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## PRESS RELEASE

### Stanley Morrice joins David Sands Ltd as non-executive director

**INDEPENDENT** convenience store group, **David Sands Ltd**, has appointed **Stanley Morrice**, the former managing director of delicatessen chain McLeish Brothers, as a non-executive director.

Morrice, who has a long-established pedigree in the retail industry, will work for the Kinross-based company in an advisory role on a part-time basis as it forges ahead with ambitious growth plans which include a £2 million-plus investment in new store openings over the coming months.

Commenting on the appointment, David Sands, chief executive, said: "I'm delighted that someone of Stanley's calibre is joining our business during such an exciting period of growth. David Sands plans to open at least three new stores during the year.

"With a host of other initiatives either in progress or under review, Stanley's considerable experience will help shape our growth strategy and provide wise counsel. There are very few people within our sector in possession of such wide-ranging experience of businesses both large and small."

For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2007, David Sands revealed an increase in sales to £29 million in 2007 from £24.8 million in 2006 and a rise in pre-tax operating profit to £1.06 million from £0.91 million in the same period.

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David Sands, which operates 26 stores in Fife, Perthshire and Kinross, last year restructured its senior management team as part of a new strategy being implemented to fuel future growth and drive the business forward. The company is a major employer in Fife and Perthshire, employs over 600 people.

The group's most recent acquisition, a former Londis outlet in Lauder Road, Kirkcaldy, opened last month.

Stanley Morrice, a former managing director of Abernethy and executive with Somerfield, commented: "I have long been an admirer of the David Sands business and have successfully collaborated with the company in the past. It is an extremely progressive convenience store chain that has cleverly carved a niche in the marketplace by focusing on the needs of local communities."

David Sands convenience stores are licensed, sell newspapers and magazines, have a strong fresh food offer, in-store bakery and services including PayPoint, an ATM and the National Lottery. New initiatives are also being developed, including 'Food to Go' – the sale of hot and cold food, drinks and snacks to take away – which the company sees as being one of several key growth future areas.

## **ENDS**

For further information, contact **David Sands** 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 27 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 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. David Sands is chairman of the Nisa Retail Committee.