



Media Information – for immediate release

**READY FOR HIGH LEVEL FREESKI SPORT:
WORLD CLASS RIDERS VIRGINIE FAIVRE, SARAH BURKE,
SIMON DUMONT, JON OLSSON, PK HUNDER AND JOSSI WELLS WILL START
AT THE ORAGE EUROPEAN FREESKI OPEN BY SWATCH 2008 IN LAAX**

LAAX, SUI – February 21, 2008 – The 3rd Orage European Freeski Open by Swatch 2008 will bring together the very best professional and amateur skiers to Crap Sogn Gion Mountain in LAAX Switzerland. Held from March 11th - 15th 2008, the Orage European Freeski Open by Swatch invites 30 of the industry's leading professional skiers and makes available spots for approximately 150 future hopefuls all competing for a shot at the \$60,000 USD top prize. Disciplines in both freestyle formats halfpipe and slopestyle for both men and women make this annual flagship event one of the most exciting to date. In what was a truly groundbreaking event, and a platform that helped unite Europe's boiling freeski scene, the Orage European Freeski Open by Swatch will once again converge upon LAAX this March.

Watch out the "Invited Riders List" which includes top riders coming from all over the world: Virginie Faivre from the hosting country Switzerland, slopestyle winner of the event 2006 and 2007, out of France Loic Collomb-Patton and Aurelien Fournier, from the North of Europe Kalle Leinonen (FIN), Jacob Wester (SWE), Anders Backe (NOR) and Europe's most experienced freeskiier Jon Olsson (SWE), switching to the North American rider confirmations also the Canadians JF Houle, Charles Gagnier and Matthew Hayward will participate in the most important event on European territory this season as well as from the USA the X-Games winners Simon Dumont and Sarah Burke. And finally also last years winners of the men category, the young riders PK Hunder from Norway and Jossi Wells from New Zealand will come to defend their titles succesfully. Not live in park & pipe with brillinat performances, but live on stage at the Riders Palace Club with power: "Turbonegro". The tough members of this Norvegian cultband will rock the crowd on Friday night (March 14, 2008, 21h00).

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