Consumer Countries/Markets

UK: Drinks industry calls for duty cuts as Brexit looms

The Scotch Whisky Association (SWA) is calling for a 2% spirits excise duty cut to boost the industry, which creates £5bn ($6.3bn) annually for the economy and supports more than 40,000 jobs, many of these in fragile rural areas, and is the largest net contributor to the UK’s balance of trade in goods. The tax remains too high (at 77% of the price of an average bottle of Scotch) and the Scotch whisky industry needs fairer treatment.

The Wine and Spirits Trade Association (WSTA) supports a 2% cut in duty for both spirits and wine.

Beer has benefited from a Government cut in beer tax three times in recent years, with a freeze on duty last year. However, Britain still pays the second highest rate of beer duty in Europe – and more than 13 times as much as Spain or Germany. Beer tax is still at 52p ($0.65) on the pint.

Click here to read more

Global Trends - Wine Industry Key Elements

EU: Internet of Things gets closer to your plate with IoF2020 project

The Internet of Food & Farm 2020 (IoF2020) project investigates and fosters a large-scale implementation of Internet of Things (IoT) in the European farming and food sector. With a €30 million budget co-funded by the European Union, the project aims to demonstrate the added value of smart webs of connected objects, that are context-sensitive and can be identified, sensed and controlled remotely in the agri-food sector.

Read the attached Press Release.

[IoT2020 Press Release]