

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC
Form 10KSB
April 15, 2005

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-KSB

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2004

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Commission File number 0-21522

WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS, INC.

(Name of Small Business Issuer in Its Charter)

OREGON 93-0981021
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. employer
incorporation or organization) identification number)

8800 Enchanted Way, S.E.
Turner, OR 97392
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Issuer's telephone number, including area code: (503) 588-9463

Securities registered under Section 12(b) of the Exchange Act: None

Securities registered under Section 12(g) of the Exchange Act: Common Stock
(Title of class)

Check whether the issuer (1) filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act during the past 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. YES NO

Check if there is no dice, rights and privileges, and shall comply with all regulations, rules, ordinances, statutes, orders and decrees of any governmental or quasi-governmental authority or court applicable to Borrower and Borrower's business activities.

Assumed Business Names. Borrower has filed or recorded all documents or filings required by law relating to all assumed business names used by Borrower. Excluding the name of Borrower, the following is a complete list of all assumed business names under which Borrower does business: None.

Authorization. Borrower's execution, delivery, and performance of this Agreement and all the Related Documents have been duly authorized by all necessary action by Borrower and do not conflict with, result in a violation of, or constitute a default under (1) any provision of (a) Borrower's articles of incorporation or organization, or bylaws, or (b) any agreement or other instrument binding upon Borrower or (2) any law, governmental regulation,

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

court decree, or order applicable to Borrower or to Borrower's properties.

Financial Information. Each of Borrower's financial statements supplied to Lender truly and completely disclosed Borrower's financial condition as of the date of the statement, and there has been no material adverse change in Borrower's financial condition subsequent to the date of the most recent financial statement supplied to Lender. Borrower has no material contingent obligations except as disclosed in such financial statements.

Legal Effect. This Agreement constitutes, and any instrument or agreement Borrower is required to give under this Agreement when delivered will constitute legal, valid, and binding obligations of Borrower enforceable against Borrower in accordance with their respective terms.

Properties. Except as contemplated by this Agreement or as previously disclosed in Borrower's financial statements or in writing to Lender and as accepted by Lender, and except for property tax liens for taxes not presently due and payable, Borrower owns and has good title to all of Borrower's properties free and clear of all Security Interests, and has not executed any security documents or financing statements relating to such properties. All of Borrower's properties are titled in Borrower's legal name, and Borrower has not used or filed a financing statement under any other name for at least the last five (5) years.

Hazardous Substances. Except as disclosed to and acknowledged by Lender in writing, Borrower represents and warrants that: (1) During the period of Borrower's ownership of the Collateral, there has been no use, generation, manufacture, storage, treatment, disposal, release or threatened release of any Hazardous Substance by any person on, under, about or from any of the Collateral. (2) Borrower has no knowledge of, or reason to believe that there has been (a) any breach or violation of any Environmental Laws; (b) any use, generation, manufacture, storage, treatment, disposal, release or threatened release of any Hazardous Substance on, under, about or from the Collateral by any prior owners or occupants of any of the Collateral; or (c) any actual or threatened litigation or claims of any kind by any person relating to such matters. (3) Neither Borrower nor any tenant, contractor, agent or other authorized user of any of the Collateral shall use, generate, manufacture, store, treat, dispose of or release any Hazardous Substance on, under, about or from any of the Collateral; and any such activity shall be conducted in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and ordinances, including without limitation all Environmental Laws. Borrower authorizes Lender and its agents to enter upon the Collateral to make such inspections and tests as Lender may deem appropriate to determine compliance of the Collateral with this section of the Agreement. Any inspections or tests made by Lender shall be at Borrower's expense and for Lender's purposes only and shall not be construed to create any responsibility or liability on the part of Lender to Borrower or to any other person. The representations and warranties contained herein are based on Borrower's due diligence in investigating the Collateral for hazardous waste and Hazardous Substances. Borrower hereby (1) releases and waives any future claims against Lender for indemnity or contribution in the event Borrower becomes liable for cleanup or other costs under any such laws, and (2) agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Lender against any and all claims, losses, liabilities, damages, penalties, and expenses which Lender may directly or indirectly sustain or suffer resulting from a breach of this section of the Agreement or as a consequence of any use, generation, manufacture, storage, disposal, release or threatened release of a hazardous waste or substance on the Collateral, or as a result of a violation of any Environmental Laws. The provisions of this section of the Agreement, including the obligation to indemnify, shall survive the payment of the Indebtedness and the termination, expiration or satisfaction of this Agreement and shall not be affected by Lender's acquisition of any interest in any of the Collateral, whether by foreclosure or otherwise.

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

Litigation and Claims. No litigation, claim, investigation, administrative proceeding or similar action (including those for unpaid taxes) against Borrower is pending or threatened, and no other event has occurred which may materially adversely affect Borrower's financial condition or properties, other than litigation, claims, or other events, if any, that have been disclosed to and acknowledged by Lender in writing.

Taxes. To the best of Borrower's knowledge, all of Borrower's tax returns and reports that are or were required to be filed, have been filed, and all taxes, assessments and other governmental charges have been paid in full, except those presently being or to be contested by Borrower in good faith in the ordinary course of business and for which adequate reserves have been provided.

Lien Priority. Unless otherwise previously disclosed to Lender in writing, Borrower has not entered into or granted any Security Agreements, or permitted the filing or attachment of any Security Interests on or affecting any of the Collateral directly or indirectly securing repayment of Borrower's Loan and Note, that would be prior or that may in any way be superior to Lender's Security Interests and rights in and to such Collateral.

Binding Effect. This Agreement, the Note, all Security Agreements (if any), and all Related Documents are binding upon the signers thereof, as well as upon their successors, representatives and assigns, and are legally enforceable in accordance with their respective terms.

AFFIRMATIVE COVENANTS. Borrower covenants and agrees with Lender that, so long as this Agreement remains in effect, Borrower will:

Notices of Claims and Litigation. Promptly inform Lender in writing of (1) all material adverse changes in Borrower's financial condition, and (2) all existing and all threatened litigation, claims, investigations, administrative proceedings or similar actions affecting Borrower or any Guarantor which could materially affect the financial condition of Borrower or the financial condition of any Guarantor.

Financial Records. Maintain its books and records in accordance with GAAP, applied on a consistent basis, and permit Lender to examine and audit Borrower's books and records at all reasonable times.

Financial Statements. Furnish Lender with the following:

Annual Statements. As soon as available, but in no event later than one-hundred-twenty (120) days after the end of each fiscal year, Borrower's balance sheet and income statement for the year ended, audited by a certified public accountant satisfactory to Lender.

Interim Statements. As soon as available, but in no event later than 45 days after the end of each fiscal quarter, Borrower's balance sheet and income statement for each quarter, if any, shall be filed with the SEC pursuant to Regulation S-B is not contained in this form, and no disclosure will be contained, to the best of the registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this form 10-KSB or any amendment to this Form 10-KSB [X].

Issuer's revenues for its most recent fiscal year: \$9,387,141

Aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Issuer based upon the closing bid price of such stock as of March 31, 2005: \$14,086,913

Number of shares of Common Stock outstanding: 4,486,278

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: None

Transitional Small Business Disclosure Format: YES [] No [X]

ITEM 1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS.

Introduction

Willamette Valley Vineyards, Inc. (the "Company") was formed in May 1988 to produce and sell premium, super premium and ultra premium varietal wines (i.e., wine which sells at retail prices of \$7 to \$14, \$14 to \$20 and over \$20 per 750 ml bottle, respectively). Willamette Valley Vineyards was originally established as a sole proprietorship by Oregon winegrower Jim Bernau in 1983. The Company's wines are made from grapes grown at its vineyard (the "Vineyard") and from grapes purchased from other nearby vineyards. The grapes are crushed, fermented and made into wine at the Company's winery (the "Winery") and the wines are sold principally under the Company's Willamette Valley Vineyards label. The Company's Vineyard and Winery are located on 75 acres of Company-owned land adjacent to Interstate 5, approximately two miles south of Salem, Oregon.

In October 2004, the Company sold the approximate 75.3 acre Meadowview parcel for \$726,675, one of two parcels for sale at its Tualatin Estate Vineyard. Pursuant to the sale leaseback agreement, the Company will continue to farm and develop the vineyard acres of this parcel. This parcel includes 15.7 acres of established vineyard, which the Company has agreed to lease for between 14 and 29 years, including three five year renewal terms, at the Company's option. The purchaser has agreed to fund the development of 30 acres of new vineyard on the property which the Company has agreed to lease. Seven of those acres were planted and trellised in 2004 with French Dijon clone 777 Pinot noir on disease resistant rootstock. The Company will begin paying rent on new acreage when the vines are commercially productive in 2008 for between 11 and 26 years, including three five year renewal terms, at the Company's option. The Company continues to offer the remaining property and equipment on the same type of sale/leaseback arrangement. The remaining parcel contains the Tualatin Estate winery plus 115 acres, including approximately 48 acres of developed vineyards, and is priced at \$1,605,000.

Products

Under its Willamette Valley Vineyards label, the Company produces and sells the following types of wine in 750 ml bottles: Pinot noir, the brand's flagship and its largest selling varietal in 2004, \$15 to \$50 per bottle; Chardonnay, \$14 to \$25 per bottle; Pinot gris, \$14 to \$18 per bottle; Riesling and Oregon Blossom (blush blend), \$10 per bottle (all bottle prices included herein are the suggested retail prices). The Company's mission for this brand is to become the premier producer of Pinot noir from the Pacific Northwest.

The Company currently produces and sells small quantities of Oregon's Nog (a seasonal holiday product), \$10 per bottle, and Edelweiss, \$10 per bottle, under a "Made in Oregon Cellars" label (all bottle prices are suggested retail prices).

Under its Tualatin Estate Vineyards label, the Company currently produces and sells the following types of wine in 750 ml bottles: Pinot noir, the brand's flagship, \$28 per bottle; Chardonnay, \$14 per bottle; Semi-Sparkling Muscat, \$16 per bottle; Late Harvest Gewurztraminer, \$20 per bottle; and Pinot blanc, \$15 per bottle (all bottle prices are suggested retail prices). The Company's mission for this brand is to be among the highest quality estate producers of Burgundy and Alsatian varietals in Oregon.

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

Under its Griffin Creek label, a joint effort between the Company and Quail Run Vineyards, the Company produces and sells the following types of wine in 750 ml bottles: Merlot, the brand's flagship, \$30 per bottle; Syrah, \$35 per bottle; Cabernet Sauvignon, \$35 per bottle; Cabernet Franc, \$30 per bottle; The Griffin (a Bordeaux blend), \$70 per bottle; Pinot gris, \$18 per bottle; Viognier, \$25 per bottle; and Pinot noir, \$25 per bottle, all bottle prices are suggested retail prices. This brand's mission is to be the highest quality producer of Bordeaux and Rhone varietals in Oregon.

Market Overview

Wine Consumption Trends: Wine consumption in the United States declined from 1987 to 1994 due to increased consumer health concerns and a growing awareness of alcohol abuse. That decline was led by sharp reductions in the low-cost non-varietal ("jug") wine and wine cooler segments of the market, which, prior to 1987, were two of the fastest growing market segments. Beginning in 1994, per capita wine consumption began to rise. The Company estimates that premium; super premium and ultra premium wine consumption will experience a me sheet and profit and loss statement for the period ended, compiled by a certified public accountant satisfactory to Lender.

All financial reports required to be provided under this Agreement shall be prepared in accordance with GAAP, applied on a consistent basis, and certified by Borrower as being true and correct.

Additional Information. Furnish such additional information and statements, as Lender may request from time to time.

Financial Covenants and Ratios. Comply with the following covenants and ratios:

Minimum Income and Cash flow Requirements. Borrower shall comply with the following cash flow ratio requirements: Cash Flow / Current Maturity (LTD) Ratio. Maintain a ratio of Cash Flow / Current Maturity (LTD) in excess of 1.250 to 1.000. The ratio "Cash Flow / Current Maturity (LTD)" means Borrower's Net Profits plus Depreciation, Depletion and Amortization divided by Borrower's Current Portion of Long Term Indebtedness. This coverage ratio will be evaluated as of year-end.

Tangible Net Worth Requirements. Maintain a minimum Tangible Net Worth of not less than: \$6,500,000.00. Other Net Worth requirements are as follows: Evaluated as of year end. In addition, Borrower shall comply with the following net worth ratio requirements:

Debt / Worth Ratio. Maintain a ratio of Debt / Worth not in excess of 2.500 to 1.000. The ratio "Debt / Worth" means Borrower's Total Liabilities divided by Borrower's Tangible Net Worth. This leverage ratio will be evaluated as of year-end.

Except as provided above, all computations made to determine compliance with the requirements contained in this paragraph shall be made in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, applied on a consistent basis, and certified by Borrower as being true and correct.

Insurance. Maintain fire and other risk insurance, public liability insurance, and such other insurance as Lender may require with respect to Borrower's properties and operations, in form, amounts, coverages and with insurance companies acceptable to Lender. Borrower, upon request of Lender, will deliver to Lender from time to time the policies or certificates of insurance in form satisfactory to Lender, including stipulations that coverages will not be cancelled or diminished without at least ten (10) days prior written notice to Lender. Each insurance policy also shall include an endorsement providing that coverage in favor of Lender will not be impaired in any way by any act,

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

omission or default of Borrower or any other person. In connection with all policies covering assets in which Lender holds or is offered a security interest for the Loans, Borrower will provide Lender with such lender's loss payable or other endorsements as Lender may require.

Insurance Reports. Furnish to Lender, upon request of Lender, reports on each existing insurance policy showing such information as Lender may reasonably request, including without limitation the following: (1) the name of the insurer; (2) the risks insured; (3) the amount of the policy; (4) the properties insured; (5) the then current property values on the basis of which insurance has been obtained, and the manner of determining those values; and (6) the expiration date of the policy. In addition, upon request of Lender (however not more often than annually), Borrower will have an independent appraiser satisfactory to Lender determine, as applicable, the actual cash value or replacement cost of any Collateral. The cost of such appraisal shall be paid by Borrower.

Other Agreements. Comply with all terms and conditions of all other agreements, whether now or hereafter existing, between Borrower and any other party and notify Lender immediately in writing of any default in connection with any other such agreements.

Loan Proceeds. Use all Loan proceeds solely for Borrower's business operations, unless specifically consented to the contrary by Lender in writing.

Taxes, Charges and Liens. Pay and discharge when due all of its indebtedness and obligations, including without limitation all assessments, taxes, governmental charges, levies and liens, of every kind and nature, imposed upon Borrower or its properties, income, or profits, prior to the date on which penalties would attach, and all lawful claims that, if unpaid, might become a lien or charge upon any of Borrower's properties, income, or profits.

Performance. Perform and comply, in a timely manner, with all terms, conditions, and provisions set forth in this Agreement, in the Related Documents, and in all other instruments and agreements between Borrower and Lender. Borrower shall notify Lender immediately in writing of any default in connection with any agreement.

Operations. Maintain executive and management personnel with substantially the same qualifications and experience as the present executive and management personnel; provide written notice to Lender of any change in executive and management personnel; conduct its business affairs in a reasonable and prudent manner.

Environmental Studies. Promptly conduct and complete, at Borrower's expense, all such investigations, studies, samplings and testings as may be requested by Lender or any governmental authority relative to any substance, or any waste or by-product of any substance defined as toxic or a hazardous substance under applicable federal, state, or local law, rule, regulation, order or directive, at or affecting any property or any facility owned, leased or used by Borrower.

Compliance with Governmental Requirements. Comply with all laws, ordinances, and regulations, now or hereafter in effect, of all governmental authorities applicable to the conduct of Borrower's properties, businesses and operations, and to the use or occupancy of the Collateral, including without limitation, the Americans With Disabilities Act. Borrower may contest in good faith any such law, ordinance, or regulation and withhold compliance during any proceeding, including appropriate appeals, so long as Borrower has notified Lender in writing prior to doing so and so long as, in Lender's sole opinion, Lender's interests in the Collateral are not jeopardized. Lender may require Borrower to post adequate security or a surety bond, reasonably satisfactory

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

to Lender, to protect Lender's interest

Inspection. Permit employees or agents of Lender at any reasonable time to inspect any and all Collateral for the Loan or Loans and Borrower's other properties and to examine or audit Borrower's books, accounts, and records and to make copies and memoranda of Borrower's books, accounts, and records. If Borrower now or at any time hereafter maintains any records (including without limitation computer generated records and computer software programs for the generation of such records) in the possession of a third party, Borrower, upon request of Lender, shall notify such party to permit Lender free access to such records at all reasonable times and to provide Lender with copies of any records it may request, all at Borrower's expense.

Compliance Certificates. Unless waived in writing by Lender, provide Lender at least annually, with a certificate executed by Borrower's chief financial officer, or other officer or person acceptable to Lender, certifying that the representations and warranties set forth in this Agreement are true and correct as of the date of the certificate and further certifying that, as of the date of the certificate, no Event of Default exists under this Agreement.

Environmental Compliance and Reports. Borrower shall comply in all respects with any and all Environmental Laws; not cause or permit to exist, as a result of an intentional or unintentional action or omission on Borrower's part or on the part of any third party, on property owned and/or occupied by Borrower, any environmental activity where damage may result to the environment, unless such environmental activity is pursuant to and in compliance with the conditions of a permit increase over the next few years. Consumers have restricted their drinking of alcoholic beverages and view premium, super premium and ultra premium wines as a beverage of moderation. The Company believes this change in consumer preference from low quality, inexpensive wines to premium, super premium and ultra premium wines reflects, in part, a growing emphasis on health and nutrition as a principal element of the contemporary lifestyle as well as an increased awareness of the risks associated with alcohol abuse.

The Oregon Wine Industry.

Oregon is a relatively new wine-producing region in comparison to California and France. In 1966, there were only two commercial wineries licensed in Oregon. By contrast, in 2004, there were 247 commercial wineries licensed in Oregon and over 13,700 acres of wine grape vineyards, 11,100 acres of which are currently producing. Total production of Oregon wines in 2004 is estimated to be approximately 1,174,749 cases. Oregon's entire 2004 production would have an estimated retail value of approximately \$234.9 million, assuming a retail price of \$200 per case, and a FOB value of approximately one-half of the retail value, or \$117.5 million.

Because of climate, soil and other growing conditions, the Willamette Valley in western Oregon is ideally suited to growing superior quality Pinot noir, Chardonnay, Pinot gris and Riesling wine grapes. Some of Oregon's Pinot noir, Pinot gris and Chardonnay wines have developed outstanding reputations, winning numerous national and international awards.

Oregon wine producers enjoy certain cost advantages over their California and French competitors due to lower costs for grapes, vineyard land and winery sites. For example, the average cost of unplanted vineyard land in Napa County, California is approximately \$40,000 per acre as compared to approximately \$7,500 per acre in Oregon. In the Burgundy region of France, virtually no new vineyard land is available for planting.

Oregon does have certain disadvantages, however. As a new wine-producing region, Oregon's wines are relatively little known to consumers worldwide and

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

the total wine production of Oregon wineries is small relative to California and French competitors. Greater worldwide label recognition and larger production levels give Oregon's competitors certain financial, marketing, distribution and unit cost advantages.

Furthermore, Oregon's Willamette Valley has an unpredictable rainfall pattern in early autumn. If significantly above-average rains occur just prior to the autumn grape harvest, the quality of harvested grapes is often materially diminished, thereby affecting that year's wine quality.

Finally, phylloxera, an aphid-like insect that feeds on the roots of grapevines, has been found in several commercial vineyards in Oregon. Contrary to the California experience, most Oregon phylloxera infestations have expanded very slowly and done only minimal damage. Nevertheless, phylloxera does constitute a significant risk to Oregon vineyards. Prior to the discovery of phylloxera in Oregon, all vine plantings in the Company's Vineyard were with non-resistant rootstock. As of December 31, 2004, the Company has not detected any phylloxera at its Turner site. Beginning with the Company's plantings in May 1992, only phylloxera-resistant rootstock was planted until 1997, when the previous management planted non-resistant rootstock on approximately 10 acres at the Tualatin Vineyard. In 1997, the Company purchased Tualatin Vineyards, which has phylloxera at its site. Since the third quarter of 1997, all plantings have been and all future planting will be on phylloxera resistant rootstock. The Company takes all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of phylloxera to its Turner site. Also phylloxera is active at the Belle Provenance Vineyard for which the Company has a 10-year lease. Any planting, training, and care of new plants at the Belle Provenance vineyard will not be at the expense of the Company, because under the terms of the lease, it would be the responsibility of the landowner.

As a result of these factors, subject to the risks and uncertainties identified above, the Company believes that long-term prospects for growth in the Oregon wine industry are excellent. The Company believes that over the next 20 years the Oregon wine industry will grow at a faster rate than the overall domestic wine industry, and that much of this growth will favor producers of premium, super premium and ultra premium wines such as the Company's.

Company Strategy

The Company, one of the largest wineries in Oregon by volume, believes its success is dependent upon its ability to: (1) grow and purchase high quality vinifera wine grapes; (2) vinify the grapes into premium, super premium and ultra premium wine; (3) achieve significant brand recognition for its wines, first in Oregon and then nationally and internationally; and (4) effectively distribute and sell its products nationally. The Company's goal is to continue as one of Oregon's largest wineries, and establish a reputation for producing some of Oregon's finest, most sought-after wines.

Based upon several highly regarded surveys of the US wine industry, the Company believes that successful wineries exhibit the following four key attributes: (i) focus on production of high-quality premium, super premium and ultra premium varietal wines; (ii) achieve brand positioning that supports high bottle prices for its high quality wines; (iii) build brand recognition by emphasizing restaurant sales; and (iv) development of the strong marketing advantages (such as a highly visible winery location and successful self-distribution).

The Company has designed its strategy to address each of these attributes.

To successfully execute this strategy, the Company has assembled a team of accomplished winemaking professionals, and has constructed and equipped a

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

22,934 square foot state-of-the-art Winery and a 12,500 square foot outdoor production area for the crushing, pressing and fermentation of wine grapes.

The Company's marketing and selling strategy is to sell its premium, super premium and ultra premium cork finished wine through a combination of (i) direct sales at the Winery, (ii) self-distribution to local and regional restaurants and retail outlets, and (iii) sales through independent distributors and wine brokers who market the Company's wine in specific targeted areas where self-distribution is not economically feasible.

The Company believes the location of its Winery next to Interstate 5, Oregon's major north-south freeway, significantly increases direct sales to consumers and facilitates self-distribution of the Company's products. The Company believes this location provides high visibility for the Winery to passing motorists, thus enhancing recognition of the Company's products in retail outlets and restaurants. The Company's Hospitality Center has further increased the Company's direct sales and enhanced public recognition of its wines.

Vineyard

The Property. The Company's estate vineyard at the Turner site currently has 44 acres planted and 41 acres producing, which includes 14 acres of Pinot noir and 7 acres of Riesling grape vines planted in 1985, which were grafted to Pinot noir in 1999. The Company planted 8 acres of Pinot gris vines in May 1992 and 6 acres of Chardonnay vines in 1993. In 1996, the Company planted its remaining 9 acres in Chardonnay and Pinot gris. Grapevines do not bear commercial quantities until the third growing season and do not become fully productive until the fifth to eighth growing season. Vineyards generally remain productive for 30 to 100 years, depending on weather conditions, disease and other factors.

The Vineyard uses an elaborate trellis design known as the Geneva Double Curtain. The Company has incurred the additional expense of constructing this trellis because it issued by the appropriate federal, state or local governmental authorities; shall furnish to Lender promptly and in any event within thirty (30) days after receipt thereof a copy of any notice, summons, lien, citation, directive, letter or other communication from any governmental agency or instrumentality concerning any intentional or unintentional action or omission on Borrower's part in connection with any environmental activity whether or not there is damage to the environment and/or other natural resources.

Additional Assurances. Make, execute and deliver to Lender such promissory notes, mortgages, deeds of trust, security agreements, assignments, financing statements, instruments, documents and other agreements as Lender or its attorneys may reasonably request to evidence and secure the Loans and to perfect all Security Interests.

RECOVERY OF ADDITIONAL COSTS. If the imposition of or any change in any law, rule, regulation or guideline, or the interpretation or application of any thereof by any court or administrative or governmental authority (including any request or policy not having the force of law) shall impose, modify or make applicable any taxes (except federal, state or local income or franchise taxes imposed on Lender), reserve requirements, capital adequacy requirements or other obligations which would (A) increase the cost to Lender for extending or maintaining the credit facilities to which this Agreement relates, (B) reduce the amounts payable to Lender under this Agreement or the Related Documents, or (C) reduce the rate of return on Lender's capital as a consequence of Lender's obligations with respect to the credit facilities to which this Agreement relates, then Borrower agrees to pay Lender such

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

additional amounts as will compensate Lender therefore, within five (5) days after Lender's written demand for such payment, which demand shall be accompanied by an explanation of such imposition or charge and a calculation in reasonable detail of the additional amounts payable by Borrower, which explanation and calculations shall be conclusive in the absence of manifest error.

LENDER'S EXPENDITURES. If any action or proceeding is commenced that would materially affect Lender's interest in the Collateral or if Borrower fails to comply with any provision of this Agreement or any Related Documents, including but not limited to Borrower's failure to discharge or pay when due any amounts Borrower is required to discharge or pay under this Agreement or any Related Documents, Lender on Borrower's behalf may (but shall not be obligated to) take any action that Lender deems appropriate, including but not limited to discharging or paying all taxes, liens, security interests, encumbrances and other claims, at any time levied or placed on any Collateral and paying all costs for insuring, maintaining and preserving any Collateral. All such expenditures incurred or paid by Lender for such purposes will then bear interest at the rate charged under the Note from the date incurred or paid by Lender to the date of repayment by Borrower. All such expenses will become a part of the Indebtedness and, at Lender's option, will (A) be payable on demand; (B) be added to the balance of the Note and be apportioned among and be payable with any installment payments to become due during either (1) the term of any applicable insurance policy; or (2) the remaining term of the Note; or (C) be treated as a balloon payment which will be due and payable at the Note's maturity.

NEGATIVE COVENANTS. Borrower covenants and agrees with Lender that while this Agreement is in effect, Borrower shall not, without the prior written consent of Lender:

Indebtedness and Liens. (1) Except for trade debt incurred in the normal course of business and indebtedness to Lender contemplated by this Agreement, create, incur or assume indebtedness for borrowed money, including capital leases, (2) sell, transfer, mortgage, assign, pledge, lease, grant a security interest in, or encumber any of Borrower's assets (except as allowed as Permitted Liens), or (3) sell with recourse any of Borrower's accounts, except to Lender.

Continuity of Operations. (1) Engage in any business activities substantially different than those in which Borrower is presently engaged, (2) cease operations, liquidate, merge, transfer, acquire or consolidate with any other entity, change its name, dissolve or transfer or sell Collateral out of the ordinary course of business, or (3) pay any dividends on Borrower's stock (other than dividends payable in its stock), provided, however that notwithstanding the foregoing, but only so long as no Event of Default has occurred and is continuing or would result from the payment of dividends, if Borrower is a "Subchapter S Corporation" (as defined in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended), Borrower may pay cash dividends on its stock to its shareholders from time to time in amounts necessary to enable the shareholders to pay income taxes and make estimated income tax payments to satisfy their liabilities under federal and state law which arise solely from their status as Shareholders of a Subchapter S Corporation because of their ownership of shares of Borrower's stock, or purchase or retire any of Borrower's outstanding shares or alter or amend Borrower's capital structure.

Loans, Acquisitions and Guaranties. (1) Loan, invest in or advance money or assets to any other person, enterprise or entity, (2) purchase, create or acquire any interest in any other enterprise or entity, or (3) incur any obligation as surety or guarantor other than in the ordinary course of business.

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

Agreements. Borrower will not enter into any agreement containing any provisions which would be violated or breached by the performance of Borrower's obligations under this Agreement or in connection herewith.

CESSATION OF ADVANCES. If Lender has made any commitment to make any Loan to Borrower, whether under this Agreement or under any other agreement, Lender shall have no obligation to make Loan Advances or to disburse Loan proceeds if: (A) Borrower or any Guarantor is in default under the terms of this Agreement or any of the Related Documents or any other agreement that Borrower or any Guarantor has with Lender; (B) Borrower or any Guarantor dies, becomes incompetent or becomes insolvent, files a petition in bankruptcy or similar proceedings, or is adjudged a bankrupt; (C) there occurs a material adverse change in Borrower's financial condition, in the financial condition of any Guarantor, or in the value of any Collateral securing any Loan; or (D) any Guarantor seeks, claims or otherwise attempts to limit, modify or revoke such Guarantor's guaranty of the Loan or any other loan with Lender; or (E) Lender in good faith deems itself insecure, even though no Event of Default shall have occurred.

RIGHT OF SETOFF. To the extent permitted by applicable law, Lender reserves a right of setoff in all Borrower's accounts with Lender (whether checking, savings, or some other account). This includes all accounts Borrower holds jointly with someone else and all accounts Borrower may open in the future. However, this does not include any IRA or Keogh accounts, or any trust accounts for which setoff would be prohibited by law. Borrower authorizes Lender, to the extent permitted by applicable law, to charge or setoff all sums owing on the Indebtedness against any and all such accounts, and, at Lender's option, to administratively freeze all such accounts to allow Lender to protect Lender's charge and setoff rights provided in this paragraph.

DEFAULT. Each of the following shall constitute an Event of Default under this Agreement:

Payment Default. Borrower fails to make any payment when due under the Loan.

Other Defaults. Borrower fails to comply with or to perform any other term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in this Agreement or in any of the Related Documents or to comply with doubles the number of canes upon which grape clusters grow and spreads these canes for additional solar exposure and air circulation. Research and practical applications of this trellis design indicate that it will increase production and improve grape quality over traditional designs.

Beginning in 1997, the Company embarked on a major effort to improve the quality of its flagship varietal by planting new Pinot noir clones that originated directly from the cool climate growing region of Burgundy rather than the previous source, Napa, California where winemakers believe the variety adopted to the warmer climate over the many years it was grown there.

These new French clones are called "Dijon clones" after the University of Dijon in Burgundy which assisted in their selection and shipment to a US government authorized quarantine site, and then seven years later to Oregon winegrowers. The most desirable of these new Pinot noir clones are numbered 113, 114, 115, 667 and 777. In addition to certain flavor advantages, these clones ripen up to two weeks earlier, allowing growers to pick before heavy autumn rains. Heavy rains can dilute concentrated fruit flavors and promote bunch rot and spoilage. These new Pinot noir clones were planted at the Tualatin Estate on disease resistant rootstock and the 667 and 777 clones have been grafted onto 7 acres of self rooted, non-disease resistant vines at the Company's Estate Vineyard near Turner.

New clones of Chardonnay preceded Pinot noir into Oregon also arranged by the University of Dijon, and were planted at the Company's Estate Vineyard on

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

disease resistant rootstock.

The purchase of Tualatin Vineyards, Inc. in April 1997 (including the subsequent sale-leaseback of a portion of the property in December 1999) added 83 acres of additional producing vineyards and approximately 60 acres of bare land for future plantings. In 1997, the Company planted 19 acres at the Tualatin site and planted another 41 acres in 1998, the majority being Pinot noir, which is the Company's flagship varietal.

Also in 1997, the Company entered into a 10-year lease with O'Connor Vineyards, now known as Belle Provenance, (53 acres) located near Salem to manage and obtain the supply of grapes from Belle Provenance Vineyards. In 2004, the Company informed Belle Provenance Vineyards that the Company will terminate the current lease at the end of the initial 10-year term.

In 1999, the Company purchased 33 acres of vineyard land adjoining Tualatin Estate for future plantings and used lot line adjustments to create three separate land parcels at Tualatin Estate.

The Company now controls 280 acres of vineyard land. At full production, these vineyards should enable the Company to grow approximately 50% of the grapes needed to meet the Winery's ultimate production capacity of 298,000 gallons (124,000 cases).

Grape Supply. In 2004, the Company's 41 acres of producing estate vineyard yielded approximately 104 tons of grapes for the Winery's fourteenth crush. Tualatin Vineyards produced 480 tons of grapes in 2004. Belle Provenance Vineyards produced 140 tons of grapes in 2004. In 2004, the Company purchased an additional 241 tons of grapes from other growers. The Winery's 2004 total wine production was 174,064 gallons (73,212 cases) from its 2002 and 2003 crushes. The Company expects to produce 153,612 gallons in 2004 (64,610 cases) from its 2004 crush. The Vineyard cannot and will not provide the sole supply of grapes for the Winery's near-term production requirements. The Company has also entered into grape purchase contracts with certain directors or their respective affiliates of the Company. See ITEM 12. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS.

In 2004, the Company entered into a long-term grape purchase agreement with one of its Willamette Valley wine grape growers whereby the grower agreed to plant 40 acres of Pinot gris and 50 acres of Riesling and the Winery agreed to purchase the yield at fixed contract prices through 2015. The wine grape grower must meet strict quality standards for the wine grapes to be accepted by the Winery at time of harvest and delivery. This new long-term grape purchase agreement will increase the Company's supply of high quality wine grapes and provide a long-term grape supply, at fixed prices.

The Company fulfills its remaining grape needs by purchasing grapes from other nearby vineyards at competitive prices. The Company believes high quality grapes will be available for purchase in sufficient quantity to meet the Company's requirements. The grapes grown on the Company's vineyards establish a foundation of quality, through the Company's best farming practices, upon which the quality of the Company's wines is built. In addition, wine produced from grapes grown in the Company's own vineyards may be labeled as "Estate Bottled" wines. These wines traditionally sell at a premium over non-estate bottled wines.

Viticultural Conditions. Oregon's Willamette Valley is recognized as a premier location for growing certain varieties of high quality wine grapes, particularly Pinot noir, Chardonnay, Riesling and Pinot gris. The Company believes that the Vineyard's growing conditions, including its soil, elevation, slope, rainfall, evening marine breezes and solar orientation are among the most ideal conditions in the United States for growing certain varieties of

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

high-quality wine grapes. The Vineyard's grape growing conditions compare favorably to those found in some of the famous Viticultural regions of France. Western Oregon's latitude (42o-46o North) and relationship to the eastern edge of a major ocean is very similar to certain centuries-old wine grape growing regions of France. These conditions are unduplicated anywhere else in the world except in the great wine grape regions of Northern Europe.

The Vineyard's soil type is Jory/Nekia, a dark reddish-brown silky clay loam over basalt bedrock noted for being well drained, acidic, of adequate depth, retentive of appropriate levels of moisture and particularly suited to growing high quality wine grapes.

The Vineyard's elevation ranges from 533 feet to 700 feet above sea level with slopes from 2 percent to 30 percent (predominately 12-20 percent). The Vineyard's slope is oriented to the south, southwest and west. Average annual precipitation at the Vineyard is 41.3 inches; average annual air temperature is 52 to 54 degrees Fahrenheit, and the length of each year's frost-free season averages from 190 to 210 days. These conditions compare favorably with conditions found throughout the Willamette Valley viticultural region and other domestic and foreign viticultural regions, which produce high quality wine grapes.

In the Willamette Valley, permanent vineyard irrigation is not required. The average annual rainfall provides sufficient moisture to avoid the need to irrigate the Vineyard. However, if the need should arise, the Company's property contains one water well which can sustain sufficient volume to meet the needs of the Winery and to provide auxiliary water to the Vineyard for new plantings and unusual drought conditions.

Winery

Wine Production Facility. The Company's Winery and production facilities are capable of producing up to 104,000 cases (250,000 gallons) of wine per year, depending on the type of wine produced. In 2004, the Winery produced 174,064 gallons (73,212 cases) from its 2002 and 2003 crushes. The Winery is 12,784 square feet in size and contains areas for the processing, fermenting, aging and bottling of wine, as well as an underground wine cellar, a tasting room, a retail sales room and administrative offices. There is a 12,500 square foot outside production area for crushing, pressing and fermenting wine grapes, and a 4,000 square foot insulated storage facility with a capacity of 30,000 cases of wine. The Company also has a 20,000 square foot storage building to store its inventory or to perform any term, obligation, covenant or condition contained in any other agreement between Lender and Borrower.

False Statements. Any warranty, representation or statement made or furnished to Lender by Borrower or on Borrower's behalf under this Agreement or the Related Documents is false or misleading in any material respect, either now or at the time made or furnished or becomes false or misleading at any time thereafter.

Insolvency. The dissolution or termination of Borrower's existence as a going business, the insolvency of Borrower, the appointment of a receiver for any part of Borrower's property, any assignment for the benefit of creditors, any type of creditor workout, or the commencement of any proceeding under any bankruptcy or insolvency laws by or against Borrower.

Defective Collateralization. This Agreement or any of the Related Documents ceases to be in full force and effect (including failure of any collateral document to create a valid and perfected security interest or lien) at any time and for any reason.

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

Creditor or Forfeiture Proceedings. Commencement of foreclosure or forfeiture proceedings, whether by judicial proceeding, self-help, repossession or any other method, by any creditor of Borrower or by any governmental agency against any collateral securing the Loan. This includes a garnishment of any of Borrower's accounts, including deposit accounts, with Lender. However, this Event of Default shall not apply if there is a good faith dispute by Borrower as to the validity or reasonableness of the claim which is the basis of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and if Borrower gives Lender written notice of the creditor or forfeiture proceeding and deposits with Lender monies or a surety bond for the creditor or forfeiture proceeding, in an amount determined by Lender, in its sole discretion, as being an adequate reserve or bond for the dispute.

Events Affecting Guarantor. Any of the preceding events occurs with respect to any Guarantor of any of the Indebtedness or any Guarantor dies or becomes incompetent, or revokes or disputes the validity of, or liability under, any Guaranty of the Indebtedness. In the event of a death, Lender, at its option, may, but shall not be required to, permit the Guarantor's estate to assume unconditionally the obligations arising under the guaranty in a manner satisfactory to Lender, and, in doing so, cure any Event of Default.

Change in Ownership. Any change in ownership of twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the common stock of Borrower.

Adverse Change. A material adverse change occurs in Borrower's financial condition, or Lender believes the prospect of payment or performance of the Loan is impaired.

Insecurity. Lender in good faith believes itself insecure.

Right to Cure. If any default, other than a default on Indebtedness, is curable and if Borrower or Grantor, as the case may be, has not been given a notice of a similar default within the preceding twelve (12) months, it may be cured if Borrower or Grantor, as the case may be, after receiving written notice from Lender demanding cure of such default: (1) cure the default within fifteen (15) days; or (2) if the cure requires more than fifteen (15) days, immediately initiate steps which Lender deems in Lender's sole discretion to be sufficient to cure the default and thereafter continue and complete all reasonable and necessary steps sufficient to produce compliance as soon as reasonably practical.

EFFECT OF AN EVENT OF DEFAULT. If any Event of Default shall occur, except where otherwise provided in this Agreement or the Related Documents, all commitments and obligations of Lender under this Agreement or the Related Documents or any other agreement immediately will terminate (including any obligation to make further Loan Advances or disbursements), and, at Lender's option, all Indebtedness immediately will become due and payable, all without notice of any kind to Borrower, except that in the case of an Event of Default of the type described in the "Insolvency" subsection above, such acceleration shall be automatic and not optional. In addition, Lender shall have all the rights and remedies provided in the Related Documents or available at law, in equity, or otherwise. Except as may be prohibited by applicable law, all of Lender's rights and remedies shall be cumulative and may be exercised singularly or concurrently. Election by Lender to pursue any remedy shall not exclude pursuit of any other remedy, and an election to make expenditures or to take action to perform an obligation of Borrower or of any Grantor shall not affect Lender's right to declare a default and to exercise its rights and remedies.

ATTORNEY FEES AND EXPENSES. The undersigned agrees to pay on demand all of Lender's costs and expenses, including Lender's attorney fees and legal

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

expenses, incurred in connection with enforcement of this Agreement. Lender may hire or pay someone else to help enforce this Agreement. Lender may also use attorneys who are salaried employees of Lender to enforce this Agreement. The undersigned shall pay all costs and expenses of all such enforcement. In the event arbitration, suit, action or other legal proceeding is brought to interpret or enforce this Agreement, the undersigned agrees to pay all additional sums as the arbitrator or court may adjudge reasonable as Lender's costs, disbursements, and attorney fees at hearing, trial, and on any and all appeals. As used in this paragraph "Agreement" means the loan agreement, promissory note, guaranty, security agreement, or other agreement, document, or instrument in which this paragraph is found, even if this document is also described by another name. Whether or not an arbitration or court action is filed, all reasonable attorney fees and expenses Lender incurs in protecting its interests and/or enforcing this Agreement shall become part of the Indebtedness evidenced or secured by this Agreement, shall bear interest at the highest applicable rate under the promissory note or credit agreement, and shall be paid to Lender by the other party or parties signing this Agreement on demand. The attorney fees and expenses covered by this paragraph include without limitation all of Lender's attorney fees (including the fees charged by Lender's in-house attorneys, calculated at hourly rates charged by attorneys in private practice with comparable skill and experience), Lender's fees and expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify, vacate, or obtain relief from any automatic stay), fees and expenses for Lender's post-judgment collection activities, Lender's cost of searching lien records, searching public record databases, on-line computer legal research, title reports, surveyor reports, appraisal reports, collateral inspection reports, title insurance, and bonds issued to protect Lender's collateral, all to the fullest extent allowed by law.

VENUE. The loan transaction that is evidenced by this Agreement has been applied for, considered, approved and made in the State of Oregon. If there is a lawsuit relating to this Agreement, the undersigned shall, at Lender's request, submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of Lane, Douglas or Washington County, Oregon, as selected by Lender, in its sole discretion, except and only to the extent of procedural matters related to Lender's perfection and enforcement of its rights and remedies against the collateral for the loan, if the law requires that such a suit be brought in another jurisdiction. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means the promissory note, guaranty, security agreement or other agreement, document or instrument in which this paragraph is found, even if this document is described by another name, as well.

COMMITMENT LETTER. The terms and provisions of this Agreement, the Note and the Related Documents supersede any inconsistent terms and conditions of Lender's loan commitment letter to Boof bottled product. The production area is equipped with a settling tank and sprinkler system for disposing of wastewater from the production process in compliance with environmental regulations.

With the purchase of Tualatin Vineyards, Inc., the Company added 20,000 square feet of additional production capacity. Although the Tualatin facility was constructed over twenty years ago, it adds 20,000 cases of wine production capacity to the Company, which the Company felt at the time of purchase was needed. To date, production and sales volumes have not expanded enough to necessitate the utilization of the Tualatin facilities. The Company decided to move current production to its Turner site to meet short-term production requirements. The capacity at Tualatin is available to the Company to meet any anticipated future production needs.

Hospitality Facility. The Company has a large tasting and hospitality facility of 19,470 square feet (the "Hospitality Center"). The first floor of the Hospitality Center includes retail sales space and a "great room" designed to accommodate approximately 400 persons for gatherings, meetings, weddings and

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

large wine tastings. An observation tower and decking around the Hospitality Center enable visitors to enjoy the view of the Willamette Valley and the Company's Vineyard. The Hospitality Center is joined with the present Winery by an underground cellar tunnel. The facility includes a basement cellar of 10,150 square feet (including the 2,460 square foot underground cellar tunnel) to expand storage of the Company's wine in a proper environment. The cellar provides the Winery with ample space for storing up to 1,600 barrels of wine for aging.

Just outside the Hospitality Center, the Company has a landscaped park setting consisting of one acre of terraced lawn for outdoor events and five wooded acres for picnics and social gatherings. The area between the Winery and the Hospitality Center forms a 20,000 square foot quadrangle. As designed, a removable fabric top that can cover the quadrangle, making it an all-weather outdoor facility to promote sale of the Company's wines through outdoor festivals and social events. The Company utilizes this space to host numerous events, most notably the annual fundraiser for the Marion-Polk Food Share, "Chefs' Nite Out."

The Company believes the Hospitality Center and the park and quadrangle has made the Winery an attractive recreational and social destination for tourists and local residents, thereby enhancing the Company's ability to sell its wines.

Mortgages on Properties. The Company's winery facilities are subject to two mortgages with a principal balance of \$2,534,901 at December 31, 2004. The mortgages are payable in annual aggregate installments, including principal and interest, of approximately \$350,000 through 2012. After 2012, the Company's annual aggregate mortgage payment including interest will be approximately \$75,000 until the year 2014. The mortgage on the Turner site had a principal balance of \$1,941,034 on December 31, 2004. The mortgage on the Tualatin Valley property, issued in April 1997 to fund the acquisition of the property and development of its vineyard, had a principal balance of \$593,867 on December 31, 2004.

Wine Production. The Company operates on the principle that winemaking is a natural but highly technical process requiring the attention and dedication of the winemaking staff. The Company's Winery is equipped with current technical innovations and uses modern laboratory equipment and computers to monitor the progress of each wine through all stages of the winemaking process.

The Company's recent annual grape harvest and wine production are as follows:

Crush Year	Tons of Grapes Crushed	Production Year	Cases Produced
2000	1223	2000	98,936
2001	1859	2001	85,554
2002	1091	2002	110,063
2003	917	2003	92,208
2004	994	2004	73,212

Sales and Distribution

Marketing Strategy. The Company markets and sells its wines through a combination of direct sales at the Winery, sales directly and indirectly through its shareholders, self-distribution to local restaurants and retail outlets in Oregon, directly through mailing lists, and through distributors and wine brokers who sell in specific targeted areas outside of the state of Oregon. As the Company has increased production volumes and achieved greater brand recognition, sales to other domestic markets have increased both in terms

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

of absolute dollars and as a percentage of total Company sales.

Direct Sales. The Company's Winery is located adjacent to the state's major north-south freeway (Interstate 5), approximately 2 miles south of the state's third largest metropolitan area (Salem), and 50 miles in either direction from the state's first and second largest metropolitan areas (Portland and Eugene, respectively). The Company believes the Winery's unique location along Interstate 5 has resulted in a greater amount of wines sold at the Winery as compared to the Oregon industry standard. Direct sales from the Winery are an important distribution channel and an effective means of product promotion. To increase brand awareness, the Company offers educational Winery tours and product presentations by trained personnel.

The Company holds four major festivals and events at the Winery each year. In addition, open houses are held at the Winery during major holiday weekends such as Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day and Thanksgiving, where barrel tastings and cellar tours are given. Numerous private parties, wedding receptions, political and other events are also held at the Winery. Finally, the Company participates in many wine and food festivals throughout Oregon. Each of these events results in direct sales of the Company's wines and promotion of its label to event attendees.

Direct sales are profitable because the Company is able to sell its wine directly to consumers at retail prices rather than to distributors or retailers at wholesale prices. Sales made directly to consumers at retail prices result in an increased profit margin equal to the difference between retail prices and distributor or wholesale prices, as the case may be. For 2004, direct sales were approximately 17% of the Company's revenue.

Self-Distribution. The Company has established a self-distribution system to sell its wines to restaurant and retail accounts located in Oregon. Eighteen sales representatives, who take wine orders and make some deliveries primarily on a commission-only basis, currently carry out the self-distribution program. Company-provided trucks and delivery drivers support several of these sales representatives. The Company believes this program of self-representation and delivery has allowed its relatively new wines to gain a strong presence in the Oregon market with over 1,200 restaurant and retail accounts established as of December 31, 2004. The Company further believes that the location of its Winery along Interstate 5 facilitates self-distribution throughout the entire Willamette Valley, where approximately 70% of Oregon's population resides.

The Company has expended significant resources to establish its self-distribution system. The system initially focused on distribution in the Willamette Valley, but has expanded to the Oregon coast and southern Oregon. For 2004, approximately 53% of the Company's net revenues were attributable to self-distribution.

Distributors and Wine Brokers. The Company uses both independent distributors and wine brokers primarily to market the Company's wines in specific targeted areas where self-distribution is not feasible. Only those distributors and wine brokers who have demonstrated knowlrrrower, provided that all obligations of Borrower under the commitment letter to pay any fees to Lender or any costs and expenses relating to the Loan or the commitment shall survive the execution and delivery of this Agreement. Borrower's failure to perform any such obligation shall constitute an Event of Default under this Agreement.

SWEEP ACCOUNT. Throughout the term of this Agreement, Borrower shall maintain with Lender a demand deposit operating account, with a minimum balance of average collected funds that is established by Lender after consulting with Borrower (the "Peg Balance"). If the account balance is less than the Peg Balance, then, to the extent available, an Advance on the Loan shall be deposited to the Operating account in the amount of that difference. If the

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

account balance exceeds the Peg Balance, the excess shall be withdrawn by Lender from that account and applied on the Loan.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS. The following miscellaneous provisions are a part of this Agreement:

Amendments. This Agreement, together with any Related Documents, constitutes the entire understanding and agreement of the parties as to the matters set forth in this Agreement. No alteration of or amendment to this Agreement shall be effective unless given in writing and signed by the party or parties sought to be charged or bound by the alteration or amendment.

Arbitration. Borrower and Lender agree that all disputes, claims and controversies between them whether individual, joint, or class in nature, arising from this Agreement or otherwise, including without limitation contract and tort disputes, shall be arbitrated pursuant to the Rules of the American Arbitration Association in effect at the time the claim is filed, upon request of either party. No act to take or dispose of any Collateral shall constitute a waiver of this arbitration agreement or be prohibited by this arbitration agreement. This includes, without limitation, obtaining injunctive relief or a temporary restraining order; foreclosing by notice and sale under any deed of trust or mortgage; obtaining a writ of attachment or imposition of a receiver; or exercising any rights relating to personal property, including taking or disposing of such property with or without judicial process pursuant to Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code. Any disputes, claims, or controversies concerning the lawfulness or reasonableness of any act, or exercise of any right, concerning any Collateral, including any claim to rescind, reform, or otherwise modify any agreement relating to the Collateral, shall also be arbitrated, provided however that no arbitrator shall have the right or the power to enjoin or restrain any act of any party. Judgment upon any award rendered by any arbitrator may be entered in any court having jurisdiction. Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude any party from seeking equitable relief from a court of competent jurisdiction. The statute of limitations, estoppel, waiver, laches, and similar doctrines which would otherwise be applicable in an action brought by a party shall be applicable in any arbitration proceeding, and the commencement of an arbitration proceeding shall be deemed the commencement of an action for these purposes. The Federal Arbitration Act shall apply to the construction, interpretation, and enforcement of this arbitration provision.

Expenses. If Lender institutes any suit or action to enforce any of the terms of this Agreement, Lender shall be entitled to recover such sum as the court may adjudge reasonable. Whether or not any court action is involved, and to the extent not prohibited by law, all reasonable expenses Lender incurs that in Lender's opinion are necessary at any time for the protection of its interest or the enforcement of its rights shall become a part of the Loan payable on demand and shall bear interest at the Note rate from the date of the expenditure until repaid. Expenses covered by this paragraph include, without limitation, however subject to any limits under applicable law, Lender's expenses for bankruptcy proceedings (including efforts to modify or vacate any automatic stay or injunction), appeals, and any anticipated post-judgment collection services, to the extent permitted by applicable law. Borrower also will pay any court costs, in addition to all other sums provided by law.

Caption Headings. Caption headings in this Agreement are for convenience purposes only and are not to be used to interpret or define the provisions of this Agreement.

Consent to Loan Participation. Borrower agrees and consents to Lender's sale or transfer, whether now or later, of one or more participation interests in the Loan to one or more purchasers, whether related or unrelated to Lender.

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

Lender may provide, without any limitation whatsoever, to any one or more purchasers, or potential purchasers, any information or knowledge Lender may have about Borrower or about any other matter relating to the Loan, and Borrower hereby waives any rights to privacy Borrower may have with respect to such matters. Borrower additionally waives any and all notices of sale of participation interests, as well as all notices of any repurchase of such participation interests. Borrower also agrees that the purchasers of any such participation interests will be considered as the absolute owners of such interests in the Loan and will have all the rights granted under the participation agreement or agreements governing the sale of such participation interests. Borrower further waives all rights of offset or counterclaim that it may have now or later against Lender or against any purchaser of such a participation interest and unconditionally agrees that either Lender or such purchaser may enforce Borrower's obligation under the Loan irrespective of the failure or insolvency of any holder of any interest in the Loan. Borrower further agrees that the purchaser of any such participation interests may enforce its interests irrespective of any personal claims or defenses that Borrower may have against Lender.

Governing Law. This Agreement will be governed by federal law applicable to Lender and, to the extent not preempted by federal law, the laws of the State of Oregon without regard to its conflicts of law provisions. This Agreement has been accepted by Lender in the State of Oregon.

No Waiver by Lender. Lender shall not be deemed to have waived any rights under this Agreement unless such waiver is given in writing and signed by Lender. No delay or omission on the part of Lender in exercising any right shall operate as a waiver of such right or any other right. A waiver by Lender of a provision of this Agreement shall not prejudice or constitute a waiver of Lender's right otherwise to demand strict compliance with that provision or any other provision of this Agreement. No prior waiver by Lender, nor any course of dealing between Lender and Borrower, or between Lender and any Grantor, shall constitute a waiver of any of Lender's rights or of any of Borrower's or any Grantor's obligations as to any future transactions. Whenever the consent of Lender is required under this Agreement, the granting of such consent by Lender in any instance shall not constitute continuing consent to subsequent instances where such consent is required and in all cases such consent may be granted or withheld in the sole discretion of Lender.

Notices. Any notice required to be given under this Agreement shall be given in writing, and shall be effective when actually delivered, when actually received by telefacsimile (unless otherwise required by law), when deposited with a nationally recognized overnight courier, or, if mailed, when deposited in the United States mail, as first class, certified or registered mail postage prepaid, directed to the addresses shown near the beginning of this Agreement. Any party may change its address for notices under this Agreement by giving formal written notice to edge of and a proven ability to market premium, super premium, and ultra premium wines are utilized. Outside of Oregon, the Company's products are distributed in 37 states and the District of Columbia.

In connection with its ongoing transition to a national network of affiliated distributors, the Company has an agreement with fourteen affiliated distributors under which the Company's products are distributed in certain states. As part of that agreement, the distributors paid the company \$1,500,000 for a base amount of bottled wine to be retained by the Company, which was not recorded as a sale. The Company recorded a Distributor Obligation liability to recognize the future obligation of the Company to deliver the wine to the distributors, and recorded the wine as an asset at cost. The Company will hold the base amount of \$1,500,000 of wine until 2006, when the balance will be depleted on a straight-line basis until 2010. Also as part of that agreement, the Company has agreed to pay the distributors

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

incentive compensation if certain sales goals are met by 2006. The incentive compensation will be paid only in the event of a transaction in excess of \$12 million in value in which either the Company sells all or substantially all of its assets or a merger, sale of stock, or other similar transaction occurs, the result of which is that the Company's current shareholders do not own at least a majority of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the surviving entity. Assuming the \$12 million threshold is met and the distributors meet certain sales goals, the distributors will be entitled to incentive compensation equal to 20% of the total proceeds from the sale or transaction and up to 17.5% of the difference between the transaction value and approximately \$8.5 million.

Shareholders. As a public company, the Company has a unique marketing opportunity available to only a few of its competitors. The Company has approximately 3,091 shareholders of record, which represents approximately 5,000 wine consumers since family members hold many shares jointly.

Tourists. Oregon wineries are experiencing an increase in on-site visits by consumers. In California, visiting wineries is a very popular leisure time activity. Napa Valley is one of California's largest tourist attractions with over 3.54 million visitors in 2003. Wineries in Washington are also experiencing strong interest from tourists. Chateau Ste. Michelle, located near Woodinville, Washington, attracts approximately 200,000 visitors per year.

The Winery is located less than one mile from The Enchanted Forest, a gingerbread village/forest theme park that, in 2002, was Oregon's twentieth most visited tourist attraction. The Enchanted Forest, which operates from March 15 to September 30 each year, attracts approximately 130,000 paying visitors per year. Adjacent to the Enchanted Forest is the Thrillville Amusement Park and the Forest Glen Recreational Vehicle Park, which contains approximately 110 overnight recreational vehicle sites. Many of the visitors to the Enchanted Forest and RV Park visit the Winery. More importantly, the Company believes its convenient location, adjacent to Interstate 5, enables the Winery to attract a significant number of visitors.

Competition

The wine industry is highly competitive. In a broad sense, wines may be considered to compete with all alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages. Within the wine industry, the Company believes that its principal competitors include wineries in Oregon, California and Washington, which, like the Company, produce premium, super premium, and ultra premium wines. Wine production in the United States is dominated by large California wineries that have significantly greater financial, production, distribution and marketing resources than the Company. Currently, no Oregon winery dominates the Oregon wine market. Several Oregon wineries, however, are older and better established and have greater label recognition than the Company.

The Company believes that the principal competitive factors in the premium, super premium, and ultra premium segment of the wine industry are product quality, price, label recognition, and product supply. The Company believes it competes favorably with respect to each of these factors. The Company has received Excellent to Recommended reviews in tastings of its wines and believes its prices are competitive with other Oregon wineries. Larger scale production is necessary to satisfy retailers' and restaurants' demand and the Company believes that its current level of production is adequate to meet that demand for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, the Company believes that its ultimate forecasted production level of 298,000 gallons (124,000 cases) per year will give it significant competitive advantages over most Oregon wineries in areas such as marketing, distribution arrangements, grape purchasing, and access to financing. The current production level of most Oregon wineries is

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

generally much smaller than the projected production level of the Company's Winery. With respect to label recognition, the Company believes that its unique structure as a consumer-owned company will give it a significant advantage in gaining market share in Oregon as well as penetrating other wine markets.

Governmental Regulation of the Wine Industry

The production and sale of wine is subject to extensive regulation by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau and the Oregon Liquor Control Commission. The Company is licensed by and meets the bonding requirements of each of these governmental agencies. Sale of the Company's wine is subject to federal alcohol tax payable at the time wine is removed from the bonded area of the Winery for shipment to customers or for sale in its tasting room. The current federal alcohol tax rate is \$1.07 per gallon; however, wineries that produce not more than 150,000 gallons during the calendar year are allowed a graduated tax credit of up to \$0.90 per gallon on the first 100,000 gallons of wine (other than sparkling wines) removed from the bonded area during that year. The Company also pays the state of Oregon an excise tax of \$0.67 per gallon on all wine sold in Oregon. In addition, all states in which the Company's wines are sold impose varying excise taxes on the sale of alcoholic beverages. As an agricultural processor, the Company is also regulated by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and, as a producer of wastewater, by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. The Company has secured all necessary permits to operate its business. The Company estimates that its costs of compliance with federal and state environmental laws is \$3,000 per year.

Prompted by growing government budget shortfalls and public reaction against alcohol abuse, Congress and many state legislatures are considering various proposals to impose additional excise taxes on the production and sale of alcoholic beverages, including table wines. Some of the excise tax rates being considered are substantial. The ultimate effects of such legislation, if passed, cannot be assessed accurately since the proposals are still in the discussion stage. Any increase in the taxes imposed on table wines can be expected to have a potentially adverse impact on overall sales of such products. However, the impact may not be proportionate to that experienced by producers of other alcoholic beverages and may not be the same in every state.

Employees

As of December 31, 2004 the Company had 70 full-time employees and 6 part-time employees. In addition, the Company hires additional employees for seasonal work as required. The Company's employees are not represented by any collective bargaining unit. The Company believes it maintains positive relations with its employees.

Additional Information

The Company files quarterly and annual reports with the other parties, specifying that the purpose of the notice is to change the party's address. For notice purposes, Borrower agrees to keep Lender informed at all times of Borrower's current address. Unless otherwise provided or required by law, if there is more than one Borrower, any notice given by Lender to any Borrower is deemed to be notice given to all Borrowers.

Severability. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds any provision of this Agreement to be illegal, invalid, or unenforceable as to any circumstance, that finding shall not make the offending provision illegal, invalid, or unenforceable as to any other circumstance. If feasible, the offending

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

provision shall be considered modified so that it becomes legal, valid and enforceable. If the offending provision cannot be so modified, it shall be considered deleted from this Agreement. Unless otherwise required by law, the illegality, invalidity, or unenforceability of any provision of this Agreement shall not affect the legality, validity or enforceability of any other provision of this Agreement.

Subsidiaries and Affiliates of Borrower. To the extent the context of any provisions of this Agreement makes it appropriate, including without limitation any representation, warranty or covenant, the word "Borrower" as used in this Agreement shall include all of Borrower's subsidiaries and affiliates. Notwithstanding the foregoing however, under no circumstances shall this Agreement be construed to require Lender to make any Loan or other financial accommodation to any of Borrower's subsidiaries or affiliates.

Successors and Assigns. All covenants and agreements by or on behalf of Borrower contained in this Agreement or any Related Documents shall bind Borrower's successors and assigns and shall inure to the benefit of Lender and its successors and assigns. Borrower shall not, however, have the right to assign Borrower's rights under this Agreement or any interest therein, without the prior written consent of Lender.

Survival of Representations and Warranties. Borrower understands and agrees that in extending Loan Advances, Lender is relying on all representations, warranties, and covenants made by Borrower in this Agreement or in any certificate or other instrument delivered by Borrower to Lender under this Agreement or the Related Documents. Borrower further agrees that regardless of any investigation made by Lender, all such representations, warranties and covenants will survive the extension of Loan Advances and delivery to Lender of the Related Documents, shall be continuing in nature, shall be deemed made and redated by Borrower at the time each Loan Advance is made, and shall remain in full force and effect until such time as Borrower's Indebtedness shall be paid in full, or until this Agreement shall be terminated in the manner provided above, whichever is the last to occur.

Time is of the Essence. Time is of the essence in the performance of this Agreement.

DEFINITIONS. The following capitalized words and terms shall have the following meanings when used in this Agreement. Unless specifically stated to the contrary, all references to dollar amounts shall mean amounts in lawful money of the United States of America. Words and terms used in the singular shall include the plural, and the plural shall include the singular, as the context may require. Words and terms not otherwise defined in this Agreement shall have the meanings attributed to such terms in the Uniform Commercial Code. Accounting words and terms not otherwise defined in this Agreement shall have the meanings assigned to them in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as in effect on the date of this Agreement:

Account. The word "Account" means a trade account, account receivable, other receivable, or other right to payment for goods sold or services rendered owing to Borrower (or to a third party grantor acceptable to Lender).

Advance. The word "Advance" means a disbursement of Loan funds made, or to be made, to Borrower or on Borrower's behalf under the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

Agreement. The word "Agreement" means this Business Loan Agreement (Asset Based), as this Business Loan Agreement (Asset Based) may be amended or modified from time to time, together with all exhibits and schedules attached to this Business Loan Agreement (Asset Based) from time to time.

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

Borrower. The word "Borrower" means Willamette Valley Vineyards, Inc and includes all co-signers and co-makers signing the Note.

Borrowing Base. The words "Borrowing Base" mean as determined by Lender from time to time, the lesser of (1) \$2,000,000.00 or (2) 80% of all aggregate amount of Eligible Accounts (not to exceed in corresponding Loan amount based on Eligible Accounts \$2,000,000.00), plus (ii) 50% of the aggregate of Eligible Inventory (not to exceed in corresponding Loan amount based on Eligible Inventory \$2,000,000.00).

Business Day. The words "Business Day" mean a day on which commercial banks are open in the State of Oregon.

Collateral. The word "Collateral" means all property and assets granted as collateral security for a Loan, whether real or personal property, whether granted directly or indirectly, whether granted now or in the future, and whether granted in the form of a security interest, mortgage, collateral mortgage, deed of trust, assignment, pledge, crop pledge, chattel mortgage, collateral chattel mortgage, chattel trust, factor's lien, equipment trust, conditional sale, trust receipt, lien, charge, lien or title retention contract, lease or consignment intended as a security device, or any other security or lien interest whatsoever, whether created by law, contract, or otherwise. The word Collateral also includes without limitation all collateral described in the Collateral section of this Agreement.

Eligible Accounts. The words "Eligible Accounts" mean at any time, all of Borrower's Accounts which contain selling terms and conditions acceptable to Lender. The net amount of any Eligible Account against which Borrower may borrow shall exclude all returns, discounts, credits, and offsets of any nature. Unless otherwise agreed to by Lender in writing, Eligible Accounts do not include:

- (1) Accounts with respect to which the Account Debtor is employee or agent of Borrower.
- (2) Accounts with respect to which the Account Debtor is a subsidiary of, or affiliated with Borrower or its shareholders, officers, or directors.
- (3) Accounts with respect to which goods are placed on consignment, guaranteed sale, or other terms by reason of which the payment by the Account Debtor may be conditional.
- (4) Accounts with respect to which the Account Debtor is not a resident of the United States, except to the extent such Accounts are supported by insurance, bonds or other assurances satisfactory to Lender.
- (5) Accounts with respect to which Borrower is or may become liable to the Account Debtor for goods sold or services rendered by the Account Debtor to Borrower.
- (6) Accounts which are subject to dispute, counterclaim, or setoff.
- (7) Accounts with respect to which the goods have not been shipped or delivered, or the services have not been rendered, to the Account Debtor.
- (8) Accounts with respect to which Lender, in its sole discretion, deems the creditworthiness or financial condition of the Account Debtor to be unsatisfactory.
- (9) Accounts of any Account Debtor who has filed or has had filed against it a petition in bankruptcy or an application for relief under any provision of any state or federal bankruptcy, insolvency, or debtor-in-relief acts; or who has had appointed a trustee, custodian, or receiver for the assets of such Account Debtor; or who has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors or has become insolvent or fails generally to pay its debts (including its payrolls) as such debts become due.
- (10) Accounts with respect to which the Account Debtor is the United States government or any department the Securities and Exchange Commission. The public may read and copy any material that the Company files with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington D.C. 20549. The public may also obtain information on

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. As the Company is an electronic filer, filings may be obtained via the SEC website at (www.sec.gov). Also visit the Company's website (www.wvv.com) for links to stock position and pricing.

ITEM 2. DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.

See "DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS -- Winery" and "-- Vineyard".

The Company carries Property and Liability insurance coverage in amounts deemed adequate by Management.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

There are no material legal proceedings pending to which the Company is a party or to which any of its property is subject, and the Company's management does not know of any such action being contemplated.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS.

There were no matters submitted to a vote of security holders during the Company's Fourth Quarter ended December 31, 2004.

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS.

The Company's Common Stock is traded on the NASDAQ Small Cap Market under the symbol "WVVI." As of December 31, 2004, there were 3,029 stockholders of record of the Common Stock.

The table below sets forth for the quarters indicated the high and low bids for the Company's Common Stock as reported on the NASDAQ Small Cap Market. The Company's Common Stock began trading publicly on September 13, 1994.

Quarter Ended

	3/31/04	6/30/04	9/30/04	12/31/04
High	\$2.52	\$2.54	\$2.50	\$3.98
Low	\$2.00	\$2.07	\$1.87	\$2.06

Quarter Ended

	3/31/03	6/30/03	9/30/03	12/31/03
High	\$1.74	\$1.53	\$2.05	\$2.30
Low	\$1.26	\$1.08	\$1.18	\$1.64

The Company has not paid any dividends on the Common Stock, and it is not anticipated that the Company will pay any dividends in the foreseeable future. The Company intends to use its earnings to grow the distribution of its brands, improve quality and reduce debt. The Management does not intend to use earnings to pay dividends and if it chooses to recommend to the Board it approve such an action, management would first seek approval of it lender providing the credit facility.

Equity Compensation Plan Information

Number of Securities to be issued upon	Weighted-average	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity
--	------------------	---

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

Plan Category	exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in common (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	284,200	\$1.90	604,300
Equity compensation plans not approved By security holders	-	\$ -	-
Total	284,200	\$1.90	604,300

ITEM 6. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OR PLAN OF OPERATION.

Forward Looking Statement

This Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation and other sections of this Form 10KSB contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Words such as "expects", "anticipates", "intends", "plans", "believes", "seeks", "estimates", and variations of such words and similar expressions are intended to identify such forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements include, for example, statements regarding general market trends, predictions regarding growth and other future trends in the Oregon wine industry, expected availability of adequate grape supplies, expected positive impact of the Company's Hospitality Center on direct sales effort, expected increases in future sales. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that are based on current expectations, estimates and projections about the Company's business, and beliefs and assumptions made by management. Actual outcomes and results may differ materially from what is expressed or forecasted in such forward-looking statements due to numerous factors, including, but not limited to: availability of financing for growth, availability of adequate supply of high quality grapes, successful performance of internal operations, impact of competition, changes in wine broker or distributor relations or performance, impact of possible adverse weather conditions, impact of reduction in grape quality or supply due to disease, impact of governmental regulatory decisions, and other risks detailed below as well as those discussed elsewhere in this Form 10KSB and from time to time in the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filing and reports. In addition, such statements could be affected by general industry and market conditions and growth rates, and general domestic economic conditions.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations discusses Willamette Valley Vineyards' consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. As such, management is required to make certain estimates, judgments and assumptions that are believed to be reasonable based upon the information available. On an on-going basis, management evaluates its estimates and judgments, including those related to product returns, bad debts, inventories, investments, income taxes, financing operations, and contingencies and litigation. Management bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience and on various other factors that are believed to be reasonable

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

The Company's principal sources of revenue are derived from sales and distribution of wine. Revenue is recognized from wine sales at the time of shipment and passage of title. Our payment arrangements with customers provide primarily 30 day terms and, to a limited extent, 45 or 60 day terms. Shipping and handling costs are included in general and administrative expenses.

The Company values inventories at the lower of actual cost to produce the inventory or market value. We regularly review inventory quantities on hand and adjust our production requirements for the next twelve months based on estimated forecasts of product demand. A significant decrease in demand could result in an increase in the amount of excess inventory quantities on hand. In the future, if our inventory cost is determined to be greater than the net realizable value of the inventory upon sale, we would be required to recognize such excess costs in our cost of goods sold at the time of such determination. Therefore, although we make every effort to ensure the accuracy of our forecasts of future product demand, any significant unanticipated changes in demand could have a significant impact on the ultimate selling price and, therefore, the carrying value of our inventories or agency of the United States.

(11) That portion of the Accounts of any single Account Debtor which exceeds 10.000% of all of Borrower's Accounts.

(12) Accounts which have not been paid in full within 90 days from the invoice date. The entire balance of any Account of any single Account Debtor will be ineligible whenever the portion of the Account which has not been paid within 90 days from invoice date is in excess of \$10,000.00 of the total amount outstanding on the Account.

(13) Accounts with respect to which Account Debtor has received the goods but has no requirement to pay until a date forecasted in the future.

(14) Accounts with respect to which Account Debtor has retained a percentage of payment pending approval of goods.

(15) Accounts with respect to which Account Debtor has been submitted with a progress billing.

Eligible Inventory. The words "Eligible Inventory" mean, at any time, all of Borrower's Inventory as defined below, except:

(1) Inventory which is not owned by Borrower free and clear of all security interests, liens, encumbrances, and claims of third parties.

(2) Inventory which Lender, in its sole discretion, deems to be obsolete, unsalable, damaged, defective, or unfit for further processing.

(3) Cased and Bulk Wine, will be reduced by Trade Payables and to include Grower Payables.

(4) Wholesale values for collateral purposes will be "borrower's declared"; with bottled wine capped at \$90.00 per case; calculated on a per item basis.

(5) Eligible bulk wine will only include Willamette Valley Vineyard's own grapes of the last of the last two most recent years, with a sub-limit advance cap of \$500,000.00.

(6) Eligible bottled wine will only include that of years 2000 to the present.

Environmental Laws. The words "Environmental Laws" mean any and all state, federal and local statutes, regulations and ordinances relating to the protection of human health or the environment, including without limitation the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 9601, et seq. ("CERCLA"), the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-499 ("SARA"), the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. Section 1801, et seq., the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 6901, et seq., or other applicable state or federal laws, rules, or regulations adopted pursuant

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

thereto or intended to protect human health or the environment.

Event of Default. The words "Event of Default" mean any of the events of default set forth in this Agreement in the default section of this Agreement.

Expiration Date. The words "Expiration Date" mean the date of termination of Lender's commitment to lend under this Agreement.

GAAP. The word "GAAP" means generally accepted accounting principles.

Grantor. The word "Grantor" means each and all of the persons or entities granting a Security Interest in any Collateral for the Loan, including without limitation all Borrowers granting such a Security Interest.

Guarantor. The word "Guarantor" means any guarantor, surety, or accommodation party of any or all of the Loan.

Guaranty. The word "Guaranty" means the guaranty from Guarantor to Lender, including without limitation a guaranty of all or part of the Note.

Hazardous Substances. The words "Hazardous Substances" mean materials that, because of their quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or pose a present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly used, treated, stored, disposed of, generated, manufactured, transported or otherwise handled. The words "Hazardous Substances" are used in their very broadest sense and include without limitation any and all hazardous or toxic substances, materials or waste as defined by or listed under the Environmental Laws. The term "Hazardous Substances" also includes, without limitation, petroleum and petroleum by-products or any fraction thereof and asbestos.

Indebtedness. The word "Indebtedness" means the indebtedness evidenced by the Note or Related Documents, including all principal and interest together with all other indebtedness and costs and expenses for which Borrower is responsible under this Agreement or under any of the Related Documents.

Inventory. The word "Inventory" means all of Borrower's raw materials, work in process, finished goods, merchandise, parts and supplies, of every kind and description, and goods held for sale or lease or furnished under contracts of service in which Borrower now has or hereafter acquires any right, whether held by Borrower or others, and all documents of title, warehouse receipts, bills of lading, and all other documents of every type covering all or any part of the foregoing. Inventory includes inventory temporarily out of Borrower's custody or possession and all returns on Accounts.

Lender. The word "Lender" means Umpqua Bank, its successors and assigns.

Loan. The word "Loan" means any and all loans and financial accommodations from Lender to Borrower whether now or hereafter existing, and however evidenced, including without limitation those loans and financial accommodations described herein or described on any exhibit or schedule attached to this Agreement from time to time.

Note. The word "Note" means the Note executed by Willamette Valley Vineyards, Inc in the principal amount of \$2,000,000.00 dated December 29, 2004, together with all renewals of, extensions of, modifications of, refinancings of, consolidations of, and substitutions for the note or credit agreement.

Permitted Liens. The words "Permitted Liens" mean (1) liens and security interests securing Indebtedness owed by Borrower to Lender; (2) liens for taxes, assessments, or similar charges either not yet due or being contested in good faith; (3) liens of materialmen, mechanics, warehousemen, or carriers,

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

or other like liens arising in the ordinary course of business and securing obligations which are not yet delinquent; (4) purchase money liens or purchase money security interests upon or in any property acquired or held by Borrower in the ordinary course of business to secure indebtedness outstanding on the date of this Agreement or permitted to be incurred under the paragraph of this Agreement titled "Indebtedness and Liens"; (5) liens and security interests which, as of the date of this Agreement, have been disclosed to and approved by the Lender in writing; and (6) those liens and security interests which in the aggregate constitute an immaterial and insignificant monetary amount with respect to the net value of Borrower's assets.

Primary Credit Facility. The words "Primary Credit Facility" mean the credit facility described in the Line of Credit section of this Agreement.

Related Documents. The words "Related Documents" mean all promissory notes, credit agreements, loan agreements, environmental agreements, guaranties, security agreements, mortgages, deeds of trust, security deeds, collateral mortgages, and all other instruments, agreements and documents, whether now or hereafter existing, executed in connection with the Loan.

Security Agreement. The words "Security Agreement" mean and include without limitation any agreements, promises, covenants, arrangements, understandings or other agreements, whether created by law, contract, or otherwise, evidencing, governing, representing, or creating a Security Interest.

Security Interest. The words "Security Interest" mean, without limitation, any and all types of collateral security, present and future, whether in the form of a lien, charge, encumbrance, mortgage, deed of trust, security deed, assignment, pledge, crop pledge, chattel mortgage, collateral chattel mortgage, chattel trust, factor's lien, equipment trust, conditional sale, trust receipt, lien or title retention contract, lease or consignment intended as a security device, or any other security or lien interest why and our reported operating results.

We capitalize internal vineyard development costs prior to the vineyard land becoming fully productive. These costs consist primarily of the costs of the vines and expenditures related to labor and materials to prepare the land and construct vine trellises. Amortization of such costs as annual crop costs is done on a straight-line basis for the estimated economic useful life of the vineyard, which is estimated to be 30 years. The Company regularly evaluates the recoverability of capitalized costs. Amortization of vineyard development costs are included in capitalized crop costs that, in turn are included in inventory costs and ultimately become a component of cost of goods sold.

The Company pays depletion allowances to the Company's distributors based on their sales to their customers. The Company sets these allowances on a monthly basis and the Company's distributors bill them back on a monthly basis. All depletion expenses associated with a given month are expensed in that month as a reduction of revenues. The Company also pays a sample allowance to the Company's distributors in the form of a 1.5% discount applied to invoices for product sold to the Company's distributors. The expenses for samples are expensed at the time of sale in the selling, general and administrative expense. The Company's distributors use the allowance to sample product to prospective customers.

Amounts paid by customers to the Company for shipping and handling expenses are included in the net revenue. Expenses incurred for shipping and handling charges are included in selling, general and administrative expense. The Company's gross margins may not be comparable to other companies in the same industry as other companies may include shipping and handling expenses as a cost of goods sold.

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

OVERVIEW

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Management is continuing its focus on the Company's core product offerings, Vintage Pinot noir, Whole Cluster Pinot noir, Pinot gris and Riesling, and the continued building of the in-state wholesale department called Bacchus Fine Wines, to increase revenues. Total net revenues grew by 28 percent for the year ended December 31, 2004, compared to the prior year. Operating income increased 94 percent for the year ended December 31, 2004, compared to the prior year. The Company's record net income in 2004 increased primarily due to strong sales of the core product offerings to out-of-state distributors and Bacchus Fine Wines sales to Oregon restaurant and retail outlets.

Out-of-state sales increased primarily due to the growth in depletions (sales from distributors to their customers) of the Company's core product offerings. As a group, the depletions of these products from distributors to their customers increased 21% for the year ended December 31, 2004, compared to the prior year period, driving the 30% growth in sales from the winery to out-of-state distributors during the year ended December 31, 2004, compared to the prior year period. The Company increased sales expenses and distributor support, primarily in the form of increased market visits by the winery staff, depletion allowances and sales incentives, to spur the increase in distributor depletions.

Sales in the state of Oregon through the Company's wholesale sales force and through direct sales from the winery to retail licensees increased 45% for the year ended December 31, 2004 compared to the prior year period, primarily due to the growth of distributed wine brands. Expenses increased significantly in the year ended December 31, 2004 compared to the prior year period as delivery support was built up to support the additional brands rolled out in 2004. Management considers Bacchus Fine Wines to be in a building stage where an intense focus is being applied to the placement of purchased wine in restaurant and retail accounts. The Company has purchased a significant inventory of wines for resale totaling approximately \$950,000, placing an additional demand on cash and the Company's credit line. Management has taken these steps as it believes they will improve the sales opportunities for the Company's own wines with retail and restaurant customers and increase net income in the future.

Retail revenues were relatively flat during the year ended December 31, 2004 compared to the prior year period but retail cost of sales expenses were lower over the same comparable period. Although Tasting Room sales increased during the year ended December 31, 2004 compared to the same prior year period, the Winery experienced reductions in Key Customer sales due to staffing vacancies during the same comparable period. In the third and fourth quarter of 2004, Management added a Customer Service Coordinator and Key Customer Service personnel to increase direct sales to wine consumers.

During the year ended December 31, 2004, management initiated the sale and lease back of the 75.3 acre Meadowview parcel at the Tualatin Estate Vineyard for \$726,675, which closed on October 22, 2004. The net proceeds of the sale were recorded in 2004 as other income for the non-vineyard acres of the parcel not being leased back, and as deferred gain for the leased back vineyard acres. The deferred gain will then be amortized over the life of the lease. Pursuant to the sale leaseback agreement, the Company will continue to farm and develop the vineyard acres of this parcel. This parcel includes 15.7 acres of established vineyard that the Company has agreed to lease for between 14 and 29 years, including three five year renewal terms, at the Company's option. The parcel also includes 7 acres of vineyard planted in 2004 and

Edgar Filing: WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS INC - Form 10KSB

trellised with French Dijon clone 777 Pinot noir on disease resistant rootstock at the purchaser's expense, and 23 additional acres of vineyard land. The purchaser has agreed to fund the vineyard development of the 23 acres of vineyard land. The Company will begin paying rent on the 7 acres and any plantings on the 23 acres starting when the vines become commercially productive in 2008 for between 11 and 26 years, including three five year renewal terms, at the Company's option. The net cash proceeds of the sale were principally applied to reduce amounts owed under the Company's credit line.

Revenue from the remaining owned parcel at Tualatin Estate improved in the year ended December 31, 2004, due to renting of the winery facility to the Company's former winemaker.

In 2004, the Company entered into a long-term grape purchase agreement with one of its Willamette Valley wine grape growers, whereby the grower agreed to plant 40 acres of Pinot gris and 50 acres of Riesling and the Winery agreed to purchase the yield at fixed contract prices through 2015. The wine grape grower must meet strict quality standards for the wine grapes to be accepted by the Winery at time of harvest and delivery. This new long-term grape purchase agreement will increase the Company's supply of high quality wine grapes and provide a long-term grape supply, at fixed prices, which meet the Winery's gross margin goals.

Wine Quality

The quality of the Company's wines continued to attract national attention, including recommendations from chef and author Andrea Immer, Food Network's Chef Rachael Ray and chefs Caprial and John Pence of Oregon Public Broadcasting's Caprial and John's Kitchen.

Sales

Finished wine revenues increased 30% in the year ended December 31, 2004 compared to the previous year. Unit sales (6 and 12 bottle cases) increased 3% from the previous year. Case sales from the Winery decreased to 84,449 in the year ended December 31, 2004 from 90,294 in 2003 for product manufactured by the Company. The Company continued to experience increased unit sales for products other than its own through Bacchus Fine Wines, from 5,233 in 2003 to 13,782 in 2004. The Company's distributors experienced a collective increase of 12% in atsoever whether created by law, contract, or otherwise.

Tangible Net Worth. The words "Tangible Net Worth" mean Borrower's total assets excluding all intangible assets (i.e., goodwill, trademarks, patents, copyrights, organizational expenses, and similar intangible items, but including leaseholds and leasehold improvements) less total debt.

UNDER OREGON LAW, MOST AGREEMENTS, PROMISES AND COMMITMENTS MADE BY US (LENDER) CONCERNING LOANS AND OTHER CREDIT EXTENSIONS WHICH ARE NOT FOR PERSONAL, FAMILY OR HOUSEHOLD PURPOSES OR SECURED SOLELY BY THE BORROWER'S RESIDENCE MUST BE IN WRITING, EXPRESS CONSIDERATION AND BE SIGNED BY US TO BE ENFORCEABLE.

BORROWER ACKNOWLEDGES HAVING READ ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THIS BUSINESS LOAN AGREEMENT (ASSET BASED) AND BORROWER AGREES TO ITS TERMS. THIS BUSINESS LOAN AGREEMENT (ASSET BASED) IS DATED DECEMBER 29, 2004.

BORROWER:

WILLAMETTE VALLEY VINEYARDS, INC

By: ,/s/,,,,,, James W. Bernau, President of Willamette Valley Vineyards,

Inc

LENDER:

UMPQUA BANK

By: /s/,,,,,, Authorized Signer