

# NuKorc

## **Bottling Recommendations:**

When storing NuKorc, please ensure that bags are kept in their cartons, and stored under cover in a clean environment, not exposed to extreme heat or cold. Once a bag is opened, the requisite number of NuKorcs should be placed in the hopper and then the bag resealed. It is not good practice to put NuKorcs which have been removed from their sealed bags, back in those bags.

Product should not be used within 4 days of the date packed.

The most important factor is that only minimal, if any changes should be made to the bottling line.

## **Corking Machine:**

A four segment sliding jaw assembly is recommended (hand corkers are not recommended)

NuKorc compression diameter no less than 16.0mm for bottles with 18.5mm neck

Corker to be maintained to manufacturer's specification

Central alignment of cork plunger to jaws

Corker jaws to be thoroughly cleaned daily and at changeover

Natural cork dust should be vacuum cleaned from all parts of the line

Check 10<sup>th</sup> NuKorc to pass through each set of jaws for creasing, cutting or crushing

The use of heated corker jaws are not recommended

Please leave bottles standing upright 24 hours after NuKorc insertion

## **Ullage Space – Head Space – Air Space**

Should not be less than 15mm at 20°C (if wine is lower than 20°C then fill height should be adjusted to compensate for wine expansion at ambient temperature). This minimum headspace specification is designed to ensure sufficient volume is available for wine movement within headspace upon changes in temperature, thus minimising pressure build up on closures (excessive pressure may result in closure pushing or wine leakage).

## **Vacuum**

Adjust the vacuum pump to give -10 to -25 kPa internal pressure after closure insertion. Do not exceed atmospheric pressure. This headspace pressure specification works in conjunction with headspace specification. An increase in temperature produces an increase in headspace pressure. Bottling with a vacuum minimises potential impact of changes in temperature & hence headspace pressure. Again excessive increase in headspace pressure may result in closure pushing or wine leakage.

If nitrogen dosing of the headspace is used, subsequent vacuum prior to NuKorc insertion must be used.

Carbon dioxide dosing of the headspace can be used, but vacuum prior to NuKorc insertion is preferred.

## **Post Bottling**

Use a pressure gauge attached to a fine hollow needle to measure headspace pressure in the bottle five minutes after closure insertion. The pressure should be between -10 and -25 kPa.