



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RAYMOND VINEYARDS NAMES NEW DIRECTOR OF WINEMAKING
Stephanie Putnam joins dynamic new winery team

St. Helena, California (May 26, 2010)—Raymond Vineyards, part of the Boisset Family Estates collection of wineries, is pleased to announce the appointment of Stephanie Putnam as Director of Winemaking. Putnam joined Raymond Vineyards in February of this year as part of a dynamic team that includes Kathy George, assistant winemaker at Raymond since 1990, Winegrower Eric Pooler, Consulting Winemaker Philippe Melka and Director of Operations Jim Nagel.

“Stephanie understands the crucial role Raymond Vineyards has played in Napa Valley’s history. We are thrilled to have her join our mission to build on the winery’s rich family heritage and pioneering spirit as we continue the Raymond Vineyards’ legacy,” said Jean-Charles Boisset, president of Boisset Family Estates.

“I have always considered Raymond Vineyards a benchmark for high quality Napa Valley wines with elegance and finesse,” says Putnam. “Our strength lies in our terroir and our people. I look forward to staying true to Raymond Vineyards’ wine style while making immense contributions to its future evolution.”

Before joining the Boisset Family Estates team, Putnam spent eight years as winemaker at Far Niente Winery where she contemporized their house style. Prior to Far Niente, she was part of the team at Hess Collection, where she began as a cellar worker and rapidly progressed to winemaker. While at Hess Collection, Putnam also worked with the winery’s South American partners. Throughout her tenure at these highly acclaimed Napa Valley estates, Putnam has focused on producing high quality Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay. Her wines have won acclaim, including recognition in the Wine Spectator’s Top 100, the Wine Enthusiast’s Top 100, and being named The Wine News Cabernet of the Year.

A Northern California native and graduate of U.C. Davis with a B.S. in Fermentation Science, Putnam developed her passion for winemaking at an early age thanks to her family's appreciation of gourmet food and wine. She fondly remembers many childhood trips to the Napa Valley where her parents would come to enjoy and collect wine. Stephanie currently resides in Napa with her two large, lovable Labradors.

ABOUT RAYMOND VINEYARDS

Raymond Vineyard & Cellar (www.raymondvineyards.com) is a winery with a rich Napa Valley heritage. The Raymond family arrived in Napa Valley in 1933 and became connected to the Beringer winemaking family via marriage in 1936. Raymond Vineyards began in 1971 when Roy Sr., Roy Jr. and Walter Raymond decided it was time to put their own name on the label. The family purchased 90 acres in the Rutherford appellation of Napa Valley, planted grapes, and celebrated their first harvest in 1974. Today, with five generations of viticultural and winemaking expertise, Raymond cultivates over 200 acres of estate vineyards in the heart of Napa Valley. In August 2009, Raymond Vineyards was purchased by Boisset Family Estates.

ABOUT BOISSET FAMILY ESTATES

Boisset Family Estates is a family-owned producer and importer of fine wines founded in Burgundy, France in 1961. Boisset's collection of more than twenty historical and unique wineries boast leading positions in the world's pre-eminent *terroirs*, including Burgundy, Beaujolais, the Rhône Valley, the South of France, Canada, and California's Russian River Valley and Napa Valley. One of the world's foremost producers of Pinot Noir and principal proponents of organic and Biodynamic® viticulture, Boisset crafts fine wines with a strict *terroir* approach: each house in its family of wineries has a unique history, identity, and style, yet all are united in the pursuit of superior quality. To learn more about the Boisset Family Estates collection, please visit www.boissetfamilyestates.com.

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