best practice, evidence and insights from the world's leading brands. The core focus of the business is for brands, agencies and media platforms to understand, measure and maximise advertising effectiveness across all channels. They do this primarily via:

- 14,000+ Advertising, marketing and PR effectiveness case studies
- 22,000+ thought leadership, research papers and best practice reports
- Event reports highlighting key marketing trends from 60+ events worldwide
- WARC Plus which provides a bespoke Q&A service, primarily for brands
- WARC Data providing global advertising data, trend reports and benchmarks
- Gunn Report's rankings of creativity, effectiveness and media excellence in advertising

Cannes Lions plans to leverage more insights with other Ascential proprietary data in areas such as e-commerce to offer brands an even richer, holistic view of performance. This will provide measurement and effectiveness insights that are critical to help Cannes Lions customers – whether brand, agency or media owner – thrive in the next phase of the digital economy.

Philip Thomas, CEO of Ascential Events and Chairman-elect, Cannes Lions, said, “Cannes Lions is the benchmark of global creative excellence, which puts us in a powerful position to offer insights and tools that will help our customers win in the digital economy. With WARC sitting alongside Cannes Lions’ The Work, we can now provide measurement and effectiveness insights alongside the best creative thinking in the world.”

Mike Waterson, Chairman of WARC added: “By combining evidence, examples and expert guidance, WARC has grown into a must-have service for agencies, brands and media owners around the world. Joining Ascential and aligning with The Work mean we will be able to offer our clients an unparalleled resource covering all aspects of creative and effective campaigns.”

ENDS

Notes to editors

About Cannes Lions

Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity The International Festival of Creativity, also known as Cannes Lions, is the world’s leading celebration of creativity in communications and encompasses Lions Health, Lions Innovation and Lions Entertainment. Founded in 1954, the Festival takes place every June in Cannes, France. As the most prestigious international annual advertising and communications awards, entries from all over the world are showcased and judged at the Festival.

The five-day Festival is the only truly global meeting place for professionals working in advertising and communications. Attendees from nearly 100 countries come to experience five days of workshops, exhibitions, screenings, master classes and high-profile seminars presented by renowned worldwide industry leaders.

Winning companies receive the highly coveted Lion trophy, a global benchmark of creative excellence, for Brand Experience & Activation, Creative Data, Creative Effectiveness, Creative eCommerce, Design, Digital Craft, Direct, Film, Film Craft, Glass: The Lion for Change, Health & Wellness, Industry Craft, Innovation, Entertainment, Media, Mobile, Music, Outdoor, Pharma, PR, Print & Publishing, Product Design, Radio, Social & Influencer, Sustainable Development Goals, Titanium Lions.

www.canneslions.com

About Ascential plc

Ascential is a specialist, global, information company that helps the world's most ambitious businesses win in the digital economy. Our information, insights, connections, data and digital tools solve customer problems in three disciplines:

- PRODUCT DESIGN via global trend forecasting service WGSN;
- MARKETING via global benchmark for creative excellence and effectiveness Cannes Lions and strategic advisory firm MediaLink; and
- SALES via retail and eCommerce strategy and analytics products from One Click Retail, Clavis Insight and Planet Retail RNG, the world's premier payments and Fin Tech congress Money20/20, global retail industry summit World Retail Congress and Retail Week.

Ascential also powers political, construction and environmental intelligence brands DeHavilland, Glenigan and Groundsure.

www.ascential.com

About WARC:

WARC is an online, subscription service offering advertising best practice, evidence and insights from the world's leading brands. The core focus of the business is in helping brands, agencies and media platforms to understand, measure and maximise advertising effectiveness across all channels.

Founded in 1998, WARC's core product is a content-rich online platform focused on media and advertising effectiveness which contains a large number of case studies; thought leadership and best practice reports; benchmarks and rankings of advertising and media performance including the Gunn Report (the

leading global ranking for creative effectiveness for campaigns, brands and agencies); and WARC Plus which provides a bespoke Q&A service, primarily targeting Brands.

www.warc.com