The BI Daily is compiled and submitted by the SAWIS BI Team. The content is for the exclusive attention of SAWIS members and may contain information that is privileged and confidential. Any dissemination of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received the communication in error, please erase all copies of the message and its attachments. Articles in the BI Daily have as far as possible been interpreted, put into context, validated and confirmed. If you as recipient have any queries, comments or would like to submit an article, please direct them to Charles Whitehead (charles@sawis.co.za).

Economic Environment

Trade war sees Canada threaten US wine

A proposal by the Canadian government to impose staggering taxes on US wine imports will be considered by the World Trade Organisation next week.

The country’s trade ministry, along with its Mexican counterpart, is threatening around $10 billion of retaliatory tariffs on the US over an ongoing trade disagreement, which would severely threaten the American wine industry.

Canada and Mexico blame the US failing to comply with a WTO ruling regarding the labelling of meat products. They argue that the US requirement to label meat with a country-of-origin discriminates against their products.

[Click here to read more]

Global Trends - Beverages

Top 10 biggest drinks industry acquisitions

With Chinese buyers snapping up Bordeaux châteaux at a rate of knots, continued consolidation among former rivals and big brewers eying up their craft counterparts, the drinks world is ever-changing.

• Chinese push further into Bordeaux.
• Bacardi enters Bourbon market with Angel’s Envy
• Majestic buys Naked Wines for £70 million
• Gruppo Campari diversifies into Italian bitters and grappa
• SABMiller makes craft beer statement
• Accolade woos Grant Burge
• Bibendum Wine Limited and PLB Group join forces
• Emperador snaps up Glasgow-based whisky brand Whyte and Mackay
• Jay Z makes Armand de Brignac an offer it couldn’t refuse
• Super deal sees Suntory buy Beam for $16 billion
NZ Sauvignon Blanc shortage ‘likely to affect’ Asia sales

New Zealand’s looming Sauvignon Blanc shortage and subsequent price increases is likely have a knock on effect on sales in Asia, the sales and marketing director of Greystone Wines in Waipara Valley has confirmed.

“Exports have taken off in Asia, and New Zealand premium end producers cannot meet the demand.

2015 was a fantastic but tiny vintage with a late frost and then a drought, making a particularly concentrated and focused style.

The price hike will be inevitable which will hurt restaurants and bars in Hong Kong especially as it’s such a saturated and competitive market already.”