

## **DreamWorks Animation Releases usdat File Format to the Open Source Community**

Glendale, Calif. – October 4, 2019– DreamWorks Animation, A Comcast Company (NASDAQ: CMCSA) today announced the open source release of a new file format (usdat) that enables layer templating in USD, the open source Universal Scene Description project. This adds power to USD by enabling layer re-use with different string values (such as asset instance name) within a common layer. By adding support for templating functionality at the USD layer level, USD shots and assets become simpler to create, easier to maintain, and more flexible to use across a USD-backed pipeline.

Alan Blevins, Senior Software Engineer and developer of usdat, said, "The ability to create file format plugins like usdat is further testament to the power and flexibility of USD. usdat has allowed us to simplify our pipeline and create unique asset instances within USD scenes from a common USD layer, without requiring overrides or other compositional changes. As a result, our USD scenes are more robust against changes over time and require less specialized knowledge within the pipeline to maintain."

"The adoption of USD provided a significant benefit to our pipeline," said Andrew Pearce, VP of Global Technology at DreamWorks, "and as an active participant in the open source community, DreamWorks is proud to contribute back further extensions that aided our integration".

DreamWorks began development of usdat in 2018 and it is in active use. The code is available at [https://github.com/dreamworksanimation/dwa\\_usd\\_plugins](https://github.com/dreamworksanimation/dwa_usd_plugins) and has been released under the Apache License, Version 2.0.

DreamWorks Animation is committed to a vibrant Open Source community and is a Founding Member of the Academy Software Foundation ([aswf.io](http://aswf.io)). USD is available at <https://github.com/PixarAnimationStudios/USD>

### **About DreamWorks Animation**

DreamWorks Animation (DWA), a division of the Universal Filmed Entertainment Group, within NBCUniversal, a subsidiary of Comcast Corporation, is a global family entertainment company with feature film and television brands. The company's deep portfolio of intellectual property is supported by a robust, worldwide consumer products practice, which includes licensing, and location-based entertainment venues around the world. DWA's feature film heritage includes many of the world's most beloved characters and franchises, including *Shrek*, *Madagascar*, *Kung Fu Panda*, *How to Train Your Dragon*, *Trolls* and *The Boss Baby*, and have amassed more than \$15 billion in global box office receipts. DreamWorks Animation's television business has quickly become one of the world's leading producers of high-quality, animated family programming, reaching consumers in more than 190 countries. Creating a diverse array of original content in a variety of formats and delivering deep, fully immersive worlds served up with compelling characters, the prolific studio has garnered 25 Emmy<sup>®</sup> Awards since inception in 2013.