

Toyota of Corvallis on Track to be World's First Net Zero Energy Auto Dealership

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Corvallis, Ore. (Sept. 30, 2016) – Toyota of Corvallis is on schedule to be the world’s first Certified Net Zero Energy Automotive Dealership.

Over the next 14 months, Gensler—the architect of the new building—will oversee data collection to help ensure this certification becomes a reality. Additionally, construction of the facility was built to adhere to LEED® Platinum standards, as recognized by the U.S. Green Building Council. Toyota of Corvallis will join a handful of Toyota dealerships nationwide with this Platinum certification.

“Toyota is focused on being a leader in environmental sustainment through our development of hybrid and fuel cell technologies, the creation of energy efficient facilities and our commitment to support philanthropic organizations that address environmental issues,” said Steve Haag, Toyota Motor Sales regional manager. “We applaud Toyota of Corvallis for setting a positive example and creating a first-of-its-kind template for the auto dealership of the future.”

By definition, Net Zero Energy means that at the end of the year the building has produced more power than it used. Toyota of Corvallis will collect solar energy through photovoltaic panels and return any unused energy into the local power grid. That power will help offset local power demands at peak usage periods.

Other sustainable aspects of the project include water harvesting to irrigate the landscape, radiant floor heating, and geothermal heating and cooling to regulate the temperature of the building.

"As a design firm committed to constantly raising the bar and leading the charge on the future of sustainable design projects, we are very proud of this project," said Rick Ferrara, Project Director at Gensler. "Not only is Toyota of Corvallis setting a new standard for Toyota, they are leading the industry in a completely new direction."

Haag presented Toyota of Corvallis owners Steve and Barbara Jackson with a traditional Japanese Katana sword as part of the ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday. Dealership general manager Chip Edwards and representatives from both Toyota and Gensler—the architect of the new building—were also in attendance.

"It is a great privilege working for Steve and Barbara Jackson," said Chip Edwards, general manager of Toyota of Corvallis. "Their passion for doing the right things, from protecting the environment with their choice of energy-efficient building design, to their immensely philanthropic mindset, is truly inspiring."

Toyota of Corvallis began selling vehicles in 1970 as John & Phil’s Toyota. When owner Phil Doud decided to retire in early 2013, Steve and his wife Barbara purchased the dealership. In 2014, construction began on the new facility. Steve and Barbara own another Toyota dealership in Texas, Toyota of Rockwall, which was certified as a LEED® Gold dealership in 2008.