

press release

22 September 2005

AHEAD BY A NOSE

William Grant & Sons Ltd Named Distiller of the Year

Independent, family-owned distillers, William Grant & Sons Ltd, were last night named the International Spirits Challenge (ISC) Distiller of the Year. It is the third time that the company has won the coveted award.

The accolade follows the company's exceptional performance in the 2005 ISC where it scooped a record 30 medals across its portfolio of premium spirits brands including golds for Glenfiddich 1991 Vintage Reserve, Glenfiddich Caoran Reserve 12 Year Old, The Balvenie Portwood 21 Year Old Single Malt Scotch Whisky and Grant's 25 Year Old Rare & Extraordinary blended Scotch.

David Stewart, William Grant & Sons' long-serving Malt Master collected the Distiller of the Year trophy on behalf of the company at a dinner held yesterday at Gibson Hall in the City of London.

Simon MacDonald, Managing Director of William Grant & Sons International Ltd said: "We are delighted to be able to add the ISC Distiller of the Year accolade to our growing list of awards. Our Malt Master, David Stewart, has over 43 years' experience and under his guidance our Scotch whiskies and portfolio of premium spirits have gone from strength to strength around the globe. He is now sharing his skills and knowledge with our apprentice Malt Master, Brian Kinsman."

The exceptional result bestowed upon William Grant & Sons Ltd is a tribute to the innovative drive behind the company's brands that has ensured its success worldwide since its creation in 1887.

Although internationally famous for its whiskies, William Grant & Sons recently announced a £1 million investment in Iceland's first distillery to produce a luxury vodka called Reyka. It is the latest in a number of non-whisky spirits brands being developed by the company which also include super premium gin, Hendrick's, which was acclaimed as the world's best gin by the Wall Street Journal and is creating waves in bars in London, Edinburgh, Madrid and New York.

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Registered in Scotland Registered No. 85737 Registered Office: The Glenfiddich Distillery, Dufftown, Banffshire, AB55 4DH, Scotland

In total, William Grant & Sons attained four gold medals, seventeen silver and nine bronze medals at the 2005 International Spirits Challenge.

The complete list of medals awarded to the company is shown below:

SCOTCH WHISKIES

Gold	Glenfiddich Vintage Reserve 1991 Glenfiddich Caoran Reserve 12 Year Old The Balvenie Portwood 21 Year Old Grant's 25 Year Old Rare & Extraordinary
Silver	Glenfiddich Special Reserve 12 Year Old Glenfiddich Solera Reserve 15 Year Old Glenfiddich Ancient Reserve 18 Year Old Glenfiddich Gran Reserva 21 Year Old Glenfiddich 30 Year Old Glenfiddich Rare Collection 40 Year Old Glenfiddich Vintage Reserve 1972 The Balvenie Founder's Reserve 10 Year Old The Balvenie DoubleWood 12 Year Old The Balvenie PortWood 1991 The Balvenie Single Barrel 15 Year Old The Balvenie Thirty The Balvenie Vintage Cask 1971 Grants Rare Old 18 Year Old Girvan 1964 Single Grain Gordon Highlanders Gibson's
Bronze	Grant's Family Reserve Grant's Ale Cask Reserve Grant's Sherry Cask Reserve Clan MacGregor Grant's Premium 12 Year Old Grant's Deluxe 15 Year Old
GIN	
Bronze	Hendrick's
RUM	
Bronze	Wood's 100 Old Navy Sailor Jerry Spiced Rum

Ends

Notes to editors

- The ISC competition is now in its tenth year and is still judged independently by an eminent panel of distillers, restaurateurs, sommeliers, importers and specialist writers from Britain and Europe
- William Grant & Sons is an award-winning independent family-owned distiller founded by William Grant in 1886 and today still controlled by the fifth generation of his family. The Company distils some of the world's leading brands of Scotch whisky, including the world's favourite single malt Glenfiddich,[®] the handcrafted range of The Balvenie[®] single malts and the world's fourth largest blended Scotch Grant's[®], as well as selected other spirits, including Hendrick's[®] Gin, recently voted the 'World's Best Gin' by the Wall Street Journal and most recently Rekya vodka from Iceland's only distillery.
- The Company also owns 30% of Highland Distillers, whose brands include The Macallan and Highland Park Single Malt Scotch Whiskies and The Famous Grouse blended Scotch Whisky.

Click on www.williamgrant.com for more information on the Company and its brands

Further information:

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