



## Project Fact Sheet

Updated 22 October 2008

### Integrated benchmarking and self-assessment tool – Wine industry (AMETHYST)

<b>Programme area:</b>	Energy Efficiency in industry – SAVE
<b>Status:</b>	Finished 31 December 2008
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<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.amethyst-project.eu">http://www.amethyst-project.eu</a>
<b>Objective:</b>	To develop an energy and water benchmarking and self-assessment tool for wineries in Germany, France, Italy and Spain
<b>Benefits:</b>	An energy and water benchmarking tool that can be used by the wine industry to cost-effectively reduce energy and water consumption.
<b>Keywords:</b>	Wine industry, energy efficiency, benchmarking
<b>Duration:</b>	January 2007 – December 2008
<b>Budget:</b>	€ 300,966 (EU contribution: 50%) Co funding: Regulatory Council for the Rioja Wines geographical origin designation, Ademe, Regione Piemonte, T. & G. Sistemi srl.
<b>Contract number:</b>	EIE/06/114/SI2.442478



#### Short description

The project AMETHYST aimed at developing a benchmarking and self-assessment tool for small and mid-scale wine manufacturers. The tool gives wineries insight in the relative energy and water efficiency of the winery and the potentials to improve this position. Based on previous experiences with wineries it is estimated that savings of more than 20% can be obtained in a cost-effective way. This will result in reductions in peak electricity use, reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and improve the bottom line of wineries across the EU. Specific benchmarking tools for France, Spain, Italy and Germany have been developed, together responsible for nearly 80% of the EU wine production (and over 50% of the global production). The tool is available from the internet and more than eight workshops have been organised in important wine regions in the four member states to train over 125 wineries in the use of the tool.

#### Achieved results

- Country versions of the benchmarking and self-assessment tool for France, Spain, Italy and Germany are available via the project website.
- A user guide to the tool is available via the project website.
- Reports from the workshops, describing the first experiences with the tool in the four countries are available from the website.

## Lessons learnt and conclusions

The workshops were the main means of dissemination of the tool. During the final project meeting, three key conclusions were drawn:

- There is a need for benchmarking information

In all countries, the winemakers' industry is looking for benchmarking information, allowing comparison with the position of competitors, rather than indicative index data.

- Image is key

Energy is generally not a real problem for winemakers, as the cost is relatively low compared to overall costs. Therefore the main issue in energy and water optimization is often not money but image; this comes back to the first conclusion, as it explains why results are most interesting when compared with results of competitors.

- Results depend on the characteristics of the user

The size of the winery will have an impact on the results: during the workshops, it was noted that generally big wineries had much better results than the small ones. This is partly linked to the size effect, but also to the fact that the big wineries are more recent, and therefore often more optimized in terms of energy and water consumption, as using more modern process units.