# Smart Machines showcases autonomous tractor technology in the US



Smart Machines, a leading innovator in agricultural technology, has made notable strides with its autonomous Oxin tractor, recently completing successful demonstrations in the United States. These events attracted significant interest from prominent wine producers and represent a strategic move in the company’s expansion efforts on a global scale.

According to Smart Machines Chief Executive Andrew Kersley, the feedback received from the demonstrations has been "overwhelmingly positive." He emphasized the company’s conviction in the Oxin tractor's potential to transform the industry, asserting, “We’ve definitely built the world’s most functionally advanced machinery in this space now.” He noted that attendees at the demos conveyed their appreciation for the functionality and capability showcased, which they felt could lead to meaningful operational improvements. Kersley added, "It’s validating to hear that we’ve reached the point where we can start integrating this technology into real-world operations."

The successful demonstrations in the US have solidified strategic partnerships, particularly with Pellenc America, which will serve as the company’s US distribution, service, and support partner. While the achievements in the United States mark a critical milestone, Smart Machines has also advanced its operations in New Zealand and Australia. In New Zealand, the Oxin tractor is actively operating across two key regions, with a total of 19 machines currently in service.

Kersley pointed out the tailored development efforts for New Zealand’s unique growing conditions, explaining, “We’ve been doing a lot of productive trial work with various customers, which is great. The pathway is looking pretty solid moving forward in New Zealand." In Australia, the Oxin has been tested in harsh conditions, including days reaching temperatures of 45 degrees Celsius, and in vineyards with extensive canopies. Notable early adopters, such as Duxton Vineyards, have contributed to successful trials. Kersley noted that these trials have opened up avenues for alternative crop markets like almonds and citrus, which also encounter significant labour challenges. “Australia’s proven to be a great testing ground that gives us some good experiences in terms of how we operate as a business outside of New Zealand,” he remarked, adding that this exposure has led to insights into broader global market opportunities.

Recognition for Smart Machines’ innovation came earlier this year when the company received the New Zealand Trade and Enterprise Most Innovative Hi-Tech Agritech Solution award. Kersley emphasized the impact of this accolade on team morale and its validation of their efforts as they seek to raise capital. “As an innovator, you’re so deep in the woods trying to solve problems that there’s not a lot of time to pop your head out and go, ‘look how cool this actually is’,” he articulated, reflecting on the award as a significant opportunity for the team to celebrate their achievements.

Looking ahead, Smart Machines is concentrating on scaling production and securing additional funding to support its ambitious growth plans. The company is actively exploring partnerships aimed at enhancing global manufacturing and distribution capabilities across its core markets of New Zealand, Australia, and the United States, while also seeking opportunities in Europe and South America. With strong investor interest and a robust technological foundation, Smart Machines appears well-positioned for further expansion. “We’re excited about the future and the opportunities to scale this technology globally, ensuring that it delivers real value to growers around the world,” Kersley concluded, affirming the company’s commitment to innovation in the autonomous machinery sphere.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.wineaustralia.com/news/articles/australia-first-trial-of-the-latest-robotic-tractor-technology> - Corroborates the trial of the OXIN robotic tractor in Australia, its capabilities, and the partnership between Duxton Vineyards, Wine Australia, and Smart Machine.
2. <https://afdj.com.au/oxin-multi-task-robotic-vineyard-tractor-is-fully-autonomous/> - Supports the details about OXIN's autonomous and multi-tasking capabilities, as well as its environmental benefits and the trials at Duxton Vineyards.
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qPDZ3pKGcao> - Provides video evidence of OXIN's functionality and Smart Machine's goals for the technology, including its use in vineyards and orchards.
4. <https://www.wineaustralia.com/news/articles/australia-first-trial-of-the-latest-robotic-tractor-technology> - Mentions the harsh conditions in Australia where OXIN has been tested, including high temperatures and extensive canopies, and the involvement of Duxton Vineyards.
5. <https://afdj.com.au/oxin-multi-task-robotic-vineyard-tractor-is-fully-autonomous/> - Details the partnership and the benefits of OXIN, including reduced costs, data analysis, and environmental sustainability, aligning with Smart Machine's expansion goals.
6. <https://www.wineaustralia.com/news/articles/australia-first-trial-of-the-latest-robotic-tractor-technology> - Discusses the support from Wine Australia’s agtech innovation program and the impact on the local grape and wine sector.
7. <https://afdj.com.au/oxin-multi-task-robotic-vineyard-tractor-is-fully-autonomous/> - Explains the design and capabilities of OXIN, including its ability to perform multiple tasks and its management via user-friendly tablet software.
8. <https://www.wineaustralia.com/news/articles/australia-first-trial-of-the-latest-robotic-tractor-technology> - Highlights the innovative technology and its potential to revolutionize viticulture practices, as stated by Smart Machine CEO Andrew Kersley.
9. <https://afdj.com.au/oxin-multi-task-robotic-vineyard-tractor-is-fully-autonomous/> - Mentions the potential for OXIN to be used in other crop markets like almonds and citrus, addressing labour challenges.
10. <https://www.wineaustralia.com/news/articles/australia-first-trial-of-the-latest-robotic-tractor-technology> - Corroborates the focus on sustainability and the environmental benefits of using OXIN, as emphasized by Duxton Vineyards’ General Manager Wayne Ellis.
11. <https://afdj.com.au/oxin-multi-task-robotic-vineyard-tractor-is-fully-autonomous/> - Supports the strategic partnerships and the company’s plans for global expansion, including scaling production and securing additional funding.
12. <https://news.google.com/rss/articles/CBMipAFBVV95cUxONnoyS3lFbk1CVjNSX0wzVW5KSWRyTG5EVE9MdVFQY09BS1lnLW5oQXkyZWhLa1JreU5OcEZwbjlteE9ScmxzX2p2RTNmeEtYalVCS1BnRE55aERrZGpkTS1OeWtwRERzWTFrNGJoTjRqUXozZTJJbVZ1ZnVwQW9yb1dqU3JaUWVpYVFjamRfNkYxWGVIVnZ0Mlc1Tl9OZENfX2Z1UQ?oc=5&hl=en-US&gl=US&ceid=US:en> - Please view link - unable to able to access data