



Press Release

September 23, 2008

Start of the World Chess Championship in three weeks: Save tickets now via advance booking!

The advance booking for the World Chess Championship 2008 between World Champion Viswanathan Anand and Vladimir Kramnik is in full swing. The organizer Universal Event Promotion (UEP) informs that almost half of the overall 5.000 tickets (for the whole event) are sold.

"Some of the twelve matchdays could be sold-out soon. Therefore we advise all interested persons to save their tickets for the favoured days via advance booking", emphasizes Stefan Koth, CEO of UEP and event manager of the World Chess Championship. The same concerns the limited and exclusive VIP tickets, where also 70 per cent are sold.

The tickets are available at the price of 35 Euro per day. The following benefits are included:

- entrance to the playing hall
- entrance to the commentary room with analysis by prominent grandmasters. Together with various guests there will be discussions around chess.

The tickets are available at all ticket agencies in Germany .

You can also buy tickets for the match in advance via BONNTICKET: www.bonnticket.de; tickets@bonnticket.de Tel. +49-(0)-180/5001812.

Tickets for a possible tiebreak on November 02, 2008, will be available after the 12th game.

Exclusive VIP tickets:

Additionally, the organizer Universal Event Promotion offers exclusive VIP tickets at the price of 280 Euro each day. The VIP tickets are strictly limited. The following benefits are included:

- exclusive seats in the playing hall, front row
- entrance to the VIP room incl. catering
- exclusive seats in the commentary room
- official World Championship chess set in limited edition, incl. chessboard and figures (wood) signed by Viswanathan Anand and Vladimir Kramnik

The advance booking of the VIP tickets is only possible at the organizer Universal Event Promotion: CEO Stefan Koth, stefan.koth@uep-worldchess.com.

Official World Chess Championship web site: www.uep-worldchess.com

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Press contact:

Rolf Behovits
Universal Event Promotion
Press Officer World Chess Championship
Tel.: +49-170-2317139
Email: rolf.behovits@uep-worldchess.com

**Company Information Evonik Industries:
- Main Sponsor of the World Chess Championship 2008**

Evonik Industries is the creative industrial group from Germany which operates in three business areas: Chemicals, Energy and Real Estate. Evonik is a global leader in specialty chemicals, an expert in power generation from hard coal and renewable energies, and one of the largest private residential real estate companies in Germany. Evonik's strengths are creativity, specialization, continuous self-renewal, and reliability. Evonik is active in over 100 countries around the world. In its fiscal year 2007 about 43,000 employees generated sales of about €14.4 billion and an operating profit (EBITDA) of more than €2.2 billion.

Press contact Evonik Industries:

Sabrina Herich
Evonik Industries
Tel. +49-201-177-2225
Email: sabrina.herich@evonik.com

**Company Information Gazprom:
- Main Sponsor of the World Chess Championship 2008**

Gazprom is a major gas company in the world, a leader of the global energy market. Gazprom possesses the richest natural gas reserves in the world. Its share of world gas reserves comprises 17% and of Russian – 60%. Gazprom accounts for close to 20% of global and 85% of Russian gas production. Gazprom activity guidelines comprise geological prospecting, production, transportation, processing, storage and sales of natural gas, gas condensate and oil. Gazprom is actively integrating electric power engineering into its business activities. The company is developing the resource base and increasing production, and implements large-scale gas transportation projects aimed to promote reliability of natural gas supplies to traditional consumers and access to new markets.
www.gazprom.com

**FIDE – World Chess Federation
Governing Body of the World Chess Championship 2008**

Founded in Paris, 1924 the World Chess Federation (Federation Internationale des Echecs, known as FIDE from its French acronym) was recognized by the International Olympic Committee as an International Sports Federation in 1999. With 164 member federations, FIDE is among the biggest sports organisations in the world, very proud of over forty official championships for youngsters, men, women and seniors. The World Chess Championship Match between World Champion Viswanathan Anand (India) and Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) will be organized by UEP in full cooperation with FIDE. FIDE is the Governing Body of the competition which will be played fully in accordance with the rules and regulations of the World Chess Federation. www.fide.com