

# JOINT PRESS RELEASE

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## **Youth Soccer Club Giants Join in AS Monaco FC Umbrella**

October 8, 2008 -- French club AS Monaco has built upon its current presence in the United States with the Chicago Magic Soccer Club by also forming an alliance with Rush Soccer. AS Monaco President Jerome de Bontin said, "When we first announced our alliance in the states, we stated then that the presence in the U.S. would not be symbolic. We now showcase the deep roots placed in all four corners of America with the addition of Rush Soccer."

This allegiance is groundbreaking for all sides. "AS Monaco continues its commitment to youth with the U16 & U18 academies of the Chicago Magic and Rush Soccer programs," de Bontin said. "We now have presence in the West with Colorado Rush, Midwest with Chicago Magic, South with Texas Rush-AHFC and East with Virginia Rush. I am pleased to offer to the fans of AS Monaco FC, the members of its Academy, its players and its coaching staff, new opportunities to broaden the reach of the Club and their own both culturally and professionally."

Among the many positives of the partnership, an exchange program beginning this winter will feature the best players from all four clubs giving them the chance to train overseas under the watchful eyes of AS Monaco FC coaches. Additionally the program will bring Monaco coaches to the U.S. to conduct training and clinics for American players and coaches.

Tim Schulz, speaking Tuesday from Colorado where he serves as President and CEO of Rush Soccer, was very enthusiastic about the announcement, "It is a win-win for everybody. It enhances our program by providing our top players European experiences unlike anywhere else in the United States."

"We are excited about the growth of this relationship for all of us." said Todd Bailey, Director of the Chicago Magic Boys Program, "Mr. de Bontin is impressed with our club's standards and methods and he was equally impressed by Rush Soccer."

Architect of the AS Monaco USA Youth program, Michael Matkovich, "This gives America's best talent an opportunity to move into the Monaco youth program itself or even the Monaco 1st team," he said. "Partnering with AS Monaco, one of the most popular soccer clubs in Europe, continues to position the Magic and Rush as undisputed destinations for youth soccer players in their regions."



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