

Fristam FT Series Pump Does the Job of Three at California Winery

What began as an effort to have its applications handled by one pump instead of three has resulted in added benefits for Wooden Valley Winery in Suisun Valley, California. The winery ordered a pump from Fristam Pumps, Inc. on a pump cart from Statco Engineering and got even more than they expected.

Ron Lanza, one of the brothers and partners in the wine enterprise, previously used two centrifugal pumps and one vane pump to do a variety of duties at the facility. Those duties include barrel and bottle filling, tank transfer, filter feed, and CIP supply and sterilization.

The new balanced, four-wheeled stainless steel cart built by Statco Engineering is supplied with a variable-speed motor drive and a model FT 202 centrifugal pump from Fristam. The FT is supplied with a 5 HP, 3500 RPM TEFC motor and a 155 mm impeller. The cart and pump are easily wheeled from one spot to the next.

The most important duty point is the 10 GPM, 50 PSI required to feed the sterile pads of the micron cartridge filter in advance of the bottling line. According to Rick Lanza, another family member and partner, the .45 micron filters will catch any unwanted yeast or mold before the wine reaches the filling stage.

When sterilizing the various processes during the CIP cycles, Wooden Valley Winery uses 180 degree fluid temperatures to thoroughly sanitize all parts of the system. That temperature was too harsh for the vane pump, which experienced excessive deterioration of the internal rubber components.

The surprising result of the new Fristam pump was in the area of barrel filling. Invariably, foam was produced by the previous pump, while wine flowed into the barrels. The crew had to wait for the foam to dissipate before completely filling each barrel. The new FT pump, due to its tight clearances, eliminated the foaming and, therefore, any lost time.

Needless to say, the Wooden Valley Winery staff is happy with its new pump cart and pump. Ron Lanza emphasizes, "It's been a good investment for us."



Fristam FT Series pump on cart does the job of three, and saves time.

For more information, contact Fristam Pumps.

