COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS EXTENDED

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WE “R” NAUGHT TO WORRY
In June, Hollywood’s major production companies and key unions agreed to REVISE and extend Covid safety protocols for TV and film production until September 30th.

The revision essentially revolves around Covid trigger numbers that decide if stricter or less stricter protocols are to be followed. It also alters the types of testing allowed for cast and crew based on what protocols you end up using.
COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS REVISED AND EXTENDED

IF the covid transmission rate (aka “r-naught”) is above 1.1 for a 7 consecutive day period and the new case count is at or above 10 per 100,000 for that same period, STRICTER PROTOCOLS go into effect.

IF the confirmed transmission rate (“r naught”) falls below 1.1 for 7 consecutive days and the number of daily new cases falls below 10 for that same 7-day period, LESS STRICT PROTOCOLS go into effect.

In a LESS STRICT protocol, cast and crew can use OTC antigen tests to satisfy testing requirements in some cases.

Official Covid “R-Naught” numbers site (add zip code:)  https://www.covidactnow.org
Adobe announced a deal to acquire Frame.io, a cloud-based video collaboration platform, in a transaction worth $1.275 billion.

Adobe said the deal is expected to close during the fourth quarter of its 2021 fiscal year (which ends in late November), subject to regulatory approval and other closing conditions.

According to Frame.io CEO Emery Wells, "We will continue our commitment to invest in other partner integrations including Final Cut Pro, DaVinci Resolve, and AVID Media Composer."

Apple rushed out and bought the remaining 26 Frame.io competitors, just in case.
WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!
PRODUCERS
OF THE WORLD
UNITE!
AGAIN!
A group of over 100 feature film producers have announced their intention to form a labor union. The group is led by producer Rebecca Green ("It Follows"), who says the time is right for this move.

She notes that survey data revealed that 25% of US producers earned less than $2,500 from producing work in 2020. The goal of the Producers Union would be to bargain collectively with studios, networks and streamers.

This would not be the first organizing attempt by producers. In 1974, the California Court of Appeals declared that the Producers Guild of America could not be recognized as a labor union because its leaders were also the owners of the production companies with which the PGA was negotiating.
Film Producers Announce Intention To Unionize—Again

The Producers Union is employing a number of strategies to avoid the fate of the PGA. The group will be organizing as a supervisory union. Supervisors are permitted to organize and bargain, even though they are not subject to certification by the NLRB. It will focus initially on feature film producers to the exclusion of documentary and television producers.

The Producers Union is also looking for members principally from the ranks of producers for independent studios rather than from the majors. Producers employed by the majors are more in the business of financing and distribution and are easier to classify as management.

For a very enlightening survey on producing: https://www.producersunion.org/
WE’RE MAD AS HELL!
FROM THE MOVIE “NETWORK”
Top Cinematographers Call on Producers to Address Brutally Long Workdays in Contract Talks with IATSE

Fourteen of Hollywood’s top cinematographers – including Oscar winners John Toll, Roger Deakins, Emmanuel Lubezki and Erik Messerschmidt – have signed a letter urging the member companies of the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers to finally address “the hazards of unsafe working hours” that have been common in the film and TV industry for decades.

“We are Local 600 Directors of Photography who are writing to express our ongoing concern about the hazards of unsafe working hours, a practice that continues despite all the medical and indisputable evidence of the harm caused by fatigue,” their letter says.
TOP CINEMATOGRAPHERS CALL ON PRODUCERS TO ADDRESS BRUTALLY LONG WORKDAYS IN CONTRACT TALKS WITH IATSE

To that end, the locals are demanding:

A real and meaningful rest period between leaving and returning from work regardless of the craft or production.

A weekend rest period that allows for actual rest and time to spend with family and friends.

Effective penalties that truly discourage the systematic elimination of meal breaks and working straight into the weekends.
HIGH PRODUCTION VALUE
MOVING THE UAE TO THE UK AMBER LIST