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FAUST DISTRIBUTING COMPANY

August 25, 2003

Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau
Chief Regulations and Procedures Division
P.O. Box 50221
Washington, D.C. 20091 0221

Attn: TTB Notice No. 4

Dear Sir or Madam:

Faust Distributing Company supports the proposed rule the Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) issued in March 2003 that outlines the alcohol content requirements in order for favored malt beverages (FMB) to be classified as beer, the '0.5 by volume standard'.

It is important for state and federal regulatory policy to be consistent. This proposed rule would help maintain an orderly marketplace and avoid costly and confusing disruptions in state licensing, taxation and distribution policies, any of which would result in a severe blow to beer wholesalers.

In addition, equating beer and beverages that derive a majority of their alcohol content from distilled spirits could weaken the important distinctions between beer and products with higher alcohol content. These distinctions impact state and federal policies with regard to the regulation and taxation of beer and other alcohol beverages.

In closing, the traditional distinctions need to be preserved. Faust Distributing Company asks that the TTB give final approval to the proposed 0.5% standard on FMBs.

Sincerely,

Jack Law
Vice President/Marketing

JL/lm

10040 I-10 East - Houston, Texas 77029 - (713) 673-5111 - Fax (713) 671-5260
P.O. Box 24728 - Houston, Texas 77229-4728