

Food & Vine gains green seal

By Anna Wolfe

NAPA, Calif.--**Food & Vine Inc., purveyors of *Salute Sante! Grapeseed Oil* received the green seal of approval from the Washington-based Co-op America Business Network in April.**

This distinction recognizes Food & Vine's commitment and achievements as a green company, placing it among the nation's progressive businesses working in an environmentally and socially responsible manner.

For Food & Vine, it made sense to get the recognition for the environmentally friendly business practices its had in place since the company's launch 12 years ago, explained Valentin Humer, president and CEO. Grapeseed oil, is a by-product of the wine industry, made from grape seeds obtained after the wine is pressed.

Not only is its end-product environmentally friendly, Food & Vine uses energy-saving practices throughout its business, starting with the grapeseed oil production: The "press cake" left over from making the oil, provides 66 percent of the fuel for its production equipment.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, the company has established a recycling program with its customer restaurants. After the oil is used in deep-fryers, Food & Vine picks up the oil, filters it and uses it as a diesel fuel alternative in the company's three vehicles. "This type of energy burns cleaner than diesel fuel, so it's good for the environment, and the car usage is the same, no changes to the power or mileage; it's an incredible diesel-fuel substitute" said Humer.

Salute Sante! Grapeseed Oil is packaged in UV-resistant, recyclable glass bottles and cans which are recyclable.

The Business Network is the green business program of Co-op America, a non-profit educator on socially and environmentally responsible consumption and investing. Co-op America currently has 60,000 individual members.

For more information please visit www.grapeseedoil.com

