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Columbia Distributing to Acquire Echanis Distributing

Employees, brands and warehouses of the Eastern Oregon beverage distribution company will continue normal operations under new ownership

PORTLAND, Oregon (June 10, 2020) – Columbia Distributing today announced it will purchase the majority of the assets of Echanis Distributing Co., Inc. based in Ontario, Oregon. Echanis represents a world class portfolio of international, national and local beer and wine brands throughout Malheur, Grant, Baker and Wheeler Counties. With very little change to its day-to-day operation, the company's warehouses and employees will begin functioning as Columbia Distributing when the transaction closes on or about July 31st.

Columbia's President and CEO Chris Steffanci notes the strategy of the Echanis acquisition is similar to others that the company's executed in recent years. "We're expanding to align our great brands in contiguous geographies. This creates operational and marketing efficiencies for our suppliers and better access to an incredible selection that we know consumers are looking for. Echanis has been great to work with and we plan to make a positive impact on the community they've served for so many years."

Cam, Lou and John Echanis formed the distributorship in 1972 with Olympia beer and a portfolio of Italian wines. In 1986 the company acquired the Coors brand and the Miller brand followed suit in the early 2000s. Throughout the years John and his sons Matt and Chuck have been active in both the business and the community. John expresses his thanks to the suppliers, customers and community for their ongoing support. "I have been in the beer business for almost 50 years," he said. "I'm sure I'll miss it."

About Columbia Distributing

Since 1935, Columbia Distributing has helped build some of the best-known brands in the beverage business. Today Columbia Distributing and its 2,800+ employees service over 22,000 retail customers covering more than 171,000 square miles in Oregon, Washington and California. Columbia's success is based on the deep-rooted tradition of delivering quality products, timely service and a genuine concern for customers' needs. This is achieved by providing ongoing, sustainable opportunities and growth for its employees, customers, suppliers, shareholders and communities. For more information on Columbia Distributing, please visit www.coldist.com.

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