



Australian Government

Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation

17 January 2008

21 JAN 2008

T +61 8 8228 2000  
F +61 8 8228 2022  
E [awbc@awbc.com.au](mailto:awbc@awbc.com.au)  
W [www.wineaustralia.com](http://www.wineaustralia.com)

Mr Peter Leske  
SA Wine Industry Association  
1st Floor, Industry Offices, National Wine Centre  
Cnr Hackney & Botanic Roads  
Adelaide SA 5000

Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation  
ABN 59 728 300 326  
Industry House - National Wine Centre  
Cnr Hackney & Botanic Roads, Adelaide SA 5000  
PO Box 2733, Kent Town SA 5071, Australia

Compliance Centre  
Level 2, 18 Dequetteville Terrace, Kent Town SA 50  
T +61 8 8228 2050 F +61 8 8228 2066

Dear Peter

### Important Changes to Export Approval Procedures

One of the more frequent comments we receive from exporters relates to the inconvenience in having to package up a further two samples of wine for delivery to the Compliance Centre after the rejection at initial inspection of a wine submitted for export approval.

In response to this feedback, we have made some improvements to the export approval procedures which will minimise the cost and time for having a wine reviewed for export approval. Under the current arrangements, two samples are submitted to the wine inspection panel for continuing approval. Both bottles must be opened and tasted before a rejection may be issued. The exporter must then resubmit a further two samples for submission to a second panel for review.

The new procedures will eliminate the requirement to resubmit a second set of samples following a rejection; however, the two panel review process will still be preserved. If a wine is judged to be faulty by the first panel, the second bottle will now be put forward to the *next available* panel rather than tasted immediately. This will ensure that at least two different panels review the wine before a final decision may be made (pending the Review Panel process).

The exception to this rule will be for wines affected by cork taint whereby the second bottle will be presented to the original panel (and consequently if both bottles are rejected for cork taint, the exporter will still have the option to resubmit two further samples to a second panel).

The Wine Export Approval System is currently being updated to accommodate the new procedures. It is expected that the system will be ready to commence in *late January to early February*. Kate Goodfellow and Jessica Navidad from the product team will advise you when the new procedure is in place.

Your feedback during the initial rollout of this new procedure will be highly valued. Please direct any comments to myself, Steve Guy or David Bowley (08 8228 2000).

This change is being introduced in order to streamline the export approval process without compromising the aim of protecting the reputation of Australian wine in international markets. To that end inspectors are reminded that, before rejecting a wine, they should be convinced that not doing so would put our reputation for producing quality wines at serious risk.

Yours sincerely

Jessica Pater  
Manager – Export Compliance

