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FLOATING ON AIR

New wine-racking system creates look in which bottles appear to be suspended

THREE YEARS AGO, wine cellar consultant Steve Papadimitriou received an unusual request from a client. His idea helped him launch a new business.

The client was looking for wine racking and had a simple image in mind: he wanted the bottles to appear as if they were floating on air.

Papadimitriou thought that instead of the traditional wall-mounted wooden racks to hold wine or some of the newer ideas that use aluminum rods and racks, a system of cables could achieve this. All that was needed for this floating, minimalist look were steel cables, some connecting clamps and a way to anchor them.

So Papadimitriou, who runs Papro Consulting, developed a system in which steel cables hold up wine bottles along a wall. Cable Wine Systems, as it's called, uses a series of floor-to-ceiling-mounted stainless steel tension cables. Pairs of curved chrome-finished brackets connect the aircraft-grade tension wires and hold each bottle. Each position is spaced evenly along the columns, allowing the wine bottles to appear suspended in mid-air.

Floating bottle idea achieved!

"Papro Consulting creates wine cellars that are as unique as the individuals who own them by combining various materials and racking

systems," says Papadimitriou. "When our client approached us, he wanted something that was different from existing wine racking."

Once he had completed the prototype in 2011, he decided to launch the racking system and offer it to other companies that build cellars.

Cable Wine Systems was officially launched this past summer and has been amassing a network of dealers who install the systems in homes and commercial establishments. "There are 30 projects in the design stage all over North America," says Papadimitriou, adding that the company has been getting inquiries from as far away as the U.K., Australia



and Sweden from people who have visited its website (www.cablewinesystems.com).

Papadimitriou, who exhibits every year at the Interior Design Show, says he originally wanted to find something that would be unusual enough to allow the company to stand out. Cable Wine Systems can rack as few as 10 bottles but there is no upper limit on the number of bottles it can be designed to hold.

Papadimitriou has been told by clients and designers of the other benefits of the system, namely their ability to view labels more easily. The system also allows for increased airflow between bottles.

"By carrying and combining a wide range of wine-racking styles and systems and successfully marrying them with a variety of finishing materials – stone, concrete, tile, many species of wood, metal, and glass – we build wine cellars that best reflect who our clients are while complementing the style of their homes or establishments," he says.

The client who originally had the idea for the floating bottles has still not completed his cellar. However, the system that floats bottles definitely has been completed and has allowed the wine rack to now rest comfortably in a contemporary design setting. ➤

CABLE WINE SYSTEMS

www.cablewinesystems.com
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