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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **David Sands named Perthshire's top business**

**CONVENIENCE** store chain **David Sands** has been named Perthshire's top business by Perthshire Chamber of Commerce.

David Sands lifted the Perthshire Chamber of Commerce 2010 Business of the Year title at the Business Star Awards ceremony in Crieff. Earlier in the evening, the family-run group secured the Business in the Community category award before going on to claim the overall title.

Around 300 guests heard how David Sands captured the judges' vote for its activities in the communities where it has a presence. The company currently operates 29 licensed convenience stores throughout Perthshire and Fife, employing around 700 people.

Paul Shields, president of Perthshire Chamber of Commerce, said: "Through their presence, their service and their support to all age-groups – which is vital in many areas – they have prompted national thinking, provoking the Scottish Government to adopt nationally the challenge to tackle underage and binge drinking.

"Their outstanding professional approach at all levels of business sets them apart and makes them worthy winners of the 2010 title."

According to Ewen Chisholm, chief operating officer of David Sands, winning the overall award came as a "great surprise". He explained: "We had entered the Business in the Community category and were absolutely delighted when we were announced as the winner but when we were named Business of the Year, it really was the icing on the cake and a great surprise.

"David Sands has won numerous national awards over the years and every award we win is special and real testament to the commitment of our staff. However, often it is a more local award closer to home that means even more."

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The company now operates five stores in Perth and one in Bridge of Earn.

**ENDS**

**For further information, contact David Sands/Ewen Chisholm on 01577 865141 or Karen Peattie on 0141 773 1801/07947 075 937**

[www.david-sands.co.uk](http://www.david-sands.co.uk)

#### **NOTES FOR EDITORS**

- David Sands Ltd was founded in Kinross in 1812
- The company currently operates 29 stores in Fife, Kinross and Perthshire
- Most David Sands stores sell newspapers and magazines and many outlets offer a Post Office, in-store bakery, ATM, PayPoint and the National Lottery
- Stores open from 6am to 10pm, seven days a week
- All stores are licensed to sell alcohol and operate a 'Challenge 25' policy
- All stores have a very strong Food to Go and fresh foods offer
- David Sands is a former president of the Scottish Grocers' Federation
- David Sands Ltd is a member of the Nisa-Today's group, the member-owned organisation that supports independent retailers and wholesalers in food and drink sector with a range of buying, marketing and distribution services