



The Murano Group Acquires Copain Custom Crush

For Immediate Release

December 11, 2009, San Francisco and Santa Rosa, CA – The Murano Group today announced that it has acquired Copain Custom Crush and made a strategic investment in Copain Wine Cellars. The Copain businesses were founded by Kevin McQuown and Wells Guthrie. McQuown will remain as the president of Copain Custom Crush and Guthrie will continue as the co-owner, winemaker and general manager of Copain Wine Cellars. Financial terms of the transaction were not disclosed.

“Copain Custom Crush is the market leader in wine services for high-end, boutique wineries and Copain Wine Cellars is the premier producer of Pinot Noir and Syrah in California today. We look forward to working with Kevin and Wells to realize the potential of these great businesses” said Murano Group CEO Jay Thomson.

“We are excited about the opportunities this new ownership brings for Copain Custom Crush” said Kevin McQuown. “Murano’s investment philosophy, growth plan and objectives are strongly aligned with the success of our clients and our business, and this transaction will provide us with the strategic and financial support to pursue our goals,” Mr. McQuown concluded. “We are extremely pleased to find a partner who understands the story and winemaking philosophy of Copain Wine Cellars, and who supports our long term plans to create a true California domaine,” said Wells Guthrie.

About Copain. Copain Custom Crush is a provider of winemaking services and logistics to boutique wineries and independent vintners. Copain Wine Cellars produces single vineyard wines that faithfully reflect their site, varietal, and vintage characteristics. (www.copaincustomcrush.com and www.copainwines.com)

About Murano Group. The Murano Group is a holding company with operating interests in the investment management, real estate, and wine industries. (www.murano-group.com)

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