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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

LÉAL VINEYARDS USES VINO-SEAL™ CLOSURE FOR ITS DEBUT SAUVIGNON BLANC

Hollister, CA: Léal Vineyards' announces the release of their 2005 Sauvignon Blanc, employing for the first time the unique "Vino-Seal™" glass closure. The elegant 'glass on glass' closure provides an ideal seal, ensuring the wine retains its purity of flavor and aroma. This innovative alternative to cork and synthetic corks has a design similar to a decorative decanter stopper. The "Vino-Seal™" is designed by Alcoa Closure Systems International in Germany and uses an inert O-Ring to provide a sterile seal, preventing contamination or oxidation.

Owner Frank Léal chose the glass closure for the Sauvignon Blanc after learning of the benefits at the 2006 Sacramento Wine Symposium. "Avoiding TCA taint (corked wine) is the most important benefit, but the elegant look and simplicity of a glass cap make it truly cutting-edge. We were able to easily integrate Vino-Seal™ into our existing bottling line without added costs and Encore Glass representatives attended the bottling for a hassle free start-up," said Léal.

The new Sauvignon Blanc fits a needed niche for the winery, adding an "alternative white" alongside the Léal Chardonnay. It is Léal's first release of a white wine not carrying a San Benito County appellation. In this case, the fruit source was an award-winning vineyard near Clear Lake on the North Coast; the wine bears a Lake County AVA designation. Only 843 cases were produced; the Léal Sauvignon Blanc will retail for \$24 at the winery's tasting room. It's clean, crisp fruit expression and balancing acidity is sure to be a crowd pleaser for pairing to summer's lighter fare.

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Léal Vineyards is the creation and collaboration of owner Frank Léal and winemaker Dave "Griff" Griffith. Their motto? "Phat wines – no pretense." Their mission is to fashion truly exceptional wines that appeal to connoisseur and novice alike. The scenic 45-acre Léal estate grows San Benito County – appellationed Chardonnay, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon, Malbec, Syrah, Grenache, and Mourvèdre. Nestled in the rolling foothills of Hollister in California's Central Coast region, the winery was hand built in 1999 with an eye to both tradition and cutting-edge technique. The property boasts a welcoming Tasting Room, open daily, and Lavánda (lavender in Portuguese), a state-of-the-art event and wedding facility. The winery's on-line home is LealVineyards.com – a fun, informative website that reflects Frank and Griff's dedicated yet irreverent approach to crafting world-class vintages. Léal Vineyards: "Fine Wines and Good Times...It's the Shiznit!"

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