

PRESS RELEASE

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FIG / Cirque du Soleil Partnership

THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

Montréal (CAN) - Lausanne (SUI) FIG Office, July 8, 2008: **The Fédération Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) and the Cirque du Soleil are pooling their efforts in an exclusive partnership aimed at helping high level gymnasts, having come to the end of their careers in sport, to forge their way in the workplace. A four year agreement, the FIG / CDS partnership will foster a climate of exchange between the two organisations, which will focus on image and strategy.**

Gymnastics: the cultural basis of human motricity.

Recognised by the governing bodies of the International Olympic Committee, the FIG is the supreme authority on the global management and development of gymnastics through its 7 distinct forms: gymnastics for all, men's artistic, women's artistic, rhythmic, trampoline, aerobic and acrobatic. Founded as early as 1881, it is the oldest international sport federation in the world.

Whether in its ludic or competitive form, gymnastics is a vehicle of the health and well-being the FIG cultivates through its 130 national affiliated federations; world cup championships are staged and extensive educational programmes financed to educate athletes, coaches and judges alike.

Circus, Sun, Excellence

For years, the CDS has operated as a private organisation offering athletes, who find themselves at the end of their competitive careers, exciting employment opportunities in professional entertainment. Both the CDS and the FIG recognise the pre-existing, unique relationship between athletes and their national sport entity, a relationship which earlier allowed these gymnasts to reach the highest level.

The joint objective of the CDS and the FIG is to coordinate efforts geared toward assisting athletes in the decisional process while respecting the rules and ethical principles of sporting competitions with all transparency and bearing in mind that both parties are founded on the pursuit of excellence.

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Photo: Tomasz Rossa Costumes:
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