



Union des associations européennes de football



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Italian TV rights awarded to Mediaset

UEFA Champions League free-to-air TV rights 2003-06 go to RTI Mediaset

UEFA today announced that the free-to-air TV rights for the UEFA Champions League seasons 2003-2006, in Italy, have been awarded to RTI Mediaset.

RTI Mediaset will have the first pick of games on a Wednesday, highlights on both Tuesday and Wednesday and the weekly magazine programme. They will also show a Tuesday game involving non-Italian teams.

RTI Mediaset have been a television partner of the UEFA Champions League since the start of the competition in 1992 and are the strongest commercial broadcaster in Italy operating three channels; Italia 1, Rete 4 and Canale 5.

RTI Mediaset's continued commitment to the UEFA Champions League reflects the strength of the UEFA Champions League as a competition and the renewed strength of Italian teams this season resulting in record audiences and an all-Italian club final.

Commenting on the agreement UEFA CEO, Gerhard Aigner, said:

"The renewal of the television rights in Italy with RTI Mediaset is good news for the UEFA Champions League and for the Italian football fan.

"The finalisation of the free-to-air negotiations in Italy means that we have now concluded all the free-to-air television negotiations for the UEFA Champions League rights in the five major markets across Europe.

"We are now a long way down the road to finalising all the remaining television contracts for the UEFA Champions League across Europe and have been very impressed with the continued high level of interest shown by broadcasters in acquiring the rights to the premier club competition in Europe."

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