



Washington State Liquor Control Board

April 3, 2008

TO: Manufacturers, Importers and Wholesalers
FROM: Washington State Liquor Control Board
RE: Changes in Price Filing Requirements

On April 1, 2008, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals denied Costco's request for a review of its January 28 decision to uphold the Washington State Liquor Control Board' (WSLCB) key three-tier system regulations. The Court followed with a mandate that, within seven days, the Washington State Liquor Control Board eliminate the requirement for electronic price posting and price holding currently used for enforcing uniform pricing.

Electronic Filing System

On April 8, 2008, at 12:01 PDT, the WSLCB will implement programming changes to the site currently used for price posting. Under the new system, suppliers and distributors will still be required to electronically file prices. However, the data will only be available for viewing by the person entering the data and the Liquor Control Board. You will still be able to view your price filings interactively at any time.

Key Features

- The electronic system will now be referred to as *Price Filing*.
- Label approvals will show immediately in your *Add to Catalog* for price filing purposes. The effective sell date for that product will be the day it has been filed on the WSLCB site.
- Uniform pricing is still in effect.
- While the requirement to hold your price in effect for a specified time frame has been eliminated you will still need to file all price changes on the site before you can sell.
- The filing of allowances and post-offs will be done in the regular selling price column.
- Filing deadlines will no longer be in effect.
- The option to see all price posting and label approvals through the Price Posting & Label Inquiries link (also known as the Kiosk) will be closed to viewing by licensees.
- These changes to the Price Filing System mean that the filing site will be open at any time for filing price changes with the price to be in effect immediately.
- News and implementation items of interest related to this notification will be posted on the login page to the site as they occur.

Attached is an issue paper that provides additional background and explains price file system changes in more detail.

Contact

If you have further questions, please contact the Liquor Control Board Licensing Division at 360-664-1600 then select option "4" at the prompt