



# MEDIA INFORMATION

## MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER RETURNS TO FOX SPORTS

### Groundbreaking Eight-Year, Multi-Platform Rights Agreement Spans 2015 – 2022

#### Establishes New SOCCER NIGHT IN AMERICA Prime-Time Franchise, Sundays on FOX Sports 1

**New York** - FOX Sports has reached an [eight-year, multi-platform media rights agreement](#) with Major League Soccer (MLS). The announcement was made by MLS Commissioner Don Garber and Eric Shanks, President, COO and Executive Producer of FOX Sports at a press conference held this afternoon in New York City. MLS returns to FOX Sports after having previously televised the League's games from 2003 to 2011.

The agreement kicks off with the 2015 season and extends through 2022. It establishes an exclusive SOCCER NIGHT IN AMERICA franchise on Sundays in prime time (7:00-9:00 PM ET), with a minimum of 34 regular season games primarily on [FOX Sports 1](#), featuring each U.S.-based club at least once per season. FOX Sports 1 and ESPN divide MLS CUP PLAYOFFS matches (outside of two games televised by Univision), while the MLS CUP and AT&T MLS ALL-STAR GAME alternate each year between the two channels.

"This groundbreaking deal represents a giant leap forward in the exposure for, and the commitment to, soccer in the U.S.," said Shanks. "Not only are we making a significant financial commitment, but we also plan to mobilize FOX's substantial promotional resources to raise awareness and grow the fan base for our nation's premier soccer league and its national teams."

"We are honored to partner with ESPN, FOX and Univision to form the most comprehensive U.S. media rights partnership in the history of soccer in our country," said Commissioner Garber. "The commitment from our television partners in terms of structure, length and magnitude is unprecedented, and these new partnerships are another strong indicator of the League's continued growth and the overall fan interest in our sport."

In addition, FOX Sports 1 splits the English-language U.S. Men's National Team broadcast package of approximately 10 games per year and divides equally the schedule of Women's National Team games with ESPN.

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FOX Sports also obtains:

- An equal split of all U.S. Soccer matches with ESPN.
- Digital rights across all platforms and devices, including its FOX Sports GO mobile app and [FOXSportsGO.com](http://FOXSportsGO.com) for desktops, for the games it televises.
- Digital highlight rights for MLS's out-of-market package via FOX Sports digital platforms.
- Rights for FOX Sports Radio to broadcast MLS matches.
- Opportunity to televise the MLS SuperDraft and other marquee MLS events.

- FOX SPORTS -

### **About FOX Sports**

FOX Sports is the umbrella entity representing 21st Century FOX's wide array of multi-platform US-based sports assets. Built with brands capable of reaching more than 100 million viewers in a single weekend, FOX Sports includes ownership and interests in linear television networks, digital and mobile programming, broadband platforms, multiple web sites, joint-venture businesses and several licensing partnerships. FOX Sports includes the sports television arm of the FOX Broadcasting Company; FOX Sports 1; FOX Sports 2; FOX's 22 regional sports networks, their affiliated regional web sites and FSN national programming; FOX Soccer Plus and FOX Soccer 2Go; FOX Deportes and FOX College Sports. In addition, FOX Sports also encompasses FOX Sports Digital, which includes FOXSports.com on MSN, FOX Sports GO, Whatifsports.com and Yardbarker.com. Also included in the Group are FOX's interests in joint-venture businesses Big Ten Network, BTN 2Go and STATS, LLC, as well as licensing agreements that establish the FOX Sports Radio Network.