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Plattsburgh Distributing Co., Inc.  
Wholesale Beer and Ale  
217 Sharron Ave., P.O. Box 569, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901 Telephone (518) 561-3800

August 7, 2003

Attn: TTB Notice No .4  
Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division  
Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau  
P0 Box 50221  
Washington, DC 20091-0221

Re: Alcohol Content of Flavored Malt Beverages (FMB)

Dear Sir or Madam:

Plattsburgh Distributing Co, a small wholesaler in upstate New York, supports the proposed rule issued by the Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) that outlines the alcohol content requirements in order for flavored malt beverages (FMB) to be classified as beer. This proposal states that the FMB can be classified as beer, if its alcohol content from distilled alcohol cannot exceed 0.5%.

The history of our nation has included that beer, wine and distilled spirits are unique products that have different qualities and as such must be treated and taxed differently from each other. This has been the policy since shortly after the American Revolutionary War.

If traditional distinctions disappear, then other producers of alcohol beverages will attempt to categorize themselves as beer products over a period of time.

Beer is made through the brewing process. It is not a distilled spirit, It is not a fortified wine It is beer The 0.5% standard will ensure that the integrity of beer remains.

In summation, Plattsburgh Distributing Co encourages the TTB to approve the 0.5% standard on FMB's.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John F. Fisher  
President  
Plattsburgh Distributing Co