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Blenheim, New Zealand – Wednesday 26th September 2007

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Blenheim's Renaissance Brewing is celebrating being the only brewery to have won two best-in-class trophies at this year's BrewNZ Beer Awards.

Only eleven trophies were awarded at BrewNZ, which is New Zealand's largest beer competition.

Not only did Renaissance Brewing win the best-in-class trophy and a gold medal for Stonecutter Scotch ale, a modern interpretation of a classic strong ale style, the brewery also won another best-in-class trophy for its packaging.

The packaging award makes it a clean sweep for the Marlborough brewery in New Zealand competitions; this was the second competition this year in which it has won the class. In the packaging category entries are judged for innovative label design, which conforms to New Zealand standards, as well as shape and style of bottle or can.

At the awards ceremony, held at Wellington's Shed 22, Renaissance Brewery won the following awards:

- Renaissance Stonecutter Scotch Ale – Best-in-Class Trophy and Gold Medal (Strong beers category)
- Renaissance bottled beer range – Best-in-class Trophy

Renaissance Brewing also won the following awards in April at the New Zealand International Beer Awards (NZIBA):

- Renaissance Stonecutter Scotch Ale: Best-in-class trophy and Gold medal (Packaging category)
- Renaissance Stonecutter Scotch Ale Silver medal (Strong Beers category)
- Renaissance Elemental Porter Ale - Silver medal (Stouts & Porters category)
- Renaissance Discovery American Pale Ale – Bronze medal (Pale Ales category)

These medals add to those received at last year's Australian International Beer Awards and BrewNZ Beer Awards. In only eighteen months trading the brewery's fine ales have notched up no less than nine awards. These include:

Renaissance Stonecutter Scotch Ale:

Silver 2006 AIBA

Silver 2006 NZIBA

Gold 2007 NZIBA (Packaging award)

Silver 2007 NZIBA

Renaissance Elemental Porter Ale:

Silver 2006 AIBA

Silver 2007 NZIBA

Renaissance Discovery American Pale Ale (launched February 2007):

Bronze 2007 NZIBA

Commenting on their success in Wellington, Renaissance Brewing's Brian Thiel and Andy Deuchars said, "We are dedicated to brewing only the finest high quality, full-flavour ales and see these awards as a quality mark to assure the public that they are getting only the very best".