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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**KONA BREWING PROMOTES TUCCIARONE TO VP OF BREWERY OPERATIONS**

*Kailua-Kona, Big Island of Hawaii*— Kona Brewing Company recently announced the promotion of Rich Tucciarone to Vice President of Brewery Operations. Tucciarone has led the beer production at Kona Brewing Company since September 1999 as its Director of Brewery Operations.

As VP of Brewery Operations, Tucciarone will retain his duties in Kona, with an increased emphasis on growing beer production in Kona, with the company's mainland brewing partners and with the limited release beer program that launched with Pipeline Porter last fall. During Tucciarone's tenure in Hawaii he has led the increase of Kona Brewing Company's beer production in Kona and on the mainland from approximately 10,000 barrels in 2000 to 44,777 barrels in 2006, an increase of almost 350 percent. Tucciarone will be responsible for Kona Brewing Company's brewing capacity expansion in the future to meet the needs of the company's increasing market size, potentially adding East Coast beer production. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Food Science with an emphasis on Product Development and Fermentation from Cornell University. He is a member of the Master Brewers Association of the Americas, Brewers Association, Aloha Brewers Guild and Slow Food Hawaii.

Kona Brewing Company was founded in 1994 and packaged its first batch of beer in February 1995. It has grown into Hawaii's largest brewery and the 32<sup>nd</sup> largest producer of beer in the country, with two restaurant sites in Hawaii and beer distribution reaching 14 states, Japan and Taiwan. For information call 808-334-BREW or visit [www.KonaBrewingCo.com](http://www.KonaBrewingCo.com).

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