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SAN FRANCISCO WINE COMPETITION
SELECTS SCHOTT ZWIESEL GLASSWARE
FOR 2006 ENCORE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sterling, VA - The San Francisco Wine Competition, the country's largest competition of American wines, now in its sixth year, has selected Schott Zwiesel for an encore as the official stemware for the 2006 event. After winning plaudits from participating wine experts in 2005 for its superb qualities for the presentation and enjoyment of wines, Schott Zwiesel crystal glassware was the choice for both the January wine judging and a public tasting event in February, according to Bob Fraser, executive director of the wine competition. "We're gratified that our wine patrons again will have the advantage of evaluating and appreciating wines with the best crystal glass stemware available anywhere in the world," said Mr. Fraser.

Entries in the Chronicle's competition - open to wineries in California, Oregon, Washington and Idaho - are expected to exceed the record 900 brands that participated in the 2005 judging. "We are delighted to have a part in expanding the most important event in the domestic wine industry - and that Schott Zwiesel again will be the signature glass of the competition," said Chad Price, vice president of glassware products for Schott Zwiesel's U.S. marketing partner, Fortessa. Schott Zwiesel also will be the naming sponsor of the 2006 event, presenting awards to winning wineries in five categories of competition.

Schott Zwiesel, available in North America through Fortessa, based in Sterling, VA (www.fortessa.com), has a world-wide reputation for innovation and leadership in the glass industry. The latest breakthrough, tritan® crystal glass, pairs the beauty of fine crystal with unprecedented durability. This patented technology, using a unique titanium and tempering process, creates the ultimate in brilliant, break-resistant crystal - the glassware that will be featured at the 2006 wine competition: All entries will be poured in the professional grade Forté tritan 13.6-oz. tasting glass. "The right glass can capture the essence of a wine, helping judges to determine its characteristics and personality," Mr. Price noted.

The tritan glassware also will be on view at the grand public tasting scheduled on February 25, at the Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, in San Francisco. Every person attending the wine fest will receive a commemorative Forté 13.6-oz. wine glass to sample the medal-winning wines. Members of Fortessa will be on hand to demonstrate the full range of Schott Zwiesel stemware and explain the qualities that can enhance the wine experience.