

Hydrogen Fuel Cell Technology Successfully Implemented at UNFI's Sarasota Distribution Center

August 16th, 2010



Sarasota, FL – ARCO Design/Build's previously announced hydrogen fuel cell project at UNFI's distribution center in Sarasota, FL became fully operational on August 4th, 2010.

As United Natural Foods ventured into a territory unfamiliar to them, ARCO Design/Build Inc. was called upon to construct the necessary infrastructure for the hydrogen fueling station. Vice President, Jake Stefan commented, "We were extremely pleased that UNFI selected us to partner with them on this endeavor. Having completed two LEED Certified buildings for them in the past with a third one in progress, we have demonstrated that we share their commitment to green construction and sustainability initiatives. We look forward to being a part of UNFI's future projects as they continue to provide leadership, innovation and environmental stewardship."

Previously powered by conventional batteries, UNFI's converted 36 existing lift trucks to hydrogen fuel cell technology and purchased an additional 29 new hydrogen fuel cell powered lift trucks. By converting its fleet at this facility, UNFI expects to decrease its energy consumption by 640,000 kilowatt hours and reduce its carbon emissions by an estimated 132 metric tons each year. "We are happy to be pioneering the use of this technology in Florida as hydrogen fuel cells not only provide greater productivity and lower operating costs, but will be an important component of a clean energy future", said Thomas A. Dziki, Corporate VP, Sustainable Development and Real Estate Management, UNFI.

About ARCO Design/Build

ARCO Design/Build Inc. (<http://www.arcodb.com>) is a turn-key design / build firm widely recognized as an industry leader for various industrial project types, including but not limited to cold storage/food distribution and light industrial/warehouse/distribution. Turn-key service capabilities include project feasibility studies, site selection, complete design, logistical design, budgeting, up-front competitive lump sum pricing, value engineering, code consulting and full general contracting

About United Natural Foods

United Natural Foods, Inc. (<http://www.unfi.com/>) carries and distributes more than 60,000 products to more than 17,000 customer locations nationwide. The Company serves a wide variety of retail formats including conventional supermarket chains, natural product superstores, independent retail operators and the food service channel. United Natural Foods, Inc. was ranked by Forbes in 2005 as one of the "Best Managed Companies in America," ranked by Fortune in 2006, 2007, 2009 and 2010 as one of its "Most Admired Companies," winner of the Supermarket News 2008 Sustainability Excellence Award, and recognized by the Nutrition Business Journal for its 2009 Environment and Sustainability Award.

