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★ Boisset Family Estates buys Monterey's Lockwood Vineyard brand

San Francisco Business Times by Chris Rauber, Reporter
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Chris Rauber
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Jean-Charles Boisset.

Boisset Family Estates, a family-owned pinot noir specialist based in Burgundy with U.S. headquarters in St. Helena, has bought Monterey County's Lockwood Vineyard brand, the company said earlier this week.

Boisset bought the 75,000-cases-per-year wine brand, but not its winery and 1,850-acre estate vineyard at the foot of the Santa Lucia mountains. Instead, it will purchase Lockwood's grapes under a long-term contract, according to spokesman [Patrick Egan](#).

Previously, Boisset's U.S. wine portfolio included Napa and Sonoma brands such as Buena Vista Carneros, DeLoach Vineyard, Lyeth Estate, Raymond Vineyards, Amberhill Winery, California Rabbit, and JCB by [Jean-Charles Boisset](#).

[Jean-Charles Boisset](#) is president of Boisset Family Estates, launched in 1980 as a producer and importer of fine wines. The family-owned firm is part of Burgundy's La Famille des Grands Vins, founded in 1961.

[Jean-Charles Boisset](#) compares Lockwood's Monterey terroir to the Pouilly-Fuissé and Mâcon portions of France's Burgundy region, which produce great chardonnay.

[Paul Toeppen](#), [Phil Johnson](#) and [Butch Lindley](#) planted Lockwood Vineyard's first grapes in 1981, releasing their first vintage in 1989. They continue to own the property.

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The brand's varietals include chardonnay, pinot noir and cabernet sauvignon, but Boisset said he's going to also focus on sauvignon blanc, using its own facilities and staff to make the wines.

Chris Rauber's beats include health care, insurance and the wine industry for the San Francisco Business Times.

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