

October 12, 2022



CHARLOIS AND ANTIGONE ACQUIRE OAKWOOD COOPERAGE

The CHARLOIS Group, through its subsidiary OAK NATION, and the ANTIGONE company are pleased to announce that they have taken a majority stake in OAKWOOD COOPERAGE via BLUE OAK (a holding held for 51% by OAK NATION and 49% by ANTIGONE).

Through this investment in OAKWOOD COOPERAGE, OAK NATION takes a step into the Scottish whisky market. This operation also enables it to develop its activity of recovering and recycling used oak barrels and the optimization of the raw material, a process to which the Charlois Group attach great importance.

By joining OAK NATION, OAKWOOD COOPERAGE reinforces its position in the growing international market of used barrels for the ageing of spirits.

Brent Bowie, founder of the Scottish cooperage, retains a 26,5% share of the capital and remains a Director of the company.

Graham Hamilton stays on the board of directors and retains a 17,5% share.

ABOUT OAKWOOD COOPERAGE

Situated in Keith, and Uddingston, near Glasgow in Scotland, OAKWOOD COOPERAGE was established by Brent Bowie in 2018 and employs around a hundred people. The company specializes in the refurbishment of used barrels destined to age whisky, and in the international commerce of used barrels (Bourbon, Sherry, Port, etc.). All of these oak containers therefore enter a new lifecycle and prolong the virtuous circle of sustainability. A single oak barrel can attain over 100 years of age and have contributed to the ageing of fine wine, and then spirits.

ABOUT CHARLOIS

The Charlois Group took root in the middle of the 17th century in the Bertranges forest with Jacques Charlois, a stave maker. Since its creation by Sylvain Charlois in 2005, the group has been dedicated to a range of complementary activities, with oak and the forest as its focus. Its skills have developed around three core segments: OAK GENERATION is dedicated to the village of Murlin, birthplace of the Charlois family, and based on the development and promotion of art, culture and heritage, agriculture, and agroforestry.

OAK COLLECTION comprises the ownership and promotion of forestry, original constructions in wood, cosmetics, and hospitality.

OAK NATION reunites trades that are complementary to cooperage such as forestry management, sawmill operations, stave making, cooperage, vat making, recovery and recycling of used barrels, the manufacture of oak products for oenology, transport and logistics, and engineering.

OAK NATION also incorporates a laboratory specializing in the agrifood sector and an R&D department.

OAK NATION encompasses 35 subsidiaries in France, Spain, Romania, the United States, and now in Scotland, and totals 6,000 clients in 50 different countries.

ABOUT ANTIGONE

Nicolas Mähler-Besse, founder of the investment company ANTIGONE, is from a family of Bordeaux negociants, owner of Château Michel de Montaigne and a stakeholder in Château Palmer (Margaux Third Classified Growth). His professional career has been principally within the world of cooperage, where he has occupied various posts, including CEO of the Seguin-Moreau Group for over 10 years.

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