FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Arizona Distillery’s Completed Equipment Awaits Shipment in Canada Amid Potential 50% Tariff

Southern Arizona founders face unexpected import costs as they work toward a June 2027 opening

SONOITA/ELGIN, Ariz. | October 20, 2026 — Chris and Tracy McCurry, founders of Ash Canyon Distillery & Winery, are developing a craft spirits and wine destination on a 24-acre property in Southern Arizona. One of the project’s most important pieces of equipment is ready to ship, but it remains in Canada as the couple works to understand the impact of a potential additional 50% U.S. tariff.

The custom distilling equipment was built by Revival Stillworks in British Columbia. Manufacturing is complete, and Revival is arranging to move the equipment into storage while the McCurrys evaluate import costs and potential avenues for relief. The equipment has not yet been moved into storage.

For Chris and Tracy, Ash Canyon is a long-held dream to build something of their own after decades in their professional careers. They have invested years of preparation, hands-on training and substantial resources in the project. With SBA-backed financing already in place, carrying costs continue as they work toward a June 2027 opening.

They envision Ash Canyon as a place to share small-batch spirits, Arizona wine and the Sonoita/Elgin landscape with visitors. Their ambition is personal: to turn a shared passion into a lasting Southern Arizona business.

Revival stood out among equipment suppliers for its willingness to collaborate on custom designs at a practical cost and its commitment to traditional copper stillmaking. The partnership connects two businesses on opposite sides of the border that share a passion for craftsmanship. Now, a potential tariff is complicating the next step for both.

The McCurrys are working with trade professionals to confirm the applicable customs classification, duty exposure and any potential relief. No final determination or exemption has been obtained.

Media inquiries

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ASH CANYON | BACKGROUND & FACT SHEET

The project

Ash Canyon Distillery & Winery is a planned craft distillery and winery destination in the Sonoita/Elgin region of Southern Arizona. The project is being developed by Mountain Empire Ventures, Inc., doing business as Ash Canyon, on approximately 24 acres. The current target is to open by the end of Q2 2027.

The founders

Chris McCurry brings over 25 years of aerospace and defense experience in engineering and program management. Inspired by visits to distilleries worldwide, he began hands-on distilling training in 2020. Tracy McCurry has a background in disability services, American Sign Language interpreting and program leadership, including oversight of staff and multimillion-dollar budgets. Her studies of herbs and botanicals inspire the couple's vision for distinctive gins featuring local flavors. Together, they hope to share their passion for craftsmanship with the Southern Arizona community.

> *"Tracy and I have worked toward this dream for years. We wanted to build something of our own, something we're passionate about and proud to share with our community. Revival shared that same passion for craftsmanship and helped bring our vision to life. It's frustrating to have the equipment finished and ready to ship, only to face a tariff that wasn't part of the equation when we made the investment." — Chris McCurry*

The equipment

Revival Stillworks in British Columbia manufactured Ash Canyon's custom large production still and smaller still. The McCurrys chose Revival after exploring U.S. and Canadian suppliers because of its collaborative approach to custom engineering, attention to craftsmanship and commitment to sustaining traditional copper stillmaking. The equipment is complete and ready to ship. Storage in Canada is being arranged, but the move had not occurred as of the latest confirmed update.

The trade issue

A potential additional 50% U.S. tariff on the Canadian-built equipment has complicated import planning. The exact applicable tariff, customs value, and potential relief options remain under professional review. This press package does not claim that a specific duty has been assessed.

Business impact

Ash Canyon has already made significant equipment and facility commitments and is carrying financing costs associated with development. Delays can affect its schedule and the time before the business begins generating revenue.

Key timeline

2025: Company and site development underway; custom equipment procurement initiated.
2026: Revival completes manufacture of custom equipment; import and tariff questions arise.
October 2026: Equipment remains completed in Canada; storage being arranged; customs review underway.
By June 2027: Target opening of Ash Canyon Distillery & Winery.

Video resources

Revival Stillworks construction videos (Facebook):
https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1A7PNRXD58/
https://www.facebook.com/share/r/18g2V79tgd/
The videos are supplementary links. Original footage and reuse permissions should be confirmed with Revival for broadcast or redistribution.

Selected Media Photographs



Completed custom copper still at Revival Stillworks. Photo courtesy of Revival Stillworks.



Second view of Ash Canyon’s completed distilling system at Revival Stillworks. Photo courtesy of Revival Stillworks.



Ash Canyon property in Southern Arizona’s Sonoita/Elgin region.



Chris and Tracy McCurry, founders of Ash Canyon Distillery & Winery, near Patagonia, Arizona.