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Columbia Distributing Announces Top Leadership Changes

KENT, Washington (March 29, 2016) – Columbia Distributing today announced Gregg Christiansen will retire from his 15-year role as CEO, effective January 2, 2018.

Christiansen, who joined Columbia in 1996 as Vice President of Sales, will remain Board Chairman, providing leadership and direction on short- and long-term business strategies.

In addition, Christiansen has expanded the role of current President of Washington, Chris Steffanci. Effective immediately, Steffanci will step into a newly-created role: President of Columbia's entire business, Washington, Oregon and California. Following Christiansen's 18-month transition into his primary role as Board Chairman, Steffanci will lead Columbia Distributing as CEO.

"I've had a great run," said Christiansen. "I've been fortunate to work in this industry for over 30 years. I've worked with very talented people and helped build many excellent brands. Most importantly, I've had fun doing it. I look forward to helping Chris move into the CEO role over the next 18 months. Columbia's business is in great hands."

"I'm extremely proud to step into this role, and more importantly, I'm honored to partner with Gregg to make this transition a positive one for the entire company," said Steffanci. "Gregg's vision and passion for this business, our people and our brands, is how we've become one of the most successful distributors in the country. I've been so fortunate to work with such a talented team of senior leaders across our business and I am truly excited to help write the next chapter."

About Columbia Distributing

Columbia Distributing is one of the nation's finest beer, cider and non-alcoholic beverage distributors. Headquartered in Portland, Oregon, the company has distributed some of the best known brands in the beverage business since 1935. Today Columbia Distributing and its 3,000+ employees service over 20,000 retail customers covering more than 135,000 square miles in Oregon, Washington and California. The company was named "2015 Beer Wholesaler of the Year" by the leading beverage business trends magazine *Market Watch*. 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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