

KORBEL®

CALIFORNIA CHAMPAGNE

Paul Ahvenainen
Senior Winemaker



Paul began his career at Korbel in 1985, shortly after his graduation from the University of California at Davis with a degree in Enology. Having gained extensive experience working in the laboratory, cellar, field operations, and as Assistant Winemaker, as well as teaching wine chemistry at Sonoma State University, Paul was promoted to the position of Winemaker prior to the 1996 harvest.

Named Senior Winemaker in 1998, Paul's responsibilities include all aspects of champagne production at Korbel. He monitors the quality of the wines throughout the entire process: from grape bunches to bottles of champagne.

He believes in combining the best of world-class grapes, modern technology, and traditional hand-craftsmanship to make Korbel a premier California Champagne. Paul credits much of the quality of our champagnes to the members of Korbel's cellar crew and laboratory, who are dedicated to excellence.

Born in Helsinki, Finland, Paul emigrated to the United States in 1968. He currently lives in nearby Sebastopol. When he isn't making wine, he enjoys restoring old sports cars, older houses and tractors. He is very interested in the preservation of Sonoma County's agricultural diversity.
