

## **Distil PLC**

### **Distil celebrates the first Blackwoods distillation at Ardgowan Distillery and announces name of gin still as voted for by public**

Distil plc (AIM:DIS), owner of premium drinks brands Blackwoods Gin and Vodka, RedLeg Spiced Rum, TRØVE Botanical Vodka and Blavod Black Vodka, is pleased to announce the successful first distillation of Blackwood at Ardgowan Distillery.

In August 2021, Distil announced a £3 million strategic investment (in the form of a convertible loan) in Ardgowan Distillery Company Limited which will see the development of a new state-of-the-art, carbon negative Malt Whisky distillery, near Inverkip, Scotland. The investment provided the Company with a long-term interest in a growing premium category, as well as providing a new home for Blackwoods with its own distillery, gin school and visitors' experience.

Following completion of necessary commissioning and testing, the gin still at Blackwoods' new brand home on the site of the Ardgowan Distillery is now fully operational, and the first distillation of Blackwoods has been completed.

The team has reserved this first liquid for release as a limited-edition available exclusively to shareholders in the summer, with more details to follow soon.

Distillation took place on the 1,000L, Scottish-crafted copper still to Blackwoods gin recipe, using local Scottish botanicals - kelp, sea buckthorn and water mint. Ardgowan's distiller, Ross Bradley, led the distillation with support from Distil's Master Distiller, Sion Edwards.

This milestone is marked by the announcement of the naming of the gin still - "Marie". The name was chosen by visitors to the first annual Ardgowan Open Day in July 2023, who voted from a shortlist of names evoking local history. Marie was the outright winner on the day, chosen to honour the memory of Marie Lamont, one of the youngest women to have been subject to the 17<sup>th</sup> century Inverkip witch trials.

The first distillation cements Blackwoods' move to its new home at Ardgowan, and kicks-off a programme of new product development for the brand, which will be showcased at the distillery's visitor experience.

Sarah Kingsbury, Marketing Director at Distil, commented: "This is a significant milestone not only for Blackwoods as a brand, but for Distil's relationship with Ardgowan Distillery Company.

We were delighted to be on-site for the first distillation which successfully took place under the guidance of Sion Edwards, and to taste and craft the first liquid together with him and Ross Bradley. We look forward to making this available to shareholders, and pushing forward with our planned programme of new product development.

In tandem with this, we are delighted to reveal "Marie" as the name of the still. The Ardgowan Estate and surrounding area is rich with Scottish history, and to be able to honour a key local character is fantastic.

Works continue on-site to fit out the Blackwoods visitor experience, and we look forward to sharing further updates in the near future."

Martin McAdam, CEO Ardgowan Distillery Company, said: "Our teams have been working hard to reach this milestone and we're delighted to be able to announce the successful first distillation of Blackwoods. I look forward to further deepening the relationship with the Distil team as we welcome Blackwoods to its new home at Ardgowan."

For further information:

<b>Distil PLC</b>	
Don Goulding, Executive Chairman	Tel +44 203 405 0475
<b>SPARK Advisory Partners Limited (NOMAD)</b>	
Neil Baldwin Mark Brady	Tel +44 20 3368 3550
<b>Turner Pope Investments (TPI) Ltd (Broker)</b>	
Andy Thacker / James Pope	Tel +44 20 3657 0050

#### About Distil

Distil Plc is quoted on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange. It owns drinks brands in a number of sectors of the alcoholic drinks market. These include premium spiced rum, vodka, gin, vodka vanilla cream liqueur and are called RedLeg Spiced Rum, Blackwoods Vintage Gin, Blackwoods Vodka, TRØVE Botanical Vodkas, Blavod Original Black Vodka and Diva Vodka.

#### About Reach announcements

Reach is an investor communication service aimed at assisting listed and unlisted (including AIM quoted) companies to distribute media only / non-regulatory news releases such as marketing messages, corporate and product information into the public domain. An RNS Regulatory announcement is required to be notified under the AIM Rules for Companies.

This information is provided by Reach, the non-regulatory press release distribution service of RNS, part of the London Stock Exchange. Terms and conditions relating to the use and distribution of this information may apply. For further information, please contact [ms@lseg.com](mailto:ms@lseg.com) or visit [www.ms.com](http://www.ms.com).

RNS may use your IP address to confirm compliance with the terms and conditions, to analyse how you engage with the information contained in this communication, and to share such analysis on an anonymised basis with others as part of our commercial services. For further information about how RNS and the London Stock Exchange use the personal data you provide us, please see our [Privacy Policy](#).

END

NRAILMRTMTMTBBI