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MILLER BREWING COMPANY

NAPPI DISTRIBUTORS

September 4, 2003

Chief, Regulations and Procedures Division Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Procedures Division P 0 Box 50221 Washington, D.C. 20091-0221

Dear Sir or Madam:

A rule has been issued by the Bureau that deals with the requirements for flavored malt beverages to be classified as beer. The rule proposes that flavored malt beverages can be called beer if the alcohol content from distilled alcohol does not exceed 0.5%. This distinction is critical to wholesale beer distributors like Nappi Distributors as we handle a significant amount of flavored malt beverages. Approval of the proposed rule would promote a stable marketplace and avoid disruptions in state licensing, regulation, taxation and distribution.

I strongly urge you to give final approval to the proposed .5% standard on flavored malt beverages.

Sincerely, NAPPI DISTRIBUTORS

James Bourque Vice President

235 Presumpscot Street  $\bullet$  Portland, ME 04103  $\bullet$  (207) 774-6341  $\bullet$  Fax: (207) 879-0870 MILLER BREWING REMINDS YOU TO