



PRESS RELEASE



Wine retailers get Amtrak to deliver ¾ million bottles of wine to homes

23 December 2004... Home delivery specialist Amtrak has delivered ¾ million bottles of wine in the run up to Christmas. The company has been surprised by the big increase in shipments compared with last Christmas and most are a result of Internet orders. Amtrak secured a big contract with Virgin Wines earlier this year and the company also delivers for a number of other well known retail and mail order wine companies.

70% of Amtrak's deliveries are to home addresses and the company provides special handling for fragile items such as wine, flowers and electrical equipment. Amtrak has also led the move to more convenient delivery times for people at home, including evening and Saturday deliveries.

"We have seen over 30,000 bottles of wine passing through our hub each night and it seems to have been one of the big hits this year. Wine retailers offering home deliveries of course need to avoid breakages so we designed a hub with special equipment for handling fragile goods" says Jonathan Smith, Managing Director of Amtrak.

Virgin Wines, which also incorporates the Telegraph Wine Services, has seen year on year growth of 30%. For added convenience, Amtrak provide Virgin Wines with an unattended delivery service, which allows goods to be left in a safe place.