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Viña Concha y Toro and Inria Chile join forces to be leaders in Harvest 5.0

The company will work together with the French <u>Institute for Research in Science and Digital</u> <u>Technologies</u> based in Chile, with the aim of developing cutting-edge technologies for harvest operations using artificial intelligence.

The project will generate positive impacts on the wine industry and, particularly in the Maule region, Chile, where it will invest in new technological capabilities and advanced human capital, strengthening the regional and national innovation ecosystem.

April, 2024. A virtuous relationship between the public, private and academic world converges in the Harvest 5.0 initiative, led by Viña Concha y Toro and Inria Chile, the only center created by the French Institute for Research in Science and Digital Technologies outside France.

The Harvest 5.0 project aims to optimize productive and qualitative decisions during the grape harvest through a digital transformation to improve human-machine planning, which is especially relevant in a scenario of climate change. To this end, it seeks to develop a digital system that is integrated by predictive models based on explainable artificial intelligence to predict harvest volume, vine phenology, grape maturity monitoring and the scheduling of grape reception and winemaking operations.

After a competitive application, Corfo, a state agency, awarded funds to initiate this development, which will be carried out by Viña Concha y Toro's Center for Research and Innovation (CRI) and Inria Chile. "The strategic alliance 'Corfo - Inria Chile - Viña Concha y Toro' for the pioneering development of the fifth industrial revolution in the Chilean wine sector is great news that will strengthen national and regional technological capabilities and will pioneer the development of human-machine technologies," noted the director of Viña Concha y Toro's CRI, Álvaro González.

"Maintaining efficiency in harvesting and winemaking operations is fundamental for the industry, especially in an environment where climate change makes the process more challenging," said Viña Concha y Toro's project leader, Ricardo Luna.

The initiative implements the so-called Industrial Revolution 5.0, an evolutionary phase driven by the advanced integration of artificial intelligence and greater collaboration with humans. In this context, it stands out for significantly enhancing the capacity for human understanding of machine-generated results. "Although there are similar projects in the wine industry in other countries, this initiative is positioned as a worldwide project by proposing the integration of solutions based on explainable artificial intelligence to optimize and

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manage the various phases of the wine-making process jointly with humans," explained the director of Inria Chile, Nayat Sánchez-Pi.

"This is a strategic project that we will develop with Viña Concha y Toro. It is an interdisciplinary and pioneering project in the application of explainable artificial intelligence for the adaptation of the winemaking process to the effects of climate change. We intend to strengthen the positioning of Chile and its wine industry not only at a regional but also at a global level, with a view to sustainable technological development and with the human being at the center for a more optimal and resilient industry", she added.

The agreement signed between Viña Concha y Toro and Inria Chile is for five years and involves an investment of Ch\$1,500 million. Of the total, Viña Concha y Toro will finance Ch\$900 million, while the rest corresponds to a contribution from Corfo.

About Inria

Inria, the French National Institute for Research in Digital Sciences and Technologies, is under the aegis of the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research and the French Ministry of Economy, Finance and Industrial and Digital Sovereignty, and is the French state's executing arm for the country's digital sovereignty. Among its responsibilities is the coordination of the research component of France's National Strategy on Artificial Intelligence and the management of the Paris center of expertise of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI). Its ecosystem is composed of 10 research centers (9 in France and one in Chile); 3,900 scientists, 220 teams-projects in operation (more than 80% of them in conjunction with universities and research institutes) and 230 startups have been created under its wing since 1984.

In Chile, where Inria decided to set up its only center outside France 12 years ago, it has collaborated with more than 750 researchers and 330 Chilean and international institutions, developing more than 200 R&D projects. During these years, thanks to the initiatives promoted or articulated by Inria Chile, more than 60 open source softwares have been developed, more than 270 students have received scholarships for internships or theses and more than 1,000 people have been trained through the Inria Academy.

About Viña Concha y Toro

Viña Concha y Toro is a global leader in the wine industry with a history of more than 140 years. It is currently the leading wine exporter in Latin America and one of the most important wine brands in the world, with a presence in more than 130 countries. Its production origins in Chile, Argentina and the United States give its wines character and identity, giving rise to a large family of unique global brands, recognized worldwide for their quality, innovation and sustainability. Its headquarters are in Santiago de Chile, with more than 12 thousand hectares of vineyards planted in the main wine valleys of Chile, Argentina and the United States. In addition, it has 12 commercial offices located in its main markets around the world.

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