



M.A. Silva
Corks, USA

M.A. Silva Corks, USA Enrolls in ClimateSmart™ Program

Santa Rosa, California (January 22, 2009) -- Effective December 22, 2008, M.A. Silva Corks, USA became the first California wine cork company to participate in the ClimateSmart™ program (www.joinclimatesmart.com) by Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). The first-of-its-kind ClimateSmart™ program allows customers to take action on climate change by balancing out the greenhouse gas emissions from their energy use.

How ClimateSmart™ Works

PG&E calculates the amount needed to make the greenhouse gas emissions associated with a customer's energy use "neutral", and adds this tax-deductible amount to their monthly energy bill. One hundred percent of customer contributions to the program fund new greenhouse gas emission reduction projects in California such as capturing methane gas from dairy farms and landfills, or conserving and restoring California's native redwood forests.

When customers join the ClimateSmart™ program, their monthly energy bill shows the cost of reducing or absorbing the greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) associated with their business' actual energy use. Through 2009, the monthly cost for ClimateSmart™ participation is \$0.00254 per kilowatt-hour (for electricity) and \$0.06528 per therm (for natural gas).



The ClimateSmart program is funded by PG&E customers in accordance with the California Public Utilities Commission.

About M.A. Silva Corks, USA

Established in 2000, M. A. Silva Corks, USA (www.masilva.com) is a collaborative effort between Manuel Silva Sr. of M.A. Silva Cortiças, Lda. and long-time industry representative Neil Foster. The company imports high-quality natural cork wine stoppers from the southern region of Portugal, and processes them domestically for distribution throughout the United States. M.A. Silva Cortiças, Lda. was awarded ISO 22000:2005 food safety certification in December 2005 by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). It was one of the first companies in the world to be certified with the standard, and the first cork producer anywhere to garner that distinction.