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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Record Number of Spirit Brand Square Off In The Leading Consumer Tasting Evaluation

Unbiased consumers placed their votes for the Finest Spirits at the 2015 SIP Awards

NEWPORT BEACH, California, June 30TH 2015 – Eighty seven consumer spirit enthusiasts gathered at the waterfront Balboa Bay Resort on May 31, 2015 to participate in the 7th annual consumer based spirits competition. The 2015 SIP Awards comprised of 423 brands from all over the globe competing for rank at the impartial mercy of consumer based blind-tasting.

The 2015 SIP Awards was a battle among the elite in each of the world's most popular Spirit categories. Each chilled, undiluted sample was presented to Judges in NEAT glasses, scientifically engineered to deliver an enhanced consistent tasting experience.

Tequilas, Gins, Rums, Whiskeys, Cognacs, Vodkas and Liqueurs were some of the participating spirits this year, each graded on Aroma, Taste, and Finish. The 2015 top rated brands included:

Platinum - "Best of Class"

Brazos Gin	DECADA Tequila
Rogue Single Malt Vodka	El Tesoro Reposado
Pinnacle Coconut Vodka	El Mayor An <mark>ej</mark> o
Old Hickory Straight Bourbon Whisky	Zignum Mez <mark>ca</mark> l Anejo
Hillrock Solera Aged Bourbon	Ron Ramon Tremols XO
Tatoosh Rye Whisky	Monkey Spiced Rum
Dewar's White Label	Club Caribe Coconut Ru
Dewar's 15 Years Old The Monarch	Feeney's Irish Cream Lic
Craggenmore 12 YO	Tremols Pina Colada
Tim Smith's Climax Moonshine	Powell & Mahoney Pass
Old Paducah Brand - Loaded Lemon Shine	Major Peter's The Works
El Jimador Blanco	<u>Design</u> - Virus Vodka

Jm quor sion Fruit Margarita s Bloody Mary Mix

Platinum Winners

Cotswolds Dry Gin Grand Royal Dry Gin Atomic GIN **Brockmans Gin** SOTO - Junmai Diaginjo Grumpy's Vodka Belle of Dayton Vodka Pyramid Vodka Blue Label Vodka Virus Vodka **Real Russian Vodka** Hanger One Vodka Siku Pinnacle Pineapple Vodka FOU-DRE Vodka 360 Georgia Peach Vodka 360 Huckleberry Vodka 360 Mandrian Orange Vodka Bonn Oir Irish Fire **Colville Bourbon** Jim Beam Bonded Bourbon Spirit of America Jim Beam Signature Craft Quarter Cask Bourbon Jim Beam Harvest Bourbon Collection Brown Rice Bourbon

Jim Beam Harvest Bourbon Collection Soft Red Wheat

Dewar's White Label Scratched Cask

Label 5 Classic Black Blended Scotch Whisky

Buchanan's 18 Year Old Special Reserve

Dewar's 12 Years Old The Ancestor

Label 5 12 Year Old Blended Scotch Whisky

Buchanan's Red Seal

Glenroger's Blended Malt Scotch Whisky 8 Years Old

Laphroaig Select

Cardhu 12 YO

Lagavulin 16 YO

Oban 14 YO

Old Forge Distillery Moonshine, Miller's Blend

Cousin Billy Best Run Moonshine

Jim Beam Kentucky Fire

Old Forge Distillery Moonshine, Coffee

George Jones White Lightning Apple Pie

Old Paducah Brand - Strawberry Shine

Oban Little Bay

Talisker Storm

Grand Royal Signature Whisky

Route 66 Tequila

Malinalli Extra Anejo Zignum Mezcal Reposado AGA-VIE Esprit D'Agave Ron Anejo Tremols Reserva Unica Ron El Toro Tremols Black Roberts Spiced Rum Barracuda Cay Spiced Rum Guajiro Honey Rum Rumhaven Club Caribe Mango Rum E&J Distillers Brandy VS E&J Distillers Brandy VSOP E&J Distillers Brandy XO Breckenridge Bitter

El Mayor Reposado

Herradura Anejo

Agave 99 Anejo

Tarantula 100 Reposado

Hornitos Black Barrel Teguila

O'Donnells

Tremols Prince Edward Rum Cream

Tremols Pina

Lovoka Caramel Liqueur

Powell and Mahoney Peach Bellini

Regatta Ginger Beer

Cicero Beverage Co. Bacon Bloody Mary Mix

Barsmith - Non-GMO Honey Ginger Cocktail Syrup

Purely Syrup Vanilla Bean

<u>Design</u>

DECADA Tequila Monkey Spiced Rum FOU-DRE Vodka Dead Head Rum U'Luvka Vodka Sangre deVida Kah Tequila Series

(For a complete list of the categories, winners, and photos from the event, visit: <u>www.sipawards.com</u>)

Staying true to the commitment to provide the most reliable measure of international beverage quality ratings, every year's Judges are every-day spirit consumers and extensively screened to ensure no affiliation with marketing, wholesalers or distributors tied to the spirits industry.

"People deserve the highest quality spirits at their fingertips. I want to level the playing field by stripping away the hype to provide quality brands a fair platform on which to compete." Says Paul Hashemi, founder of SIP Awards.

Awards include Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Best of Class for each category. The newest award introduced in 2014, is the Consumers' Choice Award, which honors a brand's unwavering commitment to their Legacy, Craft and to the ever important Consumer Palate, by placing in the SIP Awards two or more consecutive years.

The SIP Awards has experienced exponential growth within each of its 15 beverage categories. The increasing number of participating brands reflects SIP's ability to provide spirit makers a valuable, unbiased and exciting opportunity to distinguish themselves in the industry. It has also shined light on the obvious need in the marketplace for its honest arbitration.

About SIP Awards

Catering to the opinions and palates of the discerning public, the SIP Awards present a unique, spirit judging competition, unaffected by industry bias. This pragmatic and refreshing model of evaluation provides an honest stage for feedback and recognition where top brands showcase their achievements. To learn more about the SIP Awards beverage competition, venue partnerships, or for a complete list of 2015 winners, visit <u>www.SIPAwards.com</u>.

