

## TV Match Directors announced

The five TV Match Directors for UEFA EURO 2008™ have officially been announced by Alexandre Fourtoy, CEO of UEFA Media Technologies SA. Fourtoy revealed that François-Charles Bideaux, John Watts, Knut Fleischmann, François Lanaud and Jamie Oakford will direct all matches during the final tournament in Austria and Switzerland.



"We are delighted to have been joined by this team of directors, one of the most experienced in the delivery of an international signal. Being able to work together as from now is a key factor of our concept, as they are all starting to get involved in the stadiums they are responsible for and are all working together to define the consistency of the coverage of UEFA EURO 2008™," said Fourtoy.

"We are proud to have such experienced directors on board. They were all chosen according to the criteria laid out by UEFA and guarantee the level of coverage this great tournament deserves. All directors are looking forward to receiving input from our broadcast partners," added Bernard Ross, Head of TV Production.

### François-Charles Bideaux

With over 20 years experience, François-Charles Bideaux is one of the most respected football directors in Europe. He started his career with TF1 in 1984 and has worked extensively at all levels of football. He has been the main director for live football coverage for Canal+ since 1997.



François-Charles has been involved in the coverage of the UEFA Champions League, the UEFA Cup, and three FIFA World Cups (1998, 2002 and 2006). He won the Gold Award at Sportel in Monaco for his work at the FIFA World Cups in 1998 and 2002. His vast experience also includes other sporting highlights such as the Monaco Grand Prix, which he has directed since 2003.

At UEFA EURO 2008™, he will cover all matches in Vienna and Salzburg, which includes two quarter-finals, a semi-final and the Final itself.

Since 2006 he has acted as the HB Ops Consultant TV Match Director, working closely with the Head of TV Production, Bernard Ross, and the UEFA EURO 2008™ Broadcast Partners to define the live multilateral coverage.

### Jamie Oakford

Jamie Oakford has been with ITV Sport since 1986 and has gathered extensive experience at all levels of football.



During his career he has directed the coverage of the UEFA Champions League, the UEFA Cup, including the 2007 UEFA Cup. He will also direct the 2008 UEFA Cup final. Jamie also directed the 2005 FIFA Confederations Cup final and was a host broadcast director of the 2002 and 2006 FIFA World Cups.

At UEFA EURO 2008™, he will direct all of the matches in the St. Jakob-Park in Basel, except for the opening match which will be directed by John Watts. He will also direct all matches at the Letzigrundstadion in Zurich. This includes two quarter-finals and a semi-final.

### John Watts

John Watts is one of the most experienced directors from the United Kingdom. John was involved in the coverage of EURO 96 and UEFA EURO 2004™. He also directed the final of the UEFA Champions League in 2002 and 2003, a UEFA Cup final, five English FA Cup Finals and was host broadcast director for two FIFA World Cups (2002 and 2006). He won a BAFTA in 2003 and is currently working for ITV as their main director.



In addition, he has also had extensive experience in other sports such as Rugby Union, and has covered three IRB Rugby World Cup Final tournaments. John recently directed the quarter-final between France and New Zealand.

At UEFA EURO 2008™, John will direct the opening match which will be played in Basel and then relocate to the International Broadcast Centre in Vienna, where he will act as the Coordinating TV Match Director. In this function, he will be a major part of the HB Operations team which will liaise with the UEFA EURO 2008™ Broadcast Partners regarding their feedback concerning the live coverage of the event.

### François Lanaud

François Lanaud is one of France's best known directors and has been the TF1 director for football programming and live match coverage since 1996. François directed the 2000 and the 2006 UEFA Champions League final, as well as the 2005 and 2007 Super Cup Finals in Monaco. He was also a host broadcast director of the 1998, 2002 and 2006 FIFA World Cups, winning the Golden Camera Award for his work in 1998.



His extensive list of credits includes two Olympic Games and the French Grand Prix, and he is currently involved in the directing team of the IRB Rugby World Cup 2007, where he directed the quarter-finals between England and Australia and between South Africa and Fiji.

### Knut Fleischmann

Knut Fleischmann has become one of the most highly regarded directors of both sports and entertainment shows in Germany.



During his career he has directed the coverage of the UEFA Champions League, the 2004 UEFA European Under-21 Championship, the 2006 FIFA World Cup™, the 2005 FIFA Confederations Cup and the Bundesliga for all the main German TV channels. He also works for the Deutsche Fussball Liga (German Football League) to broadcast the world feed of Bundesliga matches. In addition, he also has extensive experience in other sports such as boxing and ice hockey.

At UEFA EURO 2008™, he will direct all matches played in the Wörthersee Stadion in Klagenfurt and the Stadion Tivoli NEU in Innsbruck.