

Rainier Fruit Company Completes Second Organic Packing Line

Selah, WA – As the leading grower of organic apples, Rainier Fruit Company has spent the better part of 2015 working on a project that will revolutionize their organic production. Aptly named the "Green Line," this new addition will be used solely for organic packing and provide improved product handling with greater flexibility to manage both increased volume and package options. "The demand for organic has grown across all sectors- from traditional retail and club stores to convenience stores and even foodservice. In order for us to get that crunchy apple to the consumer, we need to pack fresh in a variety of different packages daily. That's the reason behind the new Green Line," stated Blake Belknap, organic sales manager at Rainier.

Congruent with the company's forward-thinking philosophy and commitment to sustainability, only the latest technology and modern materials were used in its design and construction.

The new building is a model of energy efficiency, boasting 336 solar panels that will feed back to the electrical grid. Estimated annual reduction is nearly 700,000 kWh or annual power for about 6000 light bulbs. The installation of 405 LED fixtures contribute more light with less energy - a 40% savings compared to incandescent bulbs.

From a food safety standpoint, Rainier Fruit Company's Green Line could also be termed the "Pristine Line." Suspended tile ceilings, epoxy floors, and a radiant heat dryer room are just a few of the improvements that support the company's emphasis on food safety.

The project broke ground in March of this year and was completed in October.

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