



John Sutton, CEO of The Wine Group, Named 2023 ‘Person of the Year’ by Wine Enthusiast Magazine

LIVERMORE, CA, October 10, 2023 – [The Wine Group](#) (TWG) today announced that CEO John Sutton has been awarded the prestigious [2023 Person of the Year Wine Star Award](#) by *Wine Enthusiast* magazine. Each year, this award celebrates an individual who is making outstanding contributions to the wine and alcohol beverage world.

With 20+ years of experience in the wine and beverage industry, Sutton has been an instrumental leader in driving the health and growth of The Wine Group, as well as the wine industry overall. Through TWG’s continued product innovation, the company today produces some of the world’s most popular wines across a variety of price points, meeting the needs of various consumer types seeking quality wine.

According to Wine Enthusiast, “With Sutton leading the company with such a conscientious and holistic approach to environmental and economic sustainability, that means that not just the wineries under TWG’s umbrella—but the entire wine industry—will be headed to a better place.” Read *Wine Enthusiast’s* full [Person of the Year article here](#).



John Sutton, CEO, The Wine Group.

Sutton joined TWG in 2007 as General Counsel, named Chief Financial Officer in 2015, and then appointed CEO in 2022. During his tenure, The Wine Group has seen substantial growth and diversification of its portfolio, including a four-fold revenue increase within its premium wine category over the past decade. The company’s growing premium category includes brands such as Benziger, Charles Smith Wines, Chloe, Cooper & Thief, Imagery, The Dreaming Tree, Tribute, and more.

At the same time, TWG has been one of the first to market with better-for-you wine offerings such as its Cupcake Lighthearted brand. On the value end of its portfolio, the company's Franzia brand continues to be the number one selling wine brand globally by volume.

"Thank you, *Wine Enthusiast* for this incredible honor," said John Sutton, CEO, The Wine Group. "Even though the name of this award is *Person of the Year*, it's truly a reflection of the extraordinary contributions of the entire TWG team, and our extended family of partners, over the past several decades. Together with this year's impressive Wine Star Award nominees and winners – as well as the industry at large – I look forward to shaping a new chapter of growth and innovation for the wine and alcohol beverage world."

Despite its size as the second largest wine producer in the world, TWG is committed to using sustainable growing and production practices to foster healthy land and agriculture for generations to come. All TWG California vineyards are 100% certified sustainable or biodynamic, while all TWG production facilities in California are also 100% certified sustainable. Through its commitment to sustainability, TWG is showing that scale and environmental stewardship can go hand in hand.

About The Wine Group

An industry leader, The Wine Group is one of the world's foremost producers of award-winning wines across more than 60 wine brands and many winery facilities in California, New York, and Australia. Headquartered in Livermore, California, TWG is an industry innovator when it comes to developing, marketing, and selling wine brands beloved by consumers around the world, including Cupcake, Franzia, Benziger, Imagery, Tribute, 7 Deadly, Cooper & Thief, The Dreaming Tree, Charles Smith Wines, and more. The Wine Group believes in producing wine using sustainable and earth-friendly practices to foster healthy land and agriculture for generations to come. The company demonstrates environmental stewardship through its commitment to clean energy and by ensuring that all its vineyards are certified sustainable or biodynamic. To learn more, please visit: www.thewinegroup.com

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