



**For immediate release**

28 June 2016

## **APTRA AND ITS ALLIES SECURE FAVOURABLE OUTCOME IN INDIAN FOOD STANDARDS DEBATE**

The Asia Pacific Travel Retail Association (APTRA) is delighted to learn that the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has ruled that duty free shops at Indian airports and ports are to be excluded from new regulations regarding food safety standards.

A delegation led by APTRA and the International Spirits & Wines Association of India (ISWAI) met the Chairman of the FSSAI in Delhi in April to discuss the proposed regulations and to explain that duty free should be considered a separate channel and excluded explicitly from the proposed regulations.

In early June instructions were issued by the Chairman of the FSSAI to all their authorised officers and Food Safety Commissioners to the effect that duty free shops are to be exempt from the FSSAI rules and today the change has been implemented officially by customs officers across India.

Today's favourable outcome is the result of a concerted effort for over 2 years by APTRA and other interested parties: key stakeholders in the Indian duty free & travel retail industry, including Bommidala, Delhi Duty Free, DFS, Diageo/United Spirits, Flemingo, GMR Delhi and Pernod Ricard; fellow trade associations ETRC, DFWC, UKTRF; ISWAI; several non-duty free spirits associations; foreign trade delegations; and brand owners who wrote to their national trade delegations.

Jaya Singh, President APTRA, commented: "We welcome the decision of the FSSAI to exclude duty free from the new regulations regarding food safety standards. The combined efforts of stakeholders in the duty free and travel retail industry, together with relevant duty free and liquor trade associations, have secured an extremely significant victory. Differentiating duty free from the domestic market, establishing that it is a separate trading channel operating under specific international rules, sets an important precedent."

For further information about the work of APTRA please consult [www.aptra.asia](http://www.aptra.asia) or contact [info@aptra.asia](mailto:info@aptra.asia)

Ends

### **About APTRA**

APTRA is the trade association for the duty free and travel retail industry in the Asia Pacific region, serving all members and the industry to help grow the business and protect it when challenges arise.

- Through technology-led initiatives, seminars and conferences, APTRA serves to facilitate contact between members;

- Through bespoke training initiatives, APTRA is building the industry's brand as a highly professional, caring and responsible retail channel;
- Through intensive consumer and market research, APTRA provides a solid knowledge bank, bringing valuable, actionable data relevant to all sectors;
- Through regular communication, APTRA seeks to spread awareness and knowledge about the industry and the importance of travel retail for governments, airports, airlines and related businesses;
- Through regional monitoring, and in collaboration with member companies and trade associations in other parts of the world, APTRA is constantly on the alert for new challenges where its advocacy on behalf of the industry is needed with national governments and policy-makers in order to safeguard and grow the business of all concerned.

The geographical area covered by APTRA includes countries in Eastern Asia, South Eastern Asia, South Central Asia and Oceania.

[www.aptra.asia](http://www.aptra.asia)

**For trade information please contact:**

APTRA

Michael Barrett, Executive Officer

Tel: +91 981 888 7842

Email: [michael@aptra.asia](mailto:michael@aptra.asia)

[www.aptra.asia](http://www.aptra.asia)

**For press information please contact::**

Appleton Communications

Kate Teagle

Tel: +44 1784 434 666

Email: [kate@appletoncomms.com](mailto:kate@appletoncomms.com)

[www.appletoncomms.com](http://www.appletoncomms.com)