Leading US wine magazine awards
Australian winemaker Penfolds – A Winery of the Year 2011 … its 21st consecutive acknowledgement.

Penfolds has been named a 2011 Winery of the Year by the American Wine & Spirits magazine. This prestigious award is Penfolds 21st consecutive Winery of the Year win, which is acknowledgment and recognition of Penfolds continued commitment to quality.

Penfolds was chosen by the magazine’s panel of experts who taste more than 10,000 wines, selecting the best for recommendation in the magazine. The Top 100 Wineries of the Year highlight brands with a range of wines the critics have scored at the top of their categories. Penfolds’ performance and this recognition by one of the world’s leading wine magazines makes it a great ambassador for wines of Australia.

Josh Greene, Editor of Wine and Spirits magazine said, “Each year, for the past 25, Wine & Spirits magazine has awarded Winery of the Year honours to those producers who performed at the very top of our tastings. During that time, Penfolds has won 21 Winery of the Year awards, more than any other brand in the world.”

“This year’s award is based on icon wines such as the 2006 Grange (96 points), the 2008 Yattarna (93 points) and the 2008 RWT Shiraz (92 points), classics including the 2009 Bin 51 Riesling (91 points), and wines performing far beyond their price, like the 2008 Thomas Hyland Shiraz (89 points) Penfolds’ collection of old vines, its growers clubs and the talent of its winemaking team have all contributed to this remarkable performance. The brand is a New World classic.”

Penfolds Chief Winemaker, Peter Gago comments, “This acknowledgement is very meaningful to the entire Penfolds team, and will have a symbolic and timely flow-on effect for all Australian wine. The closest to our global record 21st tally is 17 times for Concha y Toro & Chateau St Michelle, with Antinori & Schaefer at 15 times. I think what’s compelling about this recognition is that it spans a quarter of a century of commentary & assessment …”

Penfolds will feature as a Winery of the Year in the 2011 Wine and Spirits Annual Buying Guide (On sale mid-October 2011). A special Top 100 event will take place in San Francisco on October 12, where the magazine will honour all of the Wineries of the Year.

The Wine and Spirits Top 100 Wineries of the Year report is presented in the winter issue of Wine & Spirits Magazine.

About Wine and Spirits Magazine’s Top 100 Tasting Event: Wine & Spirits magazine tasting panels evaluate more than 10,000 wines each year. The wineries that receive a Top 100 Winery of the Year honour produce wines across a range, several of which score at the top of their categories and establish a standard of excellence for their respective regions.

About Penfolds: Penfolds has been creating an impressive array of wines since 1844 and many would agree undisputedly led the development of Australian fine wine into the modern era. The introduction of Penfolds Grange in 1951 forever changed the landscape of Australian fine wine. Since then a series of standout wines both white and red have been released under the Penfolds masthead.

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