

CARRIER ON THE MOVE

August 2010 Update by John Arizumi

We've been at our new location now for 7 weeks. Moving a distribution center is very tasking, more difficult than moving an office. I'm glad the worst is over. Settling in with the finer details will come over time, but for the most parts we're 100% functional. The inventory is setup in the warehouse, the phone/IT systems are functional, the parts store is open for business, offices are furnished and our personnel are adjusting to the new environment. Manini things are like where to park to minimize the walk, places to eat, traffic, etc. Although the drive seems far away in Campbell Industrial, the drive is always counterflow to the heavy traffic, so getting to work and home is pretty much a smooth drive with little traffic. Drive to town without traffic is around 20 minutes.

Fortunately, we have a Costco right next door up the road, just as we had in Waipio-Gentry. Kapolei Commons is across from Costco for our shopping needs, and Home Depot is next block for getting hardware to finish up our move. And there are many restaurants in adjacent Kapolei. Luckily, we have a lunch wagon that stop in our parking lot each day.

The last project for our facility is building out our training facility. We have a 40-seat classroom and a training laboratory with "live" equipment stations for students to trouble-shoot and get hands-on training. This is very much like the training center in Waipio-Gentry, except we put the training center on the first floor and it has its own entry from the parking lot. The lab is almost finished.

The lab has 14 Carrier workstations for students to work on different types of problems. In addition, because we are also the distributors for LG Air Conditioning, we built an LG lab, consisting of a duct-free split, a Flex-Multi split, a VRF (Variable Refrigerant Low) Mini Multi-V, and a full-blown commercial VRF Multi-V system. In addition, there is a wall-mounted LG Multi-V control panel with all the components to fully understand the controls, the heart of the VRF system.

This allows our air conditioning industry to get factory training right here in Hawaii, which saves their employer travel time and expenses. For years, we've had the only private HVAC training facility in the state to serve our industry. Training is a great investment to enhance your bottom line.

Our annual Carrier Service Training, traditionally each September/October, is just around the corner. So if any of your technicians need training, take a look at our flyer for class schedules and cost of training. To date, we have trained over 4,000 technicians locally.

Yes, the economy is slow, so people hesitate spending on training. But when you think of it, it's the right time as when you're busy, there's no time.