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Soccer Silicon Valley salutes return of Earthquakes for 2008

July 18, 2007 (San Jose)—Soccer Silicon Valley (SSV), a grassroots group dedicated to bringing Major League Soccer back to the Bay Area, applauds the return of the two-time MLS Cup champion San Jose Earthquakes for the 2008 season.

“We’re elated that we have succeeded in getting our team back,” says Don Gagliardi, SSV’s president. “Lew Wolff deserves a parade for purchasing the team and proposing to build a state-of-the-art soccer stadium in San Jose with no public funding.”

For the past 16 months, SSV has been assisting David Alioto and Ann Rodriguez of Earthquakes Soccer, as well as other members of Wolff’s group, in laying the groundwork for the return of the Earthquakes as an expansion franchise with its records, colors, and trophies intact.

To commemorate this milestone, SSV’s 10-member board—Gagliardi, vice president Jay Hipps, and directors Freddy Adames, David Chamberlain, Lori Hibbett, John Jussen, Carol Vartuli Marin, Colin McCarthy, Mike Turco, and Ned Zuparko—has made deposits on the initial 100 season tickets for the coming season, the team’s first following a two-year hiatus. “We are privileged to have the opportunity to fill the first hundred seats with our families and friends,” says Hipps. “This is a great day for the Bay Area soccer community, and we hope everyone joins us in welcoming back the Quakes.”

About Soccer Silicon Valley: Soccer Silicon Valley is a grassroots organization consisting of soccer fans, soccer players, business leaders, and political leaders that aims to create a permanent home for professional and recreational soccer in the Bay Area. A business trade association, SSV advocates the development and construction of a soccer facility which will permanently house the San Jose Earthquakes and provide playing fields for the use of the entire soccer playing community in the Bay Area and Northern California.

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