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# An esports 'London Takeover' is coming soon with billboards across the capital for the ECS CS:GO Season 5 Finals at the SSE Arena Wembley

- FACEIT is targeting new local audiences with its advertising takeover of London
- Ads will be seen on billboards and public transport introducing people to esports
- · They will also be making sure to please the existing ECS CS:GO community

By MATT PORTER FOR MAILONLINE

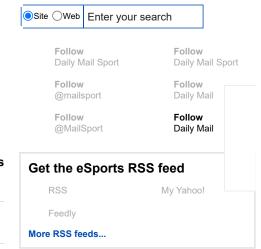
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The ECS Counter-Strike: Global Offensive Season 5 finals are heading back to London, and they'll be held at the SSE Arena Wembley from June 8-10.

Many esports fans already know about the event, and have already bought their ticket to the finals.

FACEIT is looking to open up the world of esports to a whole new audience though, and will be taking over London with advertising on billboards and public transport across the capital.



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FACEIT is planning a 'London Takeover' with advertisements for the ECS Season 5 grand finals

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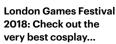
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Mail Esports spoke to Clement Murphy, FACEIT Marketing Manager, about the advertising campaign, and who they're hoping to reach.

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'We're looking at people who maybe know about esports but wouldn't necessarily know about this event, or more general gamers who are curious about this sort of thing. Or maybe someone who is just looking for a good evening out with their mates.'

With the adverts, FACEIT will be making sure they can introduce people who may not know about esports to the idea of it. At the same time, they also want to be giving their existing audience something too.

'We have to show the fun, the passion, the excitement, and what event is all about, and explain it in quite basic terms,' said Murphy. 'But we can't put out out something that's not the right tone for our community. We also want to give a mini thrill to somebody who already knows about this stuff.'



Thousands of tickets are available for the finals at the SSE Arena Wembley, on sale right now

Part of the inspiration for the campaign came from a previous CS:GO event where a player saw his face on the side of a truck and then uploaded a picture of it to Reddit, which blew up in popularity.

 be dragged away from officials at the end of Moreirense draw









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'People who have strong online lives and presences, for them, seeing the thing they love in a traditional mainstream space will have a bigger effect than people are expecting.' said Murphy.

'As anyone who's put on an event like this will tell you, it's difficult to get people to actually come in person rather than sitting and watching at home. It's up to us to really drive home our message not just to our endemic audience, but to a slightly wider one as well.'

Murphy believes there's a greater opportunity to reach a wider audience now more than ever, as awareness around competitive gaming grows.

'Recently Fortnite and PUBG have opened up enormous audiences,' he said. 'The difference between Ninja [popular streamer Tyler Blevins] playing Fortnite and a competitive Counter-Strike event is pretty big, but there's definitely curiosity from

'There's much more awareness about esports now than before, and a lot of people who might be willing to give this stuff a go.'

As for where you'll be seeing the advertising, nothing is set in stone yet, but Murphy says 'it's definitely going to be visible. We've targeted a few very exciting locations.'

The Shoreditch area is an obvious choice. It had the Fnatic Bunkr pop up store for a time, Fnatic's head office is there, and now the Red Bull Gaming Sphere has opened in the area too.

'While there isn't one esports zone in London, that would be the closest there is to it right now,' said Murphy. 'Maybe someone who visits the Red Bull Gaming Sphere will see one of our billboards if it's nearby. We've been looking at places like that, where there's a higher concentration of young people. Areas around universities, and near to the venue, as well as public transport.'

The main goal is of course to get people to attend the ECS Season 5 finals at the SSE Arena. For Season 3, all the allocated tickets were sold, but this time, there's a new stage and seating configuration which means there'll be more tickets available.

There are secondary goals too though, beyond getting the local audience out to watch CS:GO live. If people see the billboards and can't make it to the Season 5 finals, maybe they'll make it to a future one. Or perhaps they'll see the FACEIT branding and recognise it when the FACEIT London Major rolls around in September, and go to that instead.

The advertising campaign is all just a testing ground for what's possible. Murphy said: 'if it proves to have great community feedback and this turns out to be our most attended event ever, maybe we'll look to do it again.'

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