



November 21, 2011

Dear Dan Rousseau,

It goes without saying that the new US Foods Distribution Facility in Albuquerque, New Mexico is amazing! For twenty long years the associates in this division have worked tirelessly to build the business so that one day we would realize the dream of working in a professional and productive environment. Once that would enable us to service our customers beyond their expectations, but at the same time take the business to a new level. Not only will the building resource support future growth, but it will be the foundation for sustaining and growing jobs for our current and future associates.

Of course none of this would be possible without your support and commitment. I cannot tell you how grateful we are that you stood behind us, took up the challenge and helped us get where we are today.

Sincerely,

Division President
US Foods, Albuquerque, NM



August 12, 2010

Brad Barke
ESI Constructors, Inc.
950 Walnut Ridge Dr.
Hartland, WI 53029

Brad:

I want to take this moment to commend the job that the entire ESI Group has done on the design and construction of the new rail dock facility at our Lexington, SC distribution center. The facility is now in use and is functioning as designed. This facility was constructed in less than 5 months, start to finish. They said it couldn't be done. We did it!

I also want to take some time and extend my sincere appreciation to the team that was assembled to design, manage, and construct this project.

Scott King was assigned to this project as Project Manager. Scott demonstrated tremendous organizational and communication skills that were certainly key in making the short timeline we gave him to finish this job. From the weekly conference calls, to the weekly status updates, to the numerous emails and phone calls, Scott was on top of every aspect of the project from start to finish. His follow up was second to none and I cannot remember a moment when I had a need that I could not get him on the phone or get a timely response to an email. His scheduled visits were informative and productive. Without his level of professionalism and attention to detail we could never have accomplished what we did in 4 ½ short months. Scott developed a relationship and rapport with the local contractors early on that formed strong relationships and a "buy in" from all and this was crucial to fast track the construction of this building. Those relationships made this project a success. I look forward to working with Scott on any and all future projects at this facility and I strongly request that he manage the upcoming warehouse expansion. His talents will be needed and his relationships with the contractors in the area will be an asset to us all. Scott is held in high regard not only by me and our team, but also the local contractors that participated in the project. There is no reason why we should not build on those relationships going forward.

Lastly I wanted to commend the Construction Manager, Lewis Watson, for his performance throughout. Lewis came on site and took command of the job and the contractors, and for 4 ½ straight months spent everyday on the jobsite overseeing the construction. Lewis was the field general, and it didn't take long for the local contractors to know who was in charge and what was expected. He managed the contractors and sub-contractors firmly, but with respect and professionalism. Everyone on this jobsite knew who Lewis was and what he expected. I had several principals from the various contracting companies express to me how they enjoyed working for Lewis and they would do whatever was needed to make this job a success. Lewis and I communicated daily and I was always kept abreast of any issues that arose when they happened. I was most comforted by the fact that he looked out for the best interest of USF as well as ESI and made recommendations and suggestions, sometimes strongly, that were based on his past experiences. Overtime I came to trust those suggestions and recommendations and in every case Lewis was spot on in his assessments. As we progress ever so closer to the next large expansion project, I want it to be known that Lewis is the guy I want on the site. I feel comfortable knowing that with Lewis "in the trenches" I will be able to sleep at night.

Brad, the success we experienced with this project could not have been achieved without a team effort. From the architect, Scott Miezin, to PM Scott King and to CM Lewis Watson, the team assembled to bring this project from conception to finished product was one of the best I have worked with. Communication is paramount to any successful venture and it was no different during this project. ESI has always had a history of excellent communication and follow up, but this group here set a new standard in this area and to me that is most important. If at all possible I would like to keep this team intact as we move forward to the next expansion project in the very near future. I enjoyed working with all of them and will certainly look forward to working with everyone in the near future.

My compliments on a job well done!

Sincerely,
Operations Manager, General Services
US Foodservice - Columbia



April 10, 2009

Mr. Brad Barke
ESI
950 Walnut Ridge Drive
Hartland, WI 53029

Dear Brad:

I wanted to take a few moments to convey how pleased we are with the freezer and dry expansion recently completed here in Plymouth. In spite of the time constraints in place for this project your team completed the early occupancy facilitating the smooth integration of the Eagan business into Plymouth.

I especially would like to recognize Todd Newland, Mark Gehl and David Bye, as their communication, direction and commitment to customer satisfaction enabled us to complete the construction phase of the project without ever experiencing any production issues or delays.

This is the second expansion ESI has completed for the Plymouth division and both have been successfully completed on time and within budget. This is a testament to your staffs' attention to detail and commitment to customer satisfaction. If you recall in the early planning stages of the project I mentioned that my background is of moving boxes of groceries. With your exceptional staff steering the course through these rocky waters I never once felt a need to be concerned about any aspect of the project.

It is my sincere hope that ESI and USFS will continue a prosperous business relationship in the future. This is my third major construction project and I can assure you that the first one did not go nearly as smooth as the ESI managed projects. We will look forward to working together again in the future.

Sincerely,

U.S. Foodservice – Plymouth, MN



March 16, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

As Vice- President of Operations of U.S. Foodservice Dallas, Texas during the expansion of our office / warehouse facility I became heavily involved with ESIC. Our facility went through a major process of an expansion that included the expansion to the warehouse of approximately 120,000 square feet to include moving our 16,000 square foot office area into our new free standing office of 34,000 square feet.

During this massive expansion process we remained fully operational 24/7. In our service industry it is imperative to meet our customer demands and working with ESIC we were able to do so during this 17 month process. That may seem like a long time however, our process included a very complex expansion that involved all four sides of our facility. This expansion included our freezer expansion of about 40,000 square feet while we were still receiving and shipping from it each day.

I found ESIC to be very helpful, knowledgeable and innovative in working with our 250 plus operations employees to meet our needs each day. Naturally, in an expansion this size and dealing with many trade contractors the unexpected will arise. ESIC worked hard at keeping me aware of any issues that did arise as well as recommending and implementing solutions for them. ESIC is very resourceful and had an excellent understanding in meeting or needs.

I was in several contractor meetings and was very impressed with ESIC and the business manner in dealing with the many trade contractors. In a project this size and with its many complexes; there were days at our location that we had over a dozen different trades and in excess of over 60 plus workers on site. Through all of this I gained a respect and trust with ESIC that I feel very confident about.

I would firmly recommend ESIC to any construction project. ESIC has many resources and expertise I am confident that they are able to complete any job in a timely manner.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about U.S. Foodservice Garland, Texas during our expansion process being constructed by ESIC.

Respectfully,

U.S. Foodservice – Garland, Texas



September 24, 2008

Mr. David Bye
ESI Constructors, Inc.
950 Walnut Ridge Road
Hartland, WI 53029

David,

I would like to thank you and your team on the completion of our expansion. In my 33 years in this business, I have been fortunate enough to see the growth that has allowed six expansions of our facilities. These included expansions in Alabama and here in Zebulon. Of these, I have worked with five contractors.

First of all, I am impressed with the integrity of the finished job. You would think a warehouse would be a simple build with primarily a floor, walls, and a roof only to be concerned with. However, over the years, I have seen multiple issues from poor materials or construction. I applaud your team's efforts to get these important areas of concern correct. To date, I have not seen any serious issues, which is unusual. Your superintendent, Lewis Watson, went to great lengths to try to accomplish this. He was very much on top of the contractors and their work.

Secondly, as you well know, these projects "grow" with time as they are in progress. The time between the approval of the capital outlay and start up of construction usually requires six months to a year. It is understandable that changes to the initial plan sometimes become necessary. You handled that very well and accommodated every way you could and I appreciate that. Most importantly, when asked of changes, your response was positive in nature and assured us you were willing to satisfy our needs.

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Finally, one true measure of success is how our customers saw the project go. I am proud to say that the project was invisible. Our customers did not suffer during the months the expansion was in progress. Lewis Watson did a great job and made absolutely sure we were not put in a position where we would have problems servicing our customers. There was good communication between all parties which, I think, contributed to our success.

Thank you and please convey this to your team as well.



Las Vegas Division
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North Las Vegas, NV 89032
702-636-3663

To: John Dohogne – ESI
Brad Barke – ESI

July 25, 2008

Dear Sirs,

I would like to pass on a few comments and praise for our project here at North Las Vegas, NV. We started all of this with getting prints and permits approved back in June 2006, and thru the last 26 month's since, I now sit here in my office and think back thru all of the different phases we went thru on this project, and I cannot come up with one unforgettable moment or a part of this project that has stuck in my mind. Dana and Cheryl did a great job on this project with all of the coordinating and scheduling and keeping the Contractors on course. They made my job here much easier the last two years knowing what I was up against with keeping a Facility running during all of this construction.

I would also like to pass on a extended thanks to Mike Schwartz for putting up with me during those two years, pushing to get prints approved, permits completed so that we could get this going, Mike has always answered my questions, or would get me an answer when I needed assurances, thanks.

I have to say I am going to miss having Dana and Cheryl around, but I am sure you need these good Folk's on another project somewhere else. Again I want to extend my Appreciation and Thanks to Mike Schwartz, Dana Johnson and Cheryl Johnson.

Sincerely,

U.S. Foodservice – North Las Vegas, NV