SCOTTISH GROCER FEATURE SYNOPSIS March 2023 Wholesale

Editorial contact for this feature is Giles Blair <u>giles.blair@peeblesmedia.com</u> 0141 567 6074 Deadline for editorial submission Friday 27th January

• We're keen to have opinions, thoughts and predictions on the following topical issues as well as general market information such as market share, market trends and details of brand activity.

• It's always very useful to receive images – 300 dpi if possible. Good images include product shots, pictures of people quoted in the copy, and pictures of advertising and marketing activity.

• And please feel free to provide anything else you think is relevant.

The entire retail sector continues to face ongoing challenges from the cost-of-living crisis and, with the war in Ukraine also limiting product availability, wholesalers have their work cut out for them. However, despite the challenges, members across the wholesale channel are ready to take on the challenge and continue to provide for Scotland convenience market. In this feature, we will look at what Scotland's wholesalers have to offer and ask how retailers can ensure they've got the right partner to meet their store needs. We would welcome comments on the following:

• What services do you currently offer either or both in delivered wholesale or cash & carry? What improvements have you made to your offer over the last 12 months? Investment in depot? New product ranges? Expanded food to go/chilled? Changes to ordering/delivery processes?

• What steps have been taken to maintain availability as best as possible under the pressures of the economic crisis? What sort of levels have you been able to maintain across key categories for convenience? How important are strong supplier relationships when it comes to maintaining the supply chain in challenging times?

• What do you think sets your business apart from the competition in Scotland? What's your USP? Why should Scottish convenience retailers consider giving you their business? Beyond competitive pricing, what additional support can you offer convenience retailers?

• Have you made any significant technological developments in the last 12 months? If so, what are they and how do they benefit your c-store retailer customers? Are there any developments in your symbol/fascia/retail club that you think retailers should be aware of?

• What approach are you taking to improving your firm's environmental credentials? What sustainability goals are you working towards? What steps have you taking so far?