



HARROGATE BUSINESS WATCH - SECURITY ALERT

WARNING OF DANGEROUS FAKE WHISKY

Following the dangerous 'Valkonov Vodka' alert Trading Standards Officers in North Yorkshire have issued a new warning about fake spirits which contain harmful levels of methanol.

Fake Johnnie Walker Black Label whisky has been contaminated with methanol, a poisonous form of alcohol. Officers in Berkshire believe the fake whisky is being distributed around the country.

They've also found a stock of counterfeit labels for a product called 'Highland Pride Finest Scotch Whisky' which suggests that a contaminated product bearing these labels could be on the market.

People in North Yorkshire should be aware that counterfeit whisky can be distinguished easily from the real product and that genuine Johnnie Walker and Highland Pride are completely unaffected.

Identification of counterfeit products:

Johnnie Walker

- The rear label is printed in Spanish
- The fake lot code L04P24878342 is printed on the rear of the front centre label
- 'Distilleries' and not 'Distillers' is printed on the Royal Warrant
- There is no 'e' mark on the base of the bottle

Highland Pride (front label)

- Counterfeit states '1L' whereas genuine states '1 Litre'
- Counterfeit states '40% vol' whereas genuine states '43% vol'
- Counterfeit states 'PRODUCED AND BOTTLED IN SCOTLAND' whereas genuine states 'BOTTLED IN SCOTLAND'

Graham Venn, Assistant Head of Trading Standards Officer, said: "Any retailer or member of the public who has bought these products or suspects they are on sale, should contact North Yorkshire's Trading Standards and Regulatory Services."

If you need further advice please contact Trading Standards on the details below:

North Yorkshire Trading Standards
Tel 01609 780780
Fax 01609 532516
Email trading.standards@northyorks.gov.uk

NOTE: This is a new service for Chamber members. Any feedback would be welcome.