

Saving money and resources

Three questions to Prof. Dr. Dominik Durner, Dienstleistungszentrum Ländlicher Raum (DLR) Rheinpfalz, Weincampus Neustadt

Digitisation for cellar management has many facets. So not only saveaholics should be looking at the question of how resources can be saved and costs reduced in the winemaking business and especially in cellar management.



Where can a company start to save its energy costs?

Durner: Companies that want to save resources and energy should start where a reduction or increase in temperature is needed. The use of PID controllers (proportional-integral-derivative) and FC pumps (frequency converters) reduces the cold water requirement during fermentation. The cost of ceiling insulation or a high-speed door in the bottle storage area can pay for itself within a few years. When generating steam, it is important to descale regularly and to insulate storage and piping.

What new solutions to problems are possible thanks to digitisation?

Durner: Digital current meters allow us to monitor individual components. The

chiller, the electric steam generator and the air compressor accurately deliver their load profiles directly to a smartphone. It is easy to see when electricity is being consumed unnecessarily or when load peaks occur. One is able to judge whether energy use and benefits are balanced or identify when energy consumption gets out of hand.

“Digitisation in the process chain” is the focus of the 63rd International DWV-Congress. Why should winemakers participate in this conference and especially in the session “Resource Saving”?

Durner: Digitisation opens up completely new possibilities for us to conserve resources during the efficient and quality orientated production of grapes and making of wine. The digital laboratory efficiently provides us with real time energy data, encompassing procedures and quality parameters. This knowledge of operation procedures and products are undoubtedly important in order to successfully produce and sell wine in the future. If you want to learn about the latest technology and benefit from the experiences of others, you should register for this session!