

CARTOON NETWORK

Ani confab aims to boost Euro prod'n

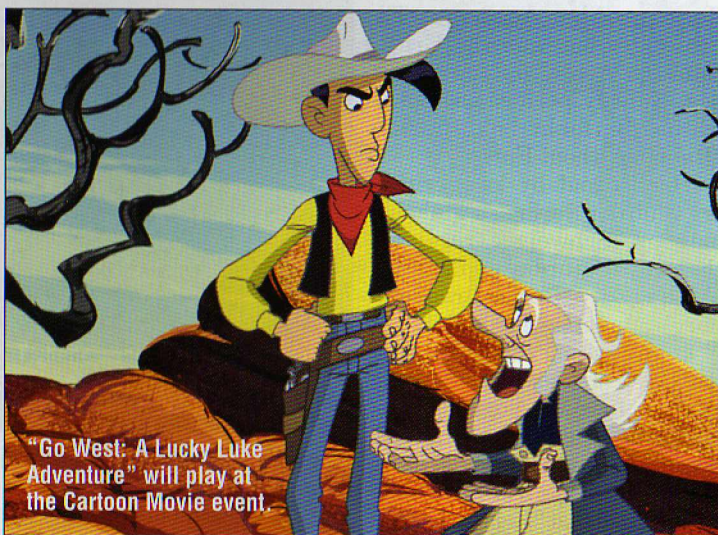
By ED MEZA

The Cartoon Movie animation confab is gearing up for its 10th anniversary celebration next month when it kicks off with 47 new projects from 16 European countries.

Included in the group are Olivier Jean Marie's "Go West: A Lucky Luke Adventure," which preemmed Sunday in the Berlinale's Generation section.

The event, which runs March 5-7 at the fx.Center in Babelsberg outside Berlin, will showcase finished animated pics, works in progress and projects in development. As an industry forum, the confab is aimed at boosting the production, financing and distribution of European animated films.

Cartoon Movie brings together more than 500 industry professionals — with the lion's share of participants hailing from France, Germany and Spain —



"Go West: A Lucky Luke Adventure" will play at the Cartoon Movie event.

who will have the opportunity to network and view new projects. Created by the European Assn. of Animation Film, Cartoon Movie has become a pillar of the European animation industry.

Of the 47 projects that will be presented at the fx.Center, nine are completed films and 10 are in various stages of production, while the remaining 28 are in initial concept or at the development stage. France is again the most represented country, with a total of 20 projects, followed by Germany with 12.

This year's catalog also includes titles from Spain, with six projects; and Denmark and Belgium with five each. In addition to "Lucky Luke," other finished pics to screen include "Donkey Xote," a Spanish-Italian co-production from Filmbox and Lumiq Studios; "Dragon Hunters," a German-French-Luxembourgian co-production from Trixter Prods., LuxAnimation and Mac Guff Ligne; and "The Three Robbers," from Animation-X, a subsidiary of Berlin-based producers X Filme and Promedium.