PUMP CASE STUDY

Robert Mondavi Institute at UC Davis
Davis, California
Philanthropy

CUSTOMER APPLICATION

UC Davis has a rich history of excellence in the wine and food sciences and for over 125 years has maintained active research and education programs in viticulture (the science of grapes), enology (the science of wine and winemaking), and food science.

In 2001, Robert Mondavi made a large monetary personal gift to establish the Robert Mondavi Institute on the UC Davis campus, allowing the campus to move two departments under one roof in a new, state-of-the-art facility.

Courses in viticulture and enology are offered that prepare students for careers in the winemaking industry and provide hands-on experience with everything from demonstration vineyards, to harvest, through production, laboratory science, and finally bottling the finished product.

THE R.F. MACDONALD CO. INVOLVEMENT

The Robert Mondavi Institute recently opened two new facilities: the Anheuser-Busch Brewing and Food Science Laboratory, and the Teaching and Research Winery. The new facilities provided the space and tools needed for teaching in the wine, brewing, and food industries in California and beyond. When it came time to outfit the facilities with the proper equipment, The Robert Mondavi Institute turned to private donations.

R.F. MacDonald Co. recognized the efforts of The Robert Mondavi Institute and donated a Seepex Progressive Cavity Transfer pump. Not only does this pump fill a special need for the students, but it helps to promote advancement in knowledge for the industry as a whole.
"We felt this contribution was a way to give knowledge to a large number of young people within our community and our field," stated Robert Sygiel, VP of Pumps at R.F. MacDonald, Co. "The versatile pump works perfectly and provides the students and faculty at The Robert Mondavi Institute with a learning tool to experience progressive cavity and modern pump technology. We are proud to be affiliated with this educational environment."

Students at The Robert Mondavi Institute use the pump for various learning purposes, such as MUST transfers, tank transfers, barrel filling, and racking. The equipment allows the students to continue research on innovative production processes that conserve water, energy, and other resources. Some of these processes include rainwater harvesting, the use of natural light, recapturing CO2 from the fermenters, recycling process water, and more.

"The donation made by R.F. MacDonald shows a dedication to expanding our knowledge on sustainable economic development and social progress in the winemaking industry."