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Countdown News – 18

Handover of stadiums to Euro 2008 SA

Nyon – Euro 2008 SA is now assuming tenancy of the eight stadiums in which the 31 UEFA EURO 2008™ matches will take place. Before the tournament kicks off in 25 days' time, numerous modifications still have to be made and temporary constructions erected, for media, volunteers and guests for example. The venues will also be given an authentic EURO makeover. "The elaborate stadium installations are the last big milestone. Then we'll be ready to go," says Martin Kallen, COO of Euro 2008 SA.

Other key dates between now and the opening match at 18.00 in Basel on 7 June:

- 28 May: Final deadline (midday) for naming of squads for the tournament (UEFA will announce all squads to the media in the afternoon of 28 May)
- 1 June: Opening of media centres in Vienna and Basel and first daily briefing at 11.00
- 2 June: Latest arrival of first teams (teams must move into their base camps at least five days before their first match)
- 3 June: Official opening of International Broadcast Centre (IBC) at the Messe Wien (Vienna)
- 5 June: Announcement of referees for first group matches

Note to media: Please find attached an invitation to stadium visits at all eight venues.

Compulsory registration of fan buses

Nyon – Euro 2008 SA is providing parking for fan buses in all eight host cities. To get a space, however, buses must be registered online via the tournament website, www.euro2008.com. This initiative, which has never before been implemented at a major tournament, means that for every bus registered a parking pass will be issued that guarantees a space near the stadium on matchday. Buses must be registered because of special traffic regulations in place on matchdays that will restrict access to authorised vehicles only. It will not be possible to park buses in the immediate vicinity of the stadiums or in the city centres if they have not been registered in advance. The registration system also makes it possible to split supporters into separate, team-specific car parks. Parking must be requested by 31 May for group matches and no later than two days before the relevant match during the knockout phase.

For further information and to register, visit:

<http://en.euro2008.uefa.com/countries/organisation/transport/busregistration/index.html>

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