

Associated Beer Distributors of Illinois

In the News...

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Labor Day Tackles Super Bowl for U.S. Beer Sales

Beer Industry Employs Nearly 65,000 People in Illinois Who Will Be Hard At Work This Weekend

SPRINGFIELD-(August 29, 2007)-Labor Day marks one of the busiest sales periods for beer statewide, and members of the Associated Beer Distributors of Illinois (ABDI) will be working overtime to make sure that barbecue guests and baseball fans are able to enjoy the holiday weekend's unofficial beverage of choice.

"Illinois beer distributors work hard to deliver quality products throughout the year, and especially over Labor Day weekend," ABDI President Bill Olson says. "Our members will be pounding the pavement to reach every community this weekend, and the resulting sales activity will help our state's overall economy."

The Fourth of July, Memorial Day, and Labor Day are the busiest sales periods for the beer industry in the United States. This weekend's sales will contribute to the nearly \$6.2 billion of economic activity generated by the beer industry in Illinois each year, according to 2006 data commissioned by the National Beer Wholesalers Association (NBWA) and the Beer Institute.

The study, released in April, found the Illinois beer industry generated nearly \$2 billion in wages and benefits in 2006, and more than \$1.39 billion in federal, state, and local taxes.

"It's appropriate to commend the hard working drivers, sales personnel and warehouse staff in our industry during Labor Day," ABDI Chair Donna Spagnola adds.

The ABDI is comprised of more than 60 distributors, who service every county in the state and employ over 3,000 Illinoisans.

"Beer distributors provide workers with above average wages and strong benefits, and support the local economy," says ABDI's Spagnola, who is also president of Central Beverage Company in Broadview.

Nationally, the beer industry contributes nearly \$190 billion to the U.S. economy each year directly employs more than 900,000 Americans, paying them more than \$25 billion in wages. In 2006, America's beer industry grew by 2.2 percent, producing and distributing over 210 million barrels of beer.

The Associated Beer Distributors of Illinois is a not for profit business trade association which represents mostly family owned distributors who provide customized inventory management for all retailers to ensure products are delivered fresh and efficiently to restaurants, stores and bars. ABDI operates under a regulated system, licensed by the State of Illinois, to ensure that beer is sold only to licensed retailers who in turn are responsible for selling alcohol to adults of legal drinking age. For more information, visit www.abdi.org.

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