

Scott Laboratories Cork Program



The Clean Cork with a Clear Promise

HISTORY

Scott Labs was the first cork company in the world to utilize Solid Phase Microextraction (SPME) testing for our entire inventory and the first to use So₂ to protect natural cork.

Now, after four years of research and trials, we are proud to bring you **ScottPlus™**, a revolutionary process that combines two technologies for the removal of TCA and other off-aromas.

ScottPlus™, the clean cork with a clear promise delivered at scale, with the Scott Laboratories legendary promise of quality and integrity.

Scott Laboratories is the oldest supplier to the North American wine industry, with its roots tracing back to 1933, just days after the end of Prohibition. The company is currently in the third generation of family management.

WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?

Scott Labs is the only independent North American-owned cork company. Our independence is the cornerstone of our program.

- **Independence** protects customer interest over supplier interest. We have the unique ability to accept only those lots of cork that meet the most stringent quality control specifications in the world.
- Our **TCA testing protocols** are done prior to even purchasing raw materials. These tests are performed by independent laboratories. We believe that third party testing removes any conflict of interest within the supply chain.

SCOTTPLUS™ DRY-STEAM – A 2-STEP PROCESS

ScottPlus™ was developed for those who desire the highest guarantee against TCA and off-aromas currently available.

ScottPlus™ weds individual **Heat-Tunnel** inspection with new **Dry-Steam** cork technology to dramatically reduce TCA and increase neutrality of cork lots.



Combining the two technologies allows Scott Labs to improve cork quality **at Scale** and with greater reliability than any individual inspection alone.

- **Step 1:** Each cork is run through thermal/warming-sensory heat tunnels that quickly and effectively volatilize aromatic compounds. Then, our quality control staff performs individual sensory on each cork to remove any that contain off-aromas (including, but not limited to, TCA).
- **Step 2:** Corks from the first step are run through our Dry-Steam process. This process improves on the lot neutrality and significantly reduces TCA. Prior to passing final QC, 1,000 samples per every 100,000 corks are individually tested for TCA.

OUR QC SPECS & PORTUGUESE OPERATIONS

- **VISUAL INSPECTION:** Scott Lab's Portuguese operations were established in 1976. The team is responsible for ensuring all visual grades meet our expectations, as well as controlling the lots we receive from our suppliers.
- **SAMPLE TESTING:** We believe that the great corks come from the best raw material. Prior to utilizing Dry-Steam, lots are sampled for appropriateness. Raw material that has excess TCA is rejected early. After utilizing Dry-Steam, samples are taken and individual SPME analysis is done at an independent lab on 1,000 samples per every 100,000 corks. Goods that do not meet our specification are rejected and returned to the supplier.
- **IN-HOUSE INSPECTION:** Upon arrival in California, we test 25 corks from each bale again at ETS Laboratories. If any of these bales test >1.0 ppt., we will reject the lot and send it back to Portugal to the supplier. If the results are <1.0ppt we will then accept the lot.
- **CHECKS & BALANCES:** We do not pay for the cork until it passes our strict QC protocols, so we have the flexibility to scrutinize each lot. For our customers, this means we can offer an optional **ScottPlus™ Guarantee** at the lowest cost possible.

Scott Laboratories' vision is to provide the best customer experience to the specialty beverage community. Scott Labs offers a wide variety of products to the wine, beer, cider, and distilled spirits industries. With long-term vendor relationships dating back as far as the early 1970's, the portfolio offers corks, wirehoods and screw caps, enological supplies, filtration equipment and media, as well as crush pad and processing equipment.

With such a breadth of portfolio, Scott Laboratories is poised to provide exceptional customer service, technical advice, and troubleshooting for each step of the winemaking process. As a uniquely well-rounded vendor, not only can Scott Labs address any **cork related questions** or issues, but also those related to fermentation and filtration, preparing wine for bottling, equipment issues, etc.

Scott Laboratories mission is to advance the long-term success of the specialty beverage community by providing best-in-class products and services. We believe in education, honesty, and doing the right thing.