



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Julie Lassaigne appointed ETRC Secretary General from February 1<sup>st</sup> 2019**

Julie Lassaigne has been appointed Secretary General of ETRC effective from February 1st. Julie joined ETRC in 2013 and has been responsible for leading ETRC activities in relation to product information to consumers, alcohol policy, air passenger rights and transport security. Julie has also managed relations with ETRC members and EU institutions, and organises the very popular ETRC Annual Business Forum.

Frank O'Connell, President of ETRC, stated, *"Julie's appointment is testament to the commitment she has shown our industry since joining ETRC in 2013. The Managing Board is confident that Julie will build on our achievements to date and we wish her every success."*

Julie Lassaigne commented: *"I'm grateful to the Managing Board for their confidence and support. ETRC is a great organisation, which since its creation in 2004, continues to grow in stature and importance to the industry. I look forward to leading ETRC through the next chapter of its growth. I'd also like to thank Keith for his mentorship and collegiality over the years, during which I have benefitted first hand from his exceptional experience."*

Looking towards the future, Julie noted: *"With significant challenges ahead, it is more critical than ever that airports, airlines, our maritime partners, retailers and suppliers unite and work together. In my new role, it is my ambition to work with our membership to develop ETRC further and be the voice of the duty free and travel retail industry with stakeholders and policy-makers in Europe. Our industry provides the much-needed revenues that builds and maintains key transport links in Europe and beyond. This needs further recognition by the EU and European governments."*

Prior to joining ETRC in 2013, Lassaigne gained extensive experience with Hume Brophy in Brussels, working with clients in the aviation, food and sport sectors. A French national, she holds a Masters in Political Science and Communication of the Institute of Political Science of Bordeaux and lives in Brussels with her husband and their two children.

O'Connell went on to announce that Keith Spinks will now take on the role of Senior Counsel, providing expertise and advice to the organisation and will continue to work on a number of key industry challenges. *"On behalf of the Managing Board, I would like to thank Keith for his many years of exemplary service and dedication to the industry."* Frank O'Connell added. Keith became Secretary General of ETRC when it was established in July 2004, having been Director General of its predecessor, the International Travel Retail Confederation, since 2000.



**Note to the editor**

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**About the European Travel Retail Confederation**

*The European Travel Retail Confederation (ETRC) is an industry association for the duty free and travel retail industry in Europe, serving the industry and its members to help create the right environment to allow the industry to achieve its potential and protect it when challenges arise.*

*ETRC is composed of national and regional affiliated trade associations representing over 200 European companies, Tax Free World Association (TFWA) representing 500 brand companies, and direct corporate membership from individual companies working in the duty free and travel retail trade across Europe and beyond. The European Travel Retail Confederation's operations are directed by its Supervisory and Managing Boards and carried out by a full-time secretariat. For more information about the organisation, please see our website – [www.etrc.org](http://www.etrc.org)*