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## **NFL EUROPE LEAGUE NAMES TWO NEW HEAD COACHES**

### ***Sims, Former NFL First-Round Draft Choice, and Tomsula Join League's Head Coaching Ranks***

**DARRYL SIMS**, a former NFL first-round draft choice, and **JIM TOMSULA**, one of the most successful coaches in recent NFL Europe League history, were named head coaches of the NFL Europe League's Cologne Centurions and Rhein Fire respectively, the National Football League announced today.

Sims was the 21st overall selection of the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 1985 NFL Draft. He played in 32 games with the club before joining the Cleveland Browns in 1987, finishing his career there in 1991.

Sims succeeds **PETER VAAS**, who left the club to become quarterbacks coach at Notre Dame this season. Sims is the second head coach in Centurions history. He has spent the past six seasons with the Amsterdam Admirals, including the last two as defensive coordinator. In June, Sims helped the Admirals to a championship, as they defeated the Berlin Thunder 27-21 in World Bowl XIII.

"I am very excited about the opportunity to become head coach of the Centurions," he said. "The franchise has made great progress in its first two years and I am looking forward to the challenge of bringing success on the field."

Tomsula, who has spent the last two seasons as defensive coordinator of Berlin, winning a World Bowl ring in 2004, becomes the youngest head coach ever in NFL Europe. At the age of 38, he is the third head coach in Fire history, following **GALEN HALL** and **PETE KUHARCHEK**.

"This is a great opportunity and I can't wait to get started," Tomsula said. "The Fire is one of the flagship teams in the league and to have the chance to coach the club in front of the great fans in Düsseldorf is very exciting."

Tomsula played college football at Catawba College in Salisbury, North Carolina after transferring from Middle Tennessee State. He began his coaching career at Charleston College and Catawba.

Tomsula has played a leading role in the development of young talent in Europe, coaching in the league's National Player Development program.