



CHEERS! WINE BY RAIL WORKS FOR M&S

Marks & Spencer has hailed a three-month trial shipping French wine to the UK by rail as a success.

More than 500,000 bottles of the M&S December wine of the month have been shipped by SNCF-owned rail operator Freight Europe from Beziers in southern France to Tibbett & Britten's Daventry warehouse.

M&S said the trial had been "very successful", with transit times from bottle plant to warehouse of 72 hours. It is expected to continue using rail.

"We see scope for development for this mode of transport in the future and will be working to achieve it," said a spokesman.

T&B has a three-year contract for the warehousing and distribution of M&S wines and spirits, imported from mainland Europe, Australasia, and North and South America.

Freight Europe [(UK) Ltd] is also expected to announce a contract with a major multinational company in the New Year to ship fast-moving consumer goods from Germany to the UK.