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IBL ANNOUNCES ASIAN EXPANSION DEPARTMENT

Portland, OR--The International Basketball league has begun its campaign to expand into several Asian markets including China, Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. The IBL is uniquely able to do this, as the league's northwest cluster has **eight** teams all within a short driving distance of Portland, Oregon. An Asian team that joins the IBL could play all 10 of their away games in one shot—**one flight**—from one hotel even. IBL Commissioner Mikal Duilio—"Having eight teams in one region makes overseas expansion viable, particularly to Asia." The first Asian team to join the IBL, the Shanxi Kylins, will play an 18 game road schedule (see first option below). The IBL expects six Asian teams to join the league for the 2009 season.

The IBL will initially offer a few programs to facilitate Asian expansion**:**

- The first option is to allow teams from Asia to play an away game only season in the United States. The Asian team will compete as an official member of the IBL. The Asian team will play all 18 games in America in roughly 30 days. The trip to America will include an array of activities which will give foreign teams an opportunity to experience American culture beyond the hardwood.
- The second option- The IBL will send select teams on tours to Asia. The IBL has already sent two teams to China in 2007 with positive feedback from Chinese associations on both of those trips.
- The third option- is to organize tryouts in a country for players who are interested in playing basketball in the IBL. Selected foreign players will have the opportunity to improve their game by experiencing a full season of play in America against American IBL teams.

The options listed above are in place to promote and build relationships with Asian teams that with the intention that Asian teams will officially join the IBL (with normal schedules of home and away games).

To facilitate this expansion, the IBL has added a new department**:**

David White has been named Director of Asian Expansion. White lived in Shanghai, China from 2000-2003 while studying Chinese at Shanghai International Studies University. White later helped American Piledriving Equipment Inc. expand into China and was involved in several government projects that included driving the largest piles in the world. White played four years of college basketball. David White—"I have a passion for Chinese language and culture and I am very excited to be a part of the IBL campaign to expand into Asia".

Sadachika Yoshioka, Director of Japanese Relations. Sadachika is currently living in London. He lived in Japan and Canada while working for the world's leading financial institution for more than 17 years, specializing in the areas of global securities services, corporate finance, structured finance and cash management services. Yoshioka has various basketball relationships including contacts with the Japanese Basketball League (JBL). Yoshioka "is excited to see the IBL and the JBL form a relationship in the near future".

Eric Cuadra, Director of Philippines Relations. Eric is the Founder/CEO of SHO-SHOT Athletics basketball footwear & apparel. Cuadra is also involved in senior showcase basketball camps. Cuadra is a major sponsor with Harlem Starz exhibition travel team and X-Over Streetball travel team (NYC). Cuadra has contacts in the Filipino community in Vancouver, British Columbia, Seattle, Portland and Manila Philippines.

The IBL's fourth season tips off in March of 2008. IBL web site- **www.IBLhoopsOnline.com**

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