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**NOMACORC CELEBRATES MAJOR MILESTONES IN 2014, INCLUDING
15 YEARS IN BUSINESS, 20 BILLION CLOSURES SOLD AND CLOSING WINE
ENTHUSIAST'S TOP WINE OF 2014**

*Leading Wine Closure Company Reflects on Growth, Innovation
and Excellence over the Past Year*

ZEBULON, N.C. (January 6, 2015) –Nomacorc, a leading producer of [wine closures](#), achieved many milestones in 2014, including celebrating the company's 15-year anniversary in business and more than 20 billion closures sold. Longtime customer Ken Wright's 2012 Abbott Claim Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton District, 97 points, \$65) was named [Wine Enthusiast's No. 1 wine of 2014](#). Originally conceived as an entrepreneur's solution to cork taint and bottle variation, Nomacorc has grown to be one of the largest still wine closure manufacturers in the world. Since its inception, the company has established four facilities, most recently in [San Juan, Argentina](#), and has produced and sold more than 20 billion wine closures.

"Inspired by our founder Marc Noël's quest to improve wine quality and prevent unnecessary wine waste, Nomacorc has grown steadily and we've expanded our product and service offerings to give winemakers tools they've never had before," said Lars von Kantzow, president and CEO of Nomacorc since 2006. "In our short history, we've already contributed to changing the way the wine industry thinks about oxygen in wine development and the significance that closure choice has to overall wine quality."

Award-winning French winery [Michel Gassier](#) bottled its 2013 Les Cépages Vigonier with Nomacorc's 20 billionth milestone cork. "Nomacorc's success is clearly demonstrated by their responsiveness to clients' input and dedication to service," said fourth generation winemaker Michel Gassier.



This year marked an important milestone not only in terms of growth but also in innovation. Over the past twelve months, Nomacorc received recognition and accolades for its new plant-based, zero carbon wine closure, Select Bio®. These honors included:

- **Wine Industry Network WINovation award** – Co-hosted by the *North Bay Business Journal* in California and the Wine Industry Network, the *WINovation*

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award honors companies that contribute to the advancement of the North American wine industry.

- **Inspiration Packaging Awards Eco-Premio (Eco Prize)** – Held in Madrid, Spain, the Inspirational Packaging Awards celebrates the best in design and innovation across the international packaging and POS market. The Eco-Premio award selects the best eco-innovation in the field of waste management and materials.
- ***The Drinks Business Green Awards “Best Green Launch”*** – As the world’s largest program to raise awareness of green issues in the drinks trade, *The Drinks Business Green Award* recognizes companies who are leading the way in sustainability and environmental performance. The “Best Green Launch” award honors a product that promotes an environmentally-friendly cause and clearly demonstrates its sustainable benefits.

“We are thrilled about the overwhelmingly positive response we have received this year from about our new Select Bio plant-based cork,” said Dr. Olav Aagaard, Nomacorc’s principal scientist. “This can be directly attributed to our ongoing goal of innovation and technological excellence, and we look forward to providing even more sustainable solutions for wineries in the future.”

Earlier this year, leading Italian association [Vino Libero](#), a 13-member wine and spirits organization focused on environmental sustainability announced an exclusive partnership agreement with Nomacorc’s Select Bio zero carbon footprint wine closure. In the near future, Vino Libero wines closed with Select Bio will be found at Eataly concepts around the world along with premium wine shops and restaurants that subscribe to the Vino Libero business philosophy.

“As an industry focused around farming and ecology, we see more and more wineries seeking reliable tools and materials that are also sustainable,” continued Dr. Aagaard. “Our Select Bio cork is the complete package, as it provides both high-quality and environmental benefits into an innovative packaging solution.”

To end the year on a high note, Nomacorc-closed [Ken Wright](#) 2012 Abbott Claim Vineyard Pinot Noir (Yamhill-Carlton District, 97 points, \$65) was selected as the No. 1 pick in *Wine Enthusiast’s* 2014 Enthusiast 100. The wine was awarded the highest honor by *Wine Enthusiast’s* tasting panel, which reviewed more than 17,500 wines from around the globe, covering myriad regions, styles, and prices. Ken Wright has entrusted his critically-acclaimed, special-release library wines to Nomacorc for more than 10 years.



“Being named *Wine Enthusiast’s* top wine of 2014 is an outstanding achievement,” said von Kantzow. “We are extremely proud to be a part of his delicious, hand-crafted wines.”

To learn more about Nomaticorc and its portfolio of engineered wine closures, please visit www.nomaticorc.com.

About Nomaticorc

Nomaticorc is a worldwide leader in wine closures and the No. 1 closure brand for still wines in many countries including France, Germany and the United States. Dedicated to technological innovation, Nomaticorc manufactures its portfolio of products using a patented co-extrusion process. As a result, Nomaticorc closures provide consistent, predictable oxygen management and protect against off-flavors due to oxidation, reduction or cork taint. Nomaticorc’s fully recyclable products are available through a vast network of distributors and sales agents on six continents. With nearly 500 employees worldwide and state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities in the United States, Belgium, China and Argentina, Nomaticorc produces more than 2 billion closures annually. Working with renowned wine research institutes worldwide, the company leads the wine closure industry in fundamental and applied research into oxygen management in wine. For more information, visit nomaticorc.com or follow Nomaticorc on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/Nomaticorc) (@Nomaticorc) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Nomaticorc) (Nomaticorc).

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