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Stallone, Goodman, Dawson Join Animated *Ratchet* Voice Cast

By Rebecca Ford

Sylvester Stallone, John Goodman, Paul Giamatti, Bella Thorne and Rosario Dawson are leading the voice cast of *Ratchet & Clank*, a CG-animated feature film based on the popular PlayStation video-game franchise. Focus Features has nabbed U.S. rights and has scheduled an April 29, 2016, release.

Voice talent from the games, including **James Arnold Taylor** as Ratchet, **David Kaye** as Clank, **Armin Shimerman** as Nefarious and **Jim Ward** as Captain Qwark, will reprise their roles in the film. The original video game was released in 2002 on PlayStation 2. There are now more than a dozen games in the series.

The film follows the two heroes (a foolhardy, catlike "lom-bax" and a pint-size robot) as they struggle to stop evil alien Chairman Drek from destroying the Solana Galaxy.



Ratchet & Clank is directed by **Kevin Munroe** and co-directed by **Jericca Cleland**. Munroe contributed to writing the script, with an original draft by former Insomniac Games writer **T.J. Fixman**.

The feature, which already has been sold in more than 25 territories by Cinema Management Group, will screen for international distributors in Cannes.

The project is produced by Blockade CEO **Brad Foxhoven** and vp development

David Wohl and Rainmaker's **Kim Dent Wilder**. **Michael Hefferon** is executive producing. Co-financing was arranged by **David Sheldon's** Film Financial Services (which also will handle marketing) and includes Rainmaker as lead investor, along with China's CNHK (backed by **Wang Sicong's** Prometheus Capital) and Cinema Management Group.