

# Diam Bouchage, the world leader in technological cork closures, innovates every year to ensure its production of 2 billion "cork taint free closures"

Press release June 2025



Did you know? The world leader in technological cork closures is French and is based in Céret, in the Pyrénées-Orientales region.

This innovative medium-sized company, spearheading the Oeneo<sup>1</sup>, Group's closure division, has built its success on a ground-breaking, patented technology that has often been imitated but never matched; the invention of the "cork taint free closure".

This cutting-edge company produces 2 billion closures that are sold around the world, and it has been growing steadily over the last 20 years.

## So what is a technological closure?

Drawing on its totally disruptive and patented technology, Diam Bouchage invented 20 years ago the Diamant® process. A process that uses the properties of supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> at differentiated pressures to thoroughly clean cork in its raw state. This industrial process eliminates cork's volatile compounds and especially eradicates the molecules potentially responsible for sensorial deviations that can affect the wine.

As the inventor of the "cork taint free closure", all Diam Bouchage closures are guaranteed to be trichloroanisole-free<sup>2</sup>, thus delivering unrivaled organoleptic neutrality. These closures provide winemakers with precise oxygen management so they can control the aging of their wine.

Diam Bouchage offers consumers the assurance that they are tasting the wine as the winemaker intended, without any alteration of its taste.

## International success for this French medium-sized company

"Diam Bouchage has been built on a powerful story driven by talent, collective energy and a shared desire to offer winemakers around the world a highly technological product" explains Eric Feunteun, CEO since September 2024.

Despite tense wine market conditions and fierce competition, Diam Bouchage is performing well with sales up by 5.2% this year, reaching €222.5 M (as at March 31, 2025).

This growth is particularly driven by « high-end³ », products, which are becoming increasingly popular **on** the technological closure market. **The main target:** still and sparkling wines suitable for aging.

"In a troubled sector like wine, it is the grandes cuvées that prosper best. And winemakers producing these exceptional wines have been relying on Diam Bouchage for many years when performing their final enological act: closing the bottle," observes Eric Feunteun, Diam Bouchage's CEO since September 2024.

#### **KEY INFORMATION**

- World leader in technological cork closures
- The world's second largest manufacturer, all closures combined
- Largest purchaser of French cork
- 2 billion closures sold annually
- 78% of production exported
- 3 industrial plants, all 14001 certified: France, Spain and Portugal
- 20 patents filed in 20 years
  - EcoVadis Gold Medal



A Diam closure can be recognized by the inscription marked on it.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Listed on Euronext Paris Compartiment B, Oeneo is a major player in the wine industry covering all stages of wine production, from the vineyard to the closure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Releasable TCA < 0.3 ng/l

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The premium products in Diam Bouchage's offering are characterized by the duration of the closure's guaranteed lifespan (10 years minimum) and the option of a product with biosourced materials (the Origine range).

Building on its leading position in the technological cork closure market, **Diam Bouchage exports nearly 80%** of its production to more than 85 countries.

On the French market, its ranges are present in all major wine-growing regions, where "Diam" corks are highly regarded by winegrowers and enologists for their reliability. Furthermore, **by offering closures made from cork harvested in France to its French winegrower customers**, Diam Bouchage demonstrates its commitment to the local economy and, together with its partners, is engaged in concrete and long-term sustainable development initiatives.

### Succeeding to invest better

To maintain its technological lead and competitive advantage, Diam Bouchage has never stopped investing in the future. **Optimization, structuring, and innovation** are the watchwords of the company's governance policy.

**Optimization** especially, involves thinking about how to optimize the use of the raw **cork** material. The company recently launched a collaborative challenge among its 653 employees in France, Portugal, and Spain to gather their ideas on this priority issue. This major project is already bearing fruit, with more than 10% of employees participating.

As part of its long-term **structuring strategy**, Diam Bouchage is undertaking a series of sustainable investments. Notably by bolstering its resources to optimize efficiency and ensure the sustainability of its activities (investment in more efficient machinery, automation of the packaging line, etc.).

As part of this initiative, a new position was created in 2024: **Director of Forest Management, now held by Joaquin Herreros**. By dedicating a position to the management of cork forests, the cornerstone of its entire industry, Diam Bouchage is enhancing its efforts to anticipate the challenges that lie ahead. Climate change, decline of the industry and price fluctuations are all issues on which **a medium-sized** company must stay several steps ahead in order to control its production tools.

Finally, **innovation** is at the very heart of Diam Bouchage's DNA: the company has built its development on technology that is still unique in the market. True to this mindset, the company continues to invest in people and financial resources in order to accelerate the emergence of new projects. **In 2024, the R&D department was expanded by the creation of a Director of Disruptive Innovation position, filled by Moaad Bakali, and the arrival of two new research engineers.** 

"Our R&D department is constantly seeking innovations to meet the demands of winemakers and broaden the range of possibilities in the aim of offering tailored permeability. Our role is to support our customers by ensuring that their wine is as they intended it to be," points out Eric Feunteun.

For more information about Diam Bouchage : <u>Diam Bouchage Press Kit</u>
For more information about the Oeneo Group: <u>Oeneo Press Release – 2024-2025 annual results</u>

# About Diam Bouchage

Diam Bouchage, the French Oeneo Group's closure division, is the world's leading manufacturer of technological cork closures. As inventor of the "closure free of cork taint", 20 years ago Diam Bouchage created the Diamant® process that exploits the properties of supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> to extract the volatile compounds of cork and thus provide all Diam closures with unrivaled organoleptic neutrality.

Based in Céret in the Pyrénées-Orientales region of France, the company is managed by Eric Feunteun and has 653 employees spread across three production sites in Céret (France), San Vicente de Alcantara (Spain), and Fiaes (Portugal). It designs, manufactures and markets closure solutions for still wines, sparkling wines and spirits, which are sold worldwide through a network of over 100 distributors.

Diam Bouchage generated sales of €222.5 million as of March 31, 2025, and produces 2 billion closures per year.

# Press contacts

Agence la Cerise - lacerise@agencelacerise.com Chloé Torz-Dupuis +33 (0) 612 283 155 and Bérénice Laconte +33 (0) 759 507 859