

Chris Palmer has been a risk control professional since 1986 and in the entertainment industry since 1992.

He utilizes his unique skill set to review film and television projects, prepare risk assessments, recommend risk control measures, perform onsite safety consultation, develop contingency plans, conduct accident investigations and prepare safety programs globally including in the United States, Canada, U.K., European Union, Australia and New Zealand. He assists clients with safety, regulatory compliance, contingency planning and disaster recovery plans and has extensive experience with hurricane contingency, mitigation and recovery planning. His risk control and risk management skills have been critical in securing coverage for challenging risks and obtaining the best underwriting terms.

He has advised studios, networks and independent producers including STARZ, Netflix, Amazon Studios, Fox, Warner Television, HBO, MGM/United Artists, Disney, Working Title, RHI, Fremantle Media and Viacom Media Networks MTV, VH1, Comedy Central, BET, and CMT.

Chris has advised hundreds of documentaries, film and television productions in more than 40 countries including Australia, South Africa, Brazil, Czech Republic, Namibia, Jordan, Morocco, Iraq, Mexico, Thailand, Slovak Republic, Bulgaria and the United Kingdom. He has experience with and working knowledge of global safety program requirements in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, United Kingdom and the EU countries.

Notable scripted film and television productions include *Greenland* (feature currently in production), *Aeronauts* (late 2019 release), *Hightown*, *Wild N Out*, *Power*, *P-Valley*, *The Outsider* (late 2019 air date), *The Deputy* (late 2019), *Living the Dream*, *Olympus Has Fallen*, *The Hurricane Heist*, *Law and Order*, *Stranded with a Million Dollars*, *Wake*, *Tree of Life*, *The Mechanic*, *Tekken*, *Law and Order SVU*, *X Men*, *Sahara*, *O Brother Where Art Thou*, *Flyboys*, *Windtalkers*, *Hart's War*, *The Legend of Bagger Vance*, *The Thin Red Line*, *White Squall*, *Traffic*, *The World Is Not Enough* (007), *Tomorrow Never Dies* (007), *The Sopranos*, *Deadwood*, and *Six Feet Under*.

He advised numerous reality television series and awards shows including *Scared Famous*, *Stranded With A Million \$.*, *Outsiders*, *Bigfoot \$10 Million Bounty*, *BET Awards*, *BET Honors*, *VH1 Super Bowl Blitz 2014*, *MTV Video Music Awards*, *BET Awards*, *Fear Factor* (seasons 1-3), *Rob Dyrdek's Fantasy Factory*, *Kids Choice Awards*, *MTV Movie Awards 2009-2011*, *MTV Music Awards*, and *Spike Scream Awards* – all with exemplary safety records.

He has developed, implemented and supervised production hurricane contingency, evacuation and recovery operations for productions in Mexico, Fiji, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida.

Chris successfully advised clients operating in high-threat environments including Lebanon, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Columbia, Brazil, South Africa and Iraq. He has taught risk management seminars at the Directors Guild of America, American Film Institute and UCLA Film School. He has been a featured speaker at many industry events including International Film Finance Summit, RIMS Entertainment section and the Mexican American Chamber of Commerce.

He has been featured in dozens of articles for publications including *Slate*, *Variety*, *Hollywood Reporter*, *New York Times*, *Daily Telegraph (UK)*, *Chicago Tribune*, and the *Los Angeles Business Journal*. He has also been a guest on ABC Nightline and National Public Radio.

Georgia-based company qualifies as local spend for the Georgia production tax credit.

To learn more about consulting services, contact Chris at +1 678 775 8460 or by email at [filmsafety@live.com](mailto:filmsafety@live.com)

#### EXPERIENCE:

**7/2011 – present      *Entertainment Risk Consultant***  
**Entertainment Risk Consulting LLC/Safety Evaluations of America LLC**  
Atlanta, Georgia

- Provides production safety consulting for film and television production. Notable projects include *Thunder Force* (2020 Netflix release), *Greenland* (2020 release), *The Aeronauts*, *Greenland*, *The Outsider*, *The Deputy*, *Wild and Out*, *Power*, *Sweet/Bitter*, *Vida*, *Hightown*, *Stranded With a Million Dollars (Fiji)*, *Hurricane Heist*, *VH1 Super Bowl Blitz*, *Scared Famous*, *BET Honors*, *Black Girls Rock*, *BET Awards*, *Mechanic Resurrection*, *Olympus Has Fallen*, *HALO Awards*, *Bigfoot Bounty*, and *Kids Choice Awards*.
- Provides risk consulting including safety program development, risk assessment, onsite production safety and loss analysis.
- Created new production safety Injury & Illness Prevention Program, risk assessment and safety protocols for STARZ Original Productions.
- Provides safety and risk management consulting for Amazon Studios.
- Provides safety consulting to STARZ for original programming.
- Provides safety consulting for Viacom Media Networks on reality and other television projects.
- Provided onsite consulting preproduction through completion of a challenging survival series on a remote island in Fiji. The project included development of comprehensive contingency plans for medical evacuation, severe weather and tsunami. Oversaw contingency response including advice during two hurricanes and record flooding, minimizing disruption, speeding resumption of operations and without injury.
- Provided onsite safety and risk management consulting for a major feature film the U.K. that included the creation and flight of a period gas balloon, multiple aerial stunts and principal actor flights.
- Provided risk assessment, contingency plan development and onsite consultation for major feature films in Europe, United States and television productions in the Asia/Pacific region and throughout the United States.

**4/2007 – 6/2011      *Director of Risk Services***  
**C.M. Meiers/CMM Entertainment**  
Woodland Hills, California

- Provided risk control consultation on film and television productions in many countries worldwide including the development of contingency plans for natural disasters, security threats, medical evacuation and political instability.
- Prepared client and underwriting risk control reports and provided ongoing service to large commercial accounts for all lines with emphasis on property, auto and workers compensation.
- Negotiated specialized coverage including political risk, trade credit, kidnap/ransom, extortion, and weather for clients in both the entertainment and traditional commercial arena.
- Prepared underwriting risk control surveys that were instrumental in the placement of coverage on several large prospect accounts that had significantly adverse loss experience with their previous broker.
- Created the World Risk Guide™, a pocket guide that provides risk measurement of crime, terrorism, kidnapping, disease risk and quality of medical care for every country in the world.
- Created the Green Risk Guide, which examines potential positive and negative risk management impact of implementing green/sustainable initiatives. The Guide was part of an overall green risk program developed for clients of CMM.
- Developed, managed and provided services for a lucrative risk consulting contract with MTV Networks providing risk management and safety consultation for many productions including *Fantasy Factory*, *Silent Library*, *Video Music Awards*, *Movie Awards*, and *Scream Awards* each with exemplary loss experience.

Consulting

Risk Control

Risk Management

Contingency Planning

- Advised film and television productions shooting in Africa, North America, South America, Asia and Europe.
- Created an innovative travel accident insurance program for entertainment industry employees providing individual benefits on par with those of multinational corporations.
- Developed new business opportunities in the areas of workers compensation, political risk, trade credit and kidnap/ransom.
- Produced and assisted in the production of accounts with combined revenue in excess of \$1 million.

**10/1995 – 4/2007      Director of Risk Control, Producer**  
**Aon/Albert G. Ruben Insurance Services, inc.**  
 Los Angeles, California

- Produced the Fremantle Media North America and Fremantle Latin America accounts. Redesigned client risk management procedures, developed new insurance program and implemented new safety program and risk control procedures to reduce frequency and severity of claims. Saved FMNA over \$500,000 in premium cost in the first three months. Productions included *American Idol*, *American Inventor*, *America's Got Talent*, *Price is Right*, and *Family Feud*. Annual account income in excess of \$400k per year.
- Assisted with the production and retention of accounts with agency revenue in excess of \$10 million.
- Responsible for risk control and production safety services for broad-based industry clientele including major studios, independent film producers, television, commercial and music video production. Major clients include: Warner Brothers, Walt Disney Company, Fox, Lucasfilm, Universal, Coca Cola, General Motors and Philip Morris.
- Managed and provided risk control process including risk analysis, gathering underwriting information and client advocacy through the underwriting process for complex and high risk production locations and activities.
- Responsible for risk control services for clients of Ruben offices in Los Angeles, New York, Toronto and the United Kingdom. Services included risk control consultation, client and underwriting risk control consulting and reports for all lines including property, liability, workers compensation, production package, commercial auto and aviation.
- Provided property and workers compensation risk control service to Lucasfilm for more than twelve years – an account with property limits in excess of \$2 billion and payroll in excess of \$10 million – achieving excellent loss results.
- Developed and maintained strong working relationships with client risk management, production, safety and legal departments.
- Managed the MGM/United Artists production and corporate safety program under contract. Major films during this time included *Tomorrow Never Dies*, *The World Is Not Enough*, *Hart's War*, *Windtalkers*.
- On-set safety and risk management consultant for *Fear Factor*, seasons one through three, with no accidents, injuries or insurance claims during that time.
- Provided on-set safety and risk control consultation for hundreds of film, television, commercial and music video productions around the world. See Professional Profile for additional credits.
- Assisted foreign productions with the development and implementation of medical and security evacuation plans, security planning and counter-terrorism. Advised productions in many high-threat environments including Turkey, Morocco, Malaysia, Columbia, and Sri Lanka.
- Creator of the ***Risks in Global Filmmaking Map*** – which measures key risk elements in every country around the world. As part of the media reporting of the map, quoted in articles in more than 60 national and international publications including *Hollywood Reporter*, *Business Insurance*, *Risk Management*, *Sunday Telegraph*, and the *Los Angeles Business Journal*.
- Created comprehensive Injury and Illness Prevention Programs for client use in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and Mexico. Assisted clients in regulatory compliance in diverse jurisdictions. This included IIPP implementation, liaison with regulatory agencies and participation in accident investigations.
- Composed and implemented corporate safety, emergency response and disaster recovery plans for Aon/Albert G. Ruben and for many clients. Created and managed the Ruben emergency response plan which created and trained emergency response teams in first aid, urban rescue, and evacuation techniques.
- Worked with industry colleagues as a member of the AMPTP Industry-wide Labor Management Safety Committee to develop safety bulletins, address regulatory issues affecting the industry, and development of the safety passport program.

- Taught production safety and risk management seminars at the American Film Institute, UCLA Film School, Directors Guild of America, and the Risk Insurance Management Society.

**03/94-10/95      *Loss Control Account Manager***

**CNA Entertainment Division – home office**  
Universal City, California

- Responsible for client and underwriting loss control services in a global entertainment insurance carrier with MGA offices in Los Angeles, New York and Toronto. Major clients included Walt Disney Company, Lucasfilm, Warner Brothers, Universal Studios and Spelling Entertainment.
- Worked with clients to achieve substantial improvement in loss experience.
- Prepared loss control reports and conducted loss analysis for underwriting.
- Built and maintained strong working relationships with clients and brokers contributing to the company's business retention rate in excess of 95%.
- Participated in prospect presentations with 100% new client retention.
- Developed new loss control and underwriting procedures for the Entertainment Division.
- Participated in account marketing presentations to excess and facultative re-insurers – resulting in significant premium cost savings to the client.
- Completed State of California Motion Picture Fire Safety Officer training.
- Completed company training certifications in: Property Loss Control, Casualty Loss Control, and Loss Control Management each with scores of 98 to 100%. Received two merit promotions in first twelve months.
- Hired by CNA's largest broker – Aon Albert G. Ruben - to serve their major accounts.

**06/92-03/94      *Senior Loss Control Representative***

**Golden Eagle Insurance Company**  
Los Angeles, California

- Responsible for major commercial and entertainment accounts including Mole Richardson, Mathews Studio Equipment and several major production payroll services.
- Developed comprehensive loss control program for a major payroll service client resulting in 60% reduction in workers compensation losses within one year.
- Provided on-set consultation for entertainment payroll service client productions.
- Developed and maintained strong working relationships with clients and agents contributing to greater than 95% account retention rate.

**01/90-06/92      *Southwest U.S. Manager***

**RRI, inc. division of AIG Consultants**  
Los Angeles, California

- Managed southwestern United States region supervising thirty safety professionals providing underwriting and client loss control consulting services.
- Personally serviced large commercial and entertainment industry accounts including recording studios, concerts, theatrical production, television production, and production services. Provided loss control consultation on many major concert tours including Pink Floyd and Bruce Springsteen. Provided ongoing loss control service to Specator Management Group (SMG) – the world's largest manager of venues.
- Increased consulting revenue by more than 200% in the first nine months.
- Built a strong client base by providing responsive, professional advisory services in a cost-effective manner.

**1988-1989** *Loss Control Representative/Interim SE U.S. Manager*  
**RRI, inc**  
Atlanta, Georgia

- Established new regional office together with region manager.
- Participated in marketing of loss control services to insurance carriers and general industry.
- Provided loss control services for all lines including Property, Liability, Workers Compensation, Commercial Fleet, Jewelers Block and Products Liability.
- Provided comprehensive pre-underwriting risk control surveys for a nationwide underwriter of public and private school systems, allowing the carrier to write over 60% of all accounts quoted.
- Helped build sales in the first year to more than \$2 million.
- Provided loss control services to a wide variety of accounts including the Atlanta Falcons and the University of Georgia Athletic Department.
- Managed regional office for two quarters during manager's disability before being promoted to southwest U.S. region manager.

**1986-1988** *Loss Control Representative*  
**SIS, inc.**  
Atlanta, Georgia

- Provided underwriting loss control services for multi-line insurers.
- Completed comprehensive training in all lines – Property, Liability, Workers Compensation, Commercial Auto and Products/Completed Ops Liability
- Conducted catastrophe assessment of damage from Hurricane Hugo for several insurers.

**Education**

Kennesaw State University

Bachelor of Science, Business Administration – Economics and Finance, 1984.

- Degree focus in International and Production Economics, Corporate Finance
- Extensive additional coursework in Business Law, Psychology, Literature and History.

Additional Education:

- FEMA/US Department of Justice *Emergency Response to Terrorism*
- OSHA 30 Hour General Industry Certification Course, University of South Florida
- OSHA – Fall Protection Competent Person Certification
- Don Hewitt (producer of CBS “60 Minutes”) - *Crisis Media Relations/Spokesperson Training*
- California Motion Picture Fire Safety Officer certification course
- Disaster Recovery Seminars – 1994, 1996, 1999, 2003, 2005, 2009
- Operational Recovery and the Restoration Process
- CNA Training Loss Control Certificates – Workers Compensation Loss Control, Property Loss Control, Loss Control Management
- Violence in the Workplace
- Business Interruption Impact Analysis
- The New Face of Terrorism
- Crowd Management Strategies
- Financial Statement Analysis
- California Broker/Agent Pre-Licensing Course
- NRA Range Safety Officer Certification Course
- Community Emergency Response Team certification

## References

Melissa Harper, Senior Vice President	STARZ	424 204 4045
Linda Zechowy, Risk Manager	Amazon Studios	310 270 3549
Chris Velvin, V.P. - Production Safety	Viacom Media Networks	424 280 9674
Gary French, Senior Vice President	ABC Television	213 300 7533
Jennifer Matthews, V.P. Production/Risk Management	HBO	310 382 3237
Bob Jellen, Managing Director	Hub Entertainment	310 562 6900