



## **Acquisition of promising young player Miralem Pjanic**

### **International partnership in Japan**

**Lyon, 6 June 2008**

#### **Acquisition of Miralem Pjanic**

OL Groupe today announced that it has acquired offensive midfielder Miralem Pjanic, a Luxembourg citizen of Bosnian origin.

At 18 years of age, this young player is seen as a potential international football star, and he has just finished an excellent first professional season with Metz.

Watched by the biggest European clubs, Miralem Pjanic has chosen Olympique Lyonnais and has signed a five-year contract.

The amount of the transfer was €7.5 million under French accounting standards and might be increased by incentives worth up to €1.25 million.

Following César Delgado, who arrived during the winter mercato (for €7.25 million), Ederson (€15.2 million) and Hugo Lloris (€8.5 million), Miralem Pjanic now joins OL for the 2008-09 season.

#### **OL Groupe gains more international prestige**

On 5 June 2008, Olympique Lyonnais signed an official partnership agreement with the Japanese club Yokohama Marinos. The agreement came only a few days after a trip to Dubai, during which the professional squad played a match celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Al Shabbab club and where the club is also working on the opening of a football academy in the context of the Lyon-Dubai City project.

The partnership was officialised in the presence of Masaharu Saito, the president of the Yokohama Marinos, Sonny Anderson, OL's ambassador and Matthieu Malkani-Giraud, Head of OL's international activities.

The Yokohama Marinos have ultra-modern facilities in MARINOS Town, which include a training centre dedicated to the teaching of football.

This international partnership and exchange agreement between the two clubs adds even more prestige to OL Groupe abroad and in particular in the Middle East / Asia regions.

#### **OL is the most heavily represented club in the Euro 2008**

With 11 players present in the France, Italy, Czech Republic, Sweden and Switzerland sides, Olympique Lyonnais is sending more players to the Euro 2008 than any other club, followed by Panathinaikos (10 players), Bayern (9), Barcelona, Galatasaray and Werder Bremen (8).



# OL GROUPE

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