



Moderate growth in 2016 for French Cooperages

THE COOPERAGE INDUSTRY in France recorded moderate growth in 2016. Member companies of the Fédération des Tonneliers de France produced 601,595 barrels, representing sales totalling 409 million euros, an increase of 2.2% in volume and 4.6% in value. The volume for large format (tanks and vats) was up 5%, with 1450 units produced.

Les Tonneliers de France remains world leader and continued to record exports growth, with almost 400,000 barrels sold abroad (66%), representing sales totalling 280 million euros (68%).

Five countries hold 80% of the market share. For the second consecutive year, France pulled ahead of the United States for the lead market, while Italy and Spain were third and fourth, ahead of Australia. After two years of decline, the markets in Asia and Oceania picked up.

In 2015, the industry saw an increase of more than 8% in volume and 10% in value. Those performances had to do with better quality and higher volumes that year in Europe and increased wine sales in the United States coupled with a favourable exchange rate for the U.S. dollar.

"Never before did the United



and France purchase as many barrels as in 2015. These markets undeniably have reached maturity and are levelling off

now," said Jean-Luc Sylvain, President of the Fédération des Tonneliers de France.

New cellar door for Scotchmans Hill

BELLARINE PENINSULA WINERY Scotchmans Hill has revealed a new cellar door – a French provincial farmhouse nestled among the vineyards on the estate.

Robin Brockett, Scotchmans Hill chief winemaker, said the winery team was keen to reveal the new cellar door

to visitors

"We're very excited to share and promote our love of Bellarine Peninsula wine in our new and improved space," Brockett said.

Gavin Dyson, Scotchmans Hill cellar door manager, said the renovations would be a "massive drawcard" for

both the winery and the Bellarine region.

"It's been so good to see how busy the area has been over summer, and with the Lonely Planet listing of the Bellarine in the top 10 Best Value Destinations, it is only increasing," Dyson said.