

SCREENDAILY

IM Global touts Free State Of Jones

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Oscar-winner Matthew McConaughey will star for Gary Ross in the \$65m Civil War drama *The Free State Of Jones* that has got tongues wagging at AFM.

IM Global is co-financing the project with STX Entertainment, the nascent studio from former Adam Sandler producer Robert Simonds backed by TPG and Shanghai-based Hony Capital.



STX will distribute *The Free State Of Jones* in the US. CAA brokered the deal.

Production is set to begin in the first quarter of 2015 with Scott Stuber on board to produce the true story of Newton Knight, a Southern unionist who fled the battlefield and rallied Confederate Army deserters to his so-called Knight Company against the Confederacy.

Knight, who went on to marry the former slave of his grandfather, has been a divisive historical figure.

Some regard him as a principled man who took a stand against a war he did not believe in while in the eyes of others he was an outlaw. Ross wrote the screenplay.