



PRESS RELEASE

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THE EUROPEAN SPORTS SECURITY ASSOCIATION OFFERS TO ASSIST GERMAN INVESTIGATION INTO MATCH-FIXING SCANDAL

Brussels, 20 November 2009—The European Sports Security Association (ESSA), which is an early-warning system to alert sport federations about irregular betting patterns, today offered to support the German investigation into match-fixing allegations that have rocked European football.

“We welcome the actions taken by UEFA and the German authorities to crackdown on match-fixing and are willing to offer our full cooperation and assistance in their ongoing investigation” said Khalid Ali the Secretary General of ESSA. “Our head bookmaker was instrumental in advising the German Football Association in 2005 when the Hoyzer affair broke and we are ready to work hand in hand with the German authorities again to safeguard the integrity of football” said Ali.

ESSA has been concerned about match-fixing ever since the Hoyzer affair (a German football scandal involving a referee called Robert Hoyzer) in 2005. The European licensed online gaming operators were not impacted by the Hoyzer affair because they use the latest technology to ensure that gaming behavior and transactions are recorded and checked for suspicious activities.

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About ESSA

The European Sports Security Association (ESSA) was established in 2005 by the leading online sports book operators in Europe to monitor any irregular betting patterns or possible insider betting from within each sport. To achieve this goal ESSA implemented an early warning system between its members that highlights any suspicious betting activity. The Early Warning System allows ESSA to work with the sports regulators and their disciplinary and legal department, ensuring that when an alert is given the regulator is informed immediately which may prevent the possibility of any game manipulation on a given event. So far, ESSA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with FIFA, UEFA, EPFL, The FA, DFB, ATP, ITF, WTA and has established close relations with the [IOC](#) and many other sports regulators. For more information on ESSA please do the ESSA website <http://www.eu-ssa.org> .