

## SOFT DRINKS CATEGORY REVIEW



# MARKET OVERVIEW AND SHOPPER INSIGHTS



### MACRO TRENDS



Confidence is still fragile however ongoing improvements bring potential trade up opportunities

#### RELAXING PLANNING HABITS

relaxing of shopping habits bring increasing opportunities to influence

#### TOP UP MISSIONS

Increased "little and often" shopping habits drive opportunity to drive impulse and incremental purchases

## CHANNEL HOPPING

As top up missions increase we see channel switching; key to understand shopper need by channel to ensure conversion

#### QUALITY VS VALUE

Money saving remains key however quality is becoming more important as the balance of saving vs quality starts to continue to shift.

#### BRAND CHOICE IN DISCOUNT

Financial confidence
highest with variety
discount and online
shoppers; opportunity to
tap into trade up potential
in these channels



UK standard of living improving throughout 2024 but cost of living pressure remains



Shoppers response to cost-ofliving challenges by balancing consumption

Eg cutting down out of home, increasing frozen to avoid waste



Shopping around and mixing channels also offers ways to manage spend



### SOFT DRINKS TRENDS

### HEALTH & WELLNESS



Growing consciousness about the quantity of sugar and sweeteners in drinks

Functional Drinks evolution as consumer seek out "healthier" options and more natural boosts

Added benefits and natural ingredients call outs to drive permissible treat purchases

#### **SUSTAINABILITY**



A trend that will only continue to grow as consumer behaviours and mind sets change along with increased regulation and legislation developments.

Packaging, sourcing and carbon impact are all starting to influence our decision making when it comes to food and drink

## INDIVIDUAL TASTES



Consumers are increasingly looking for personalisation to cater to individual tastes and needs. Products, flavours and formats in soft drinks help to meet these needs.

Convenient on-the-go solutions, innovation and bringing fun to the familiar help to keep audiences interested in the category.

## PREMIUM EXPERIENCES



Even as we continue scale back spend the "lipstick effect" sees consumers seeking out little treats and cost effective "pick me ups"

Craft, artisan and unique creations encourage trade up. Ltd Editions encourage trial and bring the opportunity to drive trade up; "try it before it's gone"



# FUNCTIONAL DRINKS ARE SOME OF THE BIGGEST AND FASTEST GROWING SECTORS IN SOFT DRINKS





### **CATEGORY INSIGHTS**



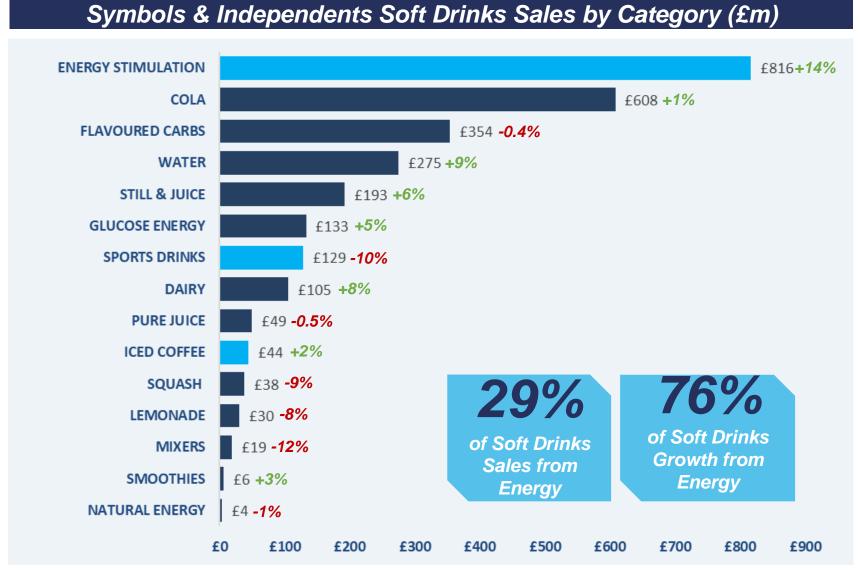
# Energy Stimulation remains key for the S&I Channel and drives category growth



+5% YoY growth

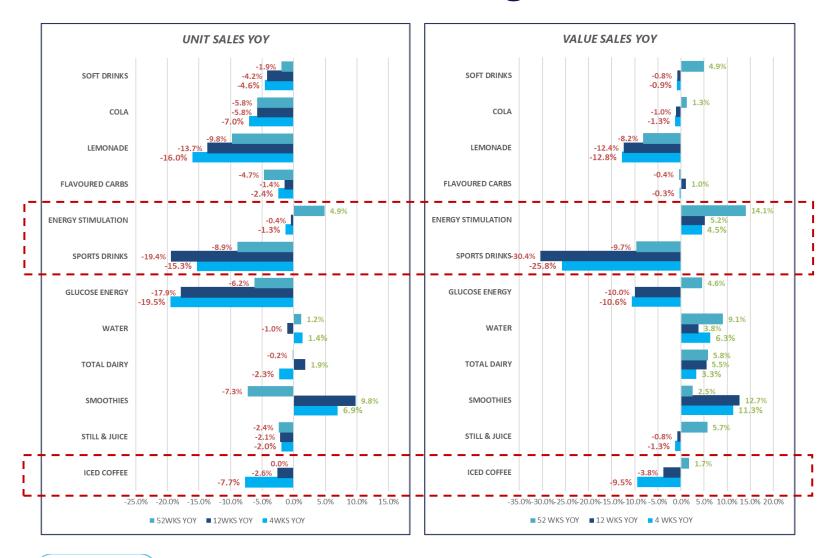


+5% YoY growth





## Unit sales impacted in latest period as we return to annualisation against warm weather period



Energy Stimulation moves back into unit decline in the latest 4wks while value continues to outperform the channel in all periods

Sports Drinks continue to see significant decline in 12 and 4wks as the category is hit by Lucozade supply, Prime annualisation and weather

Iced Coffee moves back into unit decline in the latest period as seasonality of the category starts to impact again

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### BOOST WINNING IN FUNCTIONAL



#### **ENERGY** STIMULATION

**BIGGEST CATEGORY IN SOFT DRINKS** FASTEST GROWING SOFT DRINKS CATEGORY

FLAVOUR AND FORMAT IS KEY ...

**GROWTH OF BIG** 

**OF ENERGY DRINKS ARE** FLAVOURED SKUS

STOCKING ORIGINAL, SUGAR FREE AND FLAVOURED SKUS IN A RANGE OF SIZES IS KEY TO **MAXIMISE SALES** 



**GROWTH OF** SPORTS DRINKS SINCE 2020!

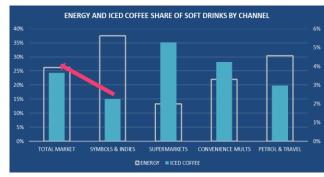
**OF SPORTS DRINKS SALES** DRIVEN BY NEW LAUNCHES IN 2023

NPD AND LIMITED EDITION FLAVOURS KEY TO MAINTAIN INTEREST IN THIS EMERGING **CATEGORY** 

**DEDICATE SPACE TO NEWNESS** AND USE SIGNPOSTIG/POS TO RAISE AWARENESS



ICED COFFEE CURRENTLY UNDER TRADES IN S&I WHILE ENERGY OVE TRADES IN THE CHANNEL



FURTHER OPPORTUNITY FOR ICED COFFEE TO GROW IN THIS CHANNEL..

SALES UPLIFT **DURING SUMMER** 

TAP INTO PEAK SELLING PERIOD BE **ENHANCING FIXTURE SPACE DURING KEY SUMMER MONTHS** 

82% OF SYMBOLS & INDEPENDENTS FUNCTIONAL DRINKS SALES ARE PRICE MARKED PACKS OFFERING AYR VALUE MESSAGING AND CONSUMER TRUST AT FIXTURE



### WHY BOOST?

# A TOP SELLING BRAND IN OUR KEY CATEGORIES





ENERGY STIMULATION BRAND





SPORTS DRINK BRAND





ICED COFFEE BRAND



# TOP SELLING SKUS FROM THE #3 ENERGY DRINKS BRAND...

BOOST RED BERRY 250ML IS THE FASTEST SELLING FLAVOURED ENERGY SKU IN SYMBOLS & INDEPENDENTS



THE ONLY ENERGY DRINK BRAND WITH A
FORMAT FOR EVERY OCCASION

BOOST ORIGINAL SUGAR FREE 250ML IS THE FASTEST SELLING SUGAR FREE SKU IN SYMBOLS & INDEPENDENTS



BOOST ORIGINAL 1 LITRE IS THE FASTEST SELLING 1 LITRE ENERGY SKU IN SYMBOLS & INDEPENDENTS







# TAP INTO SPORTS CATEGORY GROWTH WITH THE #2 SPORTS DRINKS BRAND...

BOOST

240 BOOST SHARE OF SPORTS DRINKS 'ON SYMBOLS & INDEPENDENTS

+184% GROWTH OF BOOST SPORT IN THE LAST 3 YEARS

£1.8m CONTRIBUTION TO CATEGORY GROWTH THIS YEAR

BOOST MANGO & RASPBERRY WAS IN THE TOP 5 NPD LAUNCHES OF 2023 ORANGE, MIXED BERRY AND TROPICAL RANK IN THE TOP 10 FASTEST SELLING SKUS IN SYMBOLS & INDEPENDENTS

LTD EDITION LAUNCHES TAPPING INTO LATEST FLAVOUR
TRENDS AND DRIVING INTEREST AT FIXTURE





# DRIVE SEAONSAL SALES WITH THE #4 ICED COFFEE BRAND...

100 BOOST SHARE OF ICED COFFEE IN SYMBOLS & INDEPENDENTS

+80% GROWTH OF BOOST ICED COFFEE IN THE LAST 3 YEARS

250 ML 52% OF ICED COFFEE SALES COME FROM 250ML FORMAT



MADE WITH REAL MILK...75%
MILK CONTENT

ICED COFFEE TAPS INTO "LITTLE TREATS" AS CONSUMER SPENDING REMAINS CAUTIOUS

SEASONALITY IS KEY TO THE CATEGORY (+41% UPLIFT). ALLOCATE SEASONAL SPACE TO TAP INTO CORE SALES PERIOD

