



Wednesday 22 March 2006

Praise for Chancellor as commitment to duty fairness continues

“A move that will be warmly welcomed by distillers and supports the Scotch Whisky industry at home and abroad” was The Scotch Whisky Association’s (SWA) reaction to the Chancellor’s announcement that duty on Scotch Whisky and other spirits would be frozen.

Welcoming today’s announcement, Gavin Hewitt, Chief Executive of the SWA, said:

“The Chancellor will be praised by distillers for taking another welcome step towards delivering a fairer alcohol duty regime in the UK. Today he has again narrowed the duty gap within the alcoholic drinks market, a progressive move supporting our industry’s competitiveness and productivity.

“A fairer alcohol duty regime helps support a key British industry in its home market and sends a message of tax fairness overseas, as distillers look to develop new opportunities in emerging markets such as China and India.”

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Contacts:

Campbell Evans	020 7629 4384 or 07768 002 262
David Williamson	020 7629 4384 or 07730 496 151