Oeneo Announces www.TCAfreecorks.com: Handy Site for Info About TCA and the Uniqueness of the DIAM Cork

Is it as few as 3% or as many as 9% of wines today which are corked when opened? Does the Diam cork solve this enormous wine industry problem? “The reason we developed this website is to help wineries and winemakers understand more about what TCA is, where it comes from and why Diam doesn’t have it,” explains Michael Friedman, Managing Director, Oeneo Closures USA. “We wanted to show the world that we are committed to providing corks that are TCA-free,” he says, “and we have not only science but an impressive array of wineries around the world to back up that quality commitment,” he adds.

NAPA, Calif. (PRWEB) July 9, 2008 -- As part of their effort to explain the phenomenon of TCA in corks, Oeneo has developed a sensory exercise kit where different types of corks, treated differently, can be soaked and sniffed to clearly demonstrate first-hand the differences between the various methods of cleaning cork and to see if you can detect TCA in a cork. This kit can be ordered through the new website as well.

TCAfreecorks.com http://www.TCAfreecorks.com is a new website which explains Diam's unique answer to the problem of cork taint. Visitors to the site can read the research, send for a kit to test their own aromatic prowess (can you detect TCA?), study a diagram of the TCA molecule, take a tour of the Diam plant in San Vicente De Alcantra in Estremadura, Spain, read questions & answers on the topic and read comments from wineries using Diam. There is a downloadable section so that materials such as the TCA molecule can be clearly printed out.

What's Diam? DIAM is the only cork closure available on the international market today which has no detectable levels of TCA. Only one innovative cork producer has spent millions of euros--including building a plant dedicated to producing a specialized cork--to provide a solution to the unpredictability of conventional cork. The Diam cork is made with the proprietary Diamant process, developed over seven years; it uses super-critical carbon dioxide to 'purify' corks of TCA and 150 other noxious molecules. The Diamant process (shortened to Diam as the cork-product name) is a specialized adaptation of the system used to take caffeine out of coffee beans and pesticides out of rice for the food industry.

The supercritical carbon dioxide, in a state 'between' liquid and gas, acts as a non-toxic solvent to remove TCA molecules and other compounds--from cork granules. The cork granules are then molded into a 'technological' or agglomerate cork – a blend of cork, micro-spheres and a food-grade binding agent.

Diam Closures USA is the Napa-based arm of the France-based firm Oeneo Bouchage. Oeneo has a full line of closures which are made using its proprietary Diamant® technology; these include DIAM (still wine closure), MYTIK DIAM (sparkling wine closure) and ALTOP DIAM (spirits, natural sweet wine, still wine closure). From its base in Napa, Oeneo Closures USA represents the Oeneo products in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Tests on DIAM have been carried out by the Australian Wine Research Institute and laboratories in France and England, all of which have shown the closure to have below-measurable TCA levels.

To date, Oeneo's DIAM is used by more than 1,800 wineries in over 20 countries. A scrolling list of wineries using Diam can be found at www.TCAfreecorks.com. In North America, clients include Cameron Hughes
Winery, Cosertino Winery, Crew Wines, Freemark Abbey, Girard, Kunde Estate, Langtry Estate, Martin Ray Winery, Stonestreet and many others. "I am amazed by DIAM's ability to keep wines fresh and preserve aromatic flavors," says Dan Cederquist, head winemaker at Sacramento-based Crew Wine Company. "I first used DIAM to bottle my Matchbook wines for the 2004 vintage. Since then, I've decided to use DIAM for all my wines. I'm convinced that DIAM is the most reliable cork closure on the market."

Other wineries using Diam who discuss it on their websites:

Hugel & Fils in Alsace:

http://blog.hugel.com/en/2006/09/at_last_corks_without_the_risk.html),

Two Hills Merlot, an Australian winery founded by an Alsatian:

http://themanfrommoselriver.wordpress.com/?s=Diam+cork

Fortress Vineyards in Santa Rosa, California:

http://www.fortressvineyards.com/index.cfm?method=pages.showPage& pageid=2cdae8cd-939d-05cc-7c2b-f2c75eb50f1c

A website in Australia which tracks wineries in Australia and New Zealand using Diam:

http://www.vinoculation.com/diam


Long URLs in this release may need to be copied/pasted into your Internet browser's address field. Remove the extra space if one exists.
Contact Information
Julie Ann Kodmur
Oeneo Closures USA
http://www.tcafreecorks.com
707-963-9632

Online Web 2.0 Version
You can read the online version of this press release here.