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For immediate release



Inver House Achieves Record Wins at International Competition
Balblair and Old Pulteney Shine Gold

Inver House Distillers – the dynamic drinks company distinguished by its reputation for innovation and originality – is celebrating phenomenal wins for its whisky range in the **2007 International Wine & Spirit Competition**, the world's most prestigious, competitive and internationally renowned event for the drinks industry.

As well as a host of additional accolades Inver House's super premium brand, **Balblair** Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky - which was launched earlier in the year - shone with a clutch of awards for its recently released vintages, with both Balblair 1989 and 1979 taking the highest recognition possible, Gold: Best in Class.

In addition, all three of Inver House's flagship brand **Old Pulteney's** expressions received Gold awards, with its 21 Year Old achieving the Gold: Best in Class. Recognition of the single malt's continued exceptional quality is wonderful news for the makers of the 'Genuine Maritime Malt', who have extended their distribution of Old Pulteney's aged releases as well as its focus 12 Year Old to great success, growing its reputation as a whisky connoisseurs' favourite.

The 2007 International Wine & Spirit Competition has enjoyed another record breaking year, attracting more entries than ever before and 38 years on from its launch remains an independent operation, judged by a rigorous, six-month long blind-tasting process by spirit and wine experts. Inver House's carefully crafted portfolio, which includes Old Pulteney Single Malt, anCnoc Single Malt, Speyburn Single Malt, Balblair Single Malt and Hankey Bannister Blended Scotch Whisky totalled 10 awards for the Airdrie-based company.

Of the incredible number of awards presented to Inver House, the **International Wine and Spirit Competition Director, Frances Horder** commented: "We saw a

steady increase in entries from Scotland with over 340 of their finest whiskies from every corner of that lovely country - stunning! The results for Inver House speak for themselves!"

*"We are very proud to have achieved success across our whisky range," said **Karen Walker, Marketing Manager of Inver House Distillers.** "The International Wine & Spirit Competition is the most respected of its kind in the industry and therefore for both Balblair and Old Pulteney to have achieved a number of Gold: Best in Class awards across their expressions is a real recognition of the commitment by Inver House staff - from our Master Blender to the guys at the distillery to produce single malt of exceptional quality.*

Continued Karen Walker, "Balblair is very close to our hearts as we have worked so intensively selecting its vintages and creating its stylish new pictish inspired design before its launch earlier this year, and therefore this recognition means a great deal. For Old Pulteney we are thrilled to hear that both our investment and confidence in our flagship brand are paying off with its quality continually impressing and inspiring the judges."

Awards and trophies will be presented to Inver House at the Awards Banquet on 6th November at historical Old Billingsgate situated on the River Thames, London.

The full range of **2007 International Wine & Spirit Competition** awards for Inver House is:

Old Pulteney 12 year old
Gold

Old Pulteney 17 year old
Gold

Old Pulteney 21 year old
Gold - Best in Class

Balblair Vintage 1997
Silver

Balblair Vintage 1989
Gold - Best in Class

Balblair Vintage 1979
Gold - Best in Class

anCnoc 12 year old
Silver

anCnoc 30 year old
Silver - Best in Class

Speyburn 25 year old
Silver - Best in Class

Hankey Bannister 12 year old
Silver

Inver House Distillers will be showcasing their range of malts and blended whiskies at Vinexpo, Sunday 17th – Thursday 21st June 2007. (Hall 3, Stand 358)

For further information, please contact Victoria Calder of Burt Greener Communications on 0141 248 6007, e: victoria@burtgreener.co.uk

Note to Editors:

INVER HOUSE DISTILLERS

With an enviable standing and refreshingly original approach, Inver House is increasingly recognised as one of the industry's most interesting companies, having developed a diverse, high quality portfolio of brands. With headquarters based near Airdrie, the company has five distilleries – Pulteney, Balblair, Speyburn, Knockdhu and Balmenach – that each produce their own distinctive, individual single malt whisky. Currently sold to 85 countries worldwide, Inver House's products include:

- Old Pulteney – one of the UK's top 15 single malts, this flagship brand is known as 'The Genuine Maritime Malt' and reputed as one of Scotland's finest whiskies. Old Pulteney also supports an exciting programme of sailing and maritime events

- Balblair Single Malt Whisky – premium vintage whisky inspired by its Pictish roots but with a contemporary design and international focus
- anCnoc – boutique malt and key supporter of Scottish arts and creative industries
- Speyburn – value-for-money whisky, which has established itself as the 8th largest selling malt brand in the USA

Inver House also produces a range of blended malts, blends, vodka, gins and liqueurs, such as Scotland's Original Cream Liqueur, Heather Cream.