

P&L SPECIALTIES

P&L Highlights State-of-the Art MOG Separation System

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MANUFACTURING THE FINEST STAINLESS STEEL EQUIPMENT



Location: Santa Rosa, California

Founded: 1984

Web: www.pnlspecialties.com

“Flexible,” “rugged,” “robust,” “adjustable,” “interchangeable,” “effective” ... just a few of the words industry professionals have used to describe P&L Specialties latest MOG Separation System, for which the company has received a patent (#7581646), the only U.S. patent ever granted on a MOG removal system.

P&L Specialties named the machines LeTrieur™ (loosely French for “the sorter”), or LT™ MOG Separating System. The machines use eccentric action and removable wedge-wire screens to gently and effectively separate stems, petioles, jacks and leaf material from grape berries after destemming.

“Eccentric action moves the screens up, forward, down and backward, kind of like a wave,” explains Greg Nau, P&L Specialties Sales & Customer Service representative. “Other systems use a vibratory action, which can really shake up the grapes. It might work okay in (other food) industries, but not so well with delicate fruit.”

The LeTrieur™ MOG Separating System also features removable wedge-wire screens in varied sizes to allow for all types of MOG removal. According to Nau, the interchangeable screens “effectively adjust for the different varieties and different situations a winemaker may face.”

A key feature in the design of the LeTrieur™ MOG Separating System is that the units can be modified to handle

anywhere from ½ ton to 70 tons of grapes per hour. Initially, boutique-type wineries with lower volumes were the primary users of P&L Specialties’ systems, but Nau says higher end sorting is no longer limited to lower throughputs, as the market has expanded.

“We’re seeing an industry shift due to higher labor costs, less labor availability and more reliance on machine harvesting,” Nau says. “And the quality of machine harvesting is going up as well.” Nau notes that a major Washington State winery purchased one of the P&L units to process between 60-70 tons of grapes per hour and was “very happy” with the results.

“It’s a very rugged, robust, and operator-less design, that delivers excellent results for low cost” Nau says of the LeTrieur™ MOG Separating System. “There’s very little that can go wrong with it; the beauty lies in it’s simplicity! Our patented, post-destemmer equipment does an excellent job. We’re really very proud of it.”

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