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News & Information for Wine Industry Professionals



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Top Industry Stories for Thursday Nov 17, 2005

ETA detonates bomb at Rioja Alta winery in La Rioja

A bomb exploded in the early hours of Sunday morning at the Rioja Alta winery in Haro (La Rioja, Spain). It caused minor damage to property. Even though the explosion was initially thought to have been caused by a gas leak, the Spanish Government's representative in La Rioja announced yesterday that it had been caused by a bomb. ETA has been held responsible.

Lulu B. Introduces New Trio of French Wines

Direct from the sunny South of France hails a trio of "simply charming" wines by newcomer Lulu B. that embody the region's joie-de-vivre. Lulu B.'s stylish Syrah, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, featuring intriguing, colorful packaging and a trendy screw cap, are sure to catch consumers' attention.

Boisset Tetra Pak to go up a level!

Boisset is taking its Tetra Pak wines upmarket as a result of its Canadian success. The Burgundy-based producer, which makes wine in the south of France as well as Rhone, and California, sells four wines - called French Rabbit - in state-of-the-art Tetra Prisma packaging in Canada, and launches the same range in the UK in January.

Hang Time's two messages

If winemakers insist on continuing to produce high-octane wines, which is a result of elevated sugar levels achieved through hang time, they're going to be willing to pony up the extra dough to the growers. There will be winemakers who don't want to pay for the privilege of leaving their grapes out there until Brix levels near 30 degrees. And there will be winemakers that have seen the light that more balanced wines are called for.

California Vintners Predict High Quality and Quantity for 05 Harvest

Bob Steinhauer provided a statewide summary of the 2005 winegrape harvest at Wine Institute's Vintage Press Conference at Fort Mason in San Francisco last week. The event also featured an update on wine policy issues by Wine Institute President and CEO Robert P. (Bobby) Koch, followed by comments by Institute Board Chairman Eric Wente of Wente Family Estates in Livermore. A panel of Wine Institute board members and winemakers shared details of the harvest in wine regions throughout California during the question and answer session.

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