



Eastside Distilling Craft Spirits Earn Top Honors at 2016 New York Wine & Spirits Competition

Eastside's Burnside 'Oregon Oaked' Bourbon Wins a Double Gold Medal and Barrel Hitch 'Oregon Oak' American Whiskey Wins Silver

PORTLAND, OR--(Marketwired - October 05, 2016) - Eastside Distilling, Inc. (OTCQB: [ESDI](#)), a producer of award-winning master-crafted spirits, earned top honors at the 2016 New York Wine and Spirits Competition. The company's [Burnside 'Oregon Oaked' Bourbon](#) received a double gold medal, while its [Barrel Hitch 'Oregon Oak' American Whiskey](#) earned a silver medal.

The New York Wine & Spirits Competition is regarded as among the "Triple Crown" of wine and spirits competitions, which includes The San Francisco International Wine Competition and The San Francisco World Spirits Competition. Judges include top food and beverage buyers, US Bartenders Guild mixologists, educators, beverage directors, columnists, writers, sommeliers and chefs. Entries for this competition were submitted by leading spirits producers from across the country.

"It is both humbling and an honor to participate and medal at any competition; but this one, especially with its top pedigreed panel and highly regarded reputation in the industry, is a big win, of which we are all very proud," commented Eastside's master distiller, Mel Heim. "Both whiskies are unique to their categories and in our opinion each award is a validation of the work we do to create masterfully crafted spirits."

Burnside 'Oregon Oaked' Bourbon, which won double gold in the competition, starts with the company's award-winning [Burnside Bourbon](#), a barrel-aged straight bourbon, which is then aged for another 60-120 days in heavy-charred, hand made Oregon Oak barrels, adding subtle new flavors to the already great-tasting bourbon. Eastside's Burnside Bourbons, bottled at 96 proof, have more intensity & complexity than many other bourbons on the market.

Barrel Hitch 'Oregon Oak' American Whiskey, which won silver in the competition, starts with Eastside's award-winning Barrel Hitch American Whiskey, which is then put through a second four-month aging process in barrels handmade from Oregon Oak. The barrels impart a distinctive vanilla flavor that cannot be duplicated from barrels made from other oak varietals.

The remarkable flavor profile of Barrel Hitch 'Oregon Oak' American Whiskey is also the result of a meticulous blending process of carefully selected finished whiskey sources, each contributing a unique scent, flavor, mouth feel and color which is expertly

balanced for consistency and quality.

"We believe that these new wins are a testament to the passion and creativity of our master distiller, as well as the dedication to quality and excellence of our whole team," said Eastside CEO, Steven Earles. "Our broad portfolio of craft spirits, from whiskeys and bourbons, to vodka, rums and special liquors, has now won more than a dozen awards for quality, taste, creativity and branding at several major competitions across the country."

Eastside master crafted spirits are available for purchase at leading retail outlets in more than [22 states nationwide](#) and [online](#). They can also be sampled and purchased at the company's Oregon retail locations and its tasting room on [Distillery Row](#) in Portland.

About the New York World Wine & Spirits Competition

The New York World Wine and Spirits Competition is one of the largest competitions for the retail beverage industry in the world. Judges include top food and beverage buyers, USBG mixologists, educators, beverage directors, columnists, writers, sommeliers and chefs. It is associated with the "Triple Crown of Competitions" that includes The San Francisco International Wine Competition and The San Francisco World Spirits Competition.

About Eastside Distilling

Eastside Distilling, Inc. (OTCQB: [ESDI](#)) is located in Southeast Portland's Distillery Row, and has been producing high-quality, master crafted spirits since 2008. Makers of award winning spirits, the company is unique in the marketplace and distinguished by its highly decorated product lineup that includes Barrel Hitch American Whiskies, Burnside Bourbon, Below Deck Rums, Portland Potato Vodka, and a distinctive line of infused whiskeys. All Eastside spirits are master crafted from natural ingredients for unparalleled quality and taste. The company is publicly traded under the symbol OTCQB: ESDI. For more information, visit: www.eastsidedistilling.com or follow the company on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Important Cautions Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain matters discussed in this press release may be forward-looking statements. Such matters involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially, including the following: changes in economic conditions; general competitive factors; the Company's ability to continue as a going concern; acceptance of the Company's products in the market; the Company's success in obtaining new customers; the Company's ability to obtain additional capital, the Company's success in product development; the Company's ability to execute its business model and strategic plans; the Company's success in integrating acquired entities and assets, and all the risks and related information described from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including the financial statements and related information contained in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 13, 2016. The Company assumes no obligation to update the cautionary information in this release.

Company Contact:

Eastside Distilling

Tel 971-888-4264

inquiries@east-sidedistilling.com

Investor Contact:

Robert Blum, Joe Diaz or Joe Dorame

Lytham Partners, LLC

(602) 889-9700

esdi@lythampartners.com