GloryBee Foods completed solar installation projects in 2012, 2013 and 2014. The company received a state energy tax incentive through an Oregon Department of Energy “Conservation Project Opportunity” to offset the cost of a closed-loop solar water heating system. The solar system absorbs thermal energy, transferring it to water by way of a heat exchanger. The exchanger serves as a steam cleaner and washing station used to wash GloryBee’s honey processing containers. The company prides itself on its energy efficiency results: The production facility uses 11 percent solar and its distribution fleet uses 20 percent biofuels.

With cross-pollination helping at least 30 percent of the world’s crops thrive (NRDC, 2011), GloryBee in Eugene, Oregon, makes caring for bees a major part of its mission. GloryBee is a values-based organization that has dedicated more than 40 years to sustainability and social responsibility in its business practices. This in turn has led to Glory Bee reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

“Stewardship means simply doing the right thing and taking care of what you are given. That is what we are trying to do by being innovative and progressive to discover old and new ways of doing things that create a better balance between the economy, environment and community,” said Alan Turanski, GloryBee President and second generation beekeeper.

Founders Dick and Pat Turanski began their mission out of the family garage in 1975, offering natural,
Energy efficiency, sustainability way of life for GloryBee

healthy ingredients to Eugene residents based on these personal values.

GloryBee’s positive attitude runs throughout its organization of 180 employees. Staff members donated 186 volunteer hours in 2014. Company executives make valuing employees a priority, priding itself on not having had to lay-off staff during tough times and the good fortune of now increasing jobs on average of 10-15 percent year.

The company notes that energy use is not increasing at the rate of production. In fact, energy upgrades have helped decrease overall energy use by five percent despite adding two additional locations and increasing production by 10 percent.

“Originally, GloryBee had a strong push into sustainability because of economics. We recycled all containers that we sold product in. We picked up containers from the customers if they were ours and washed them. This was all buckets, tins and drums. We continue part of these practices today with all our drums and totes,” said Dick Turanski, cofounder.

Solar generates 46,115 kilowatt-hours or 11 percent for its production facilities. The tax incentivized solar water heating system makes washing the drum totes more energy efficient by offsetting the propane used to heat the water. Additionally, GloryBee used 13 percent less water in 2014 and recycled 85.2 percent of its waste.

Maintenance Manager Howard James said, “The company is particularly proud of meeting its biofuel fleet usage goals and plans to add a Compressed Natural Gas truck in the near future.”

For more information about GloryBee and the many events held there, visit online at glorybee.com or call 1-800-456-7923.

About the ODOE Energy Incentives Program

The Energy Incentives Program is comprised of tax credits for conservation and transportation projects, renewable energy development grants, and biomass producer/collector tax credits. Residential tax credits are also available for high-efficiency heating systems and renewable energy installations. The Oregon Department of Energy’s website offers details on each of these programs, projects that qualify, opportunity announcements and a sign-up link for regular email updates.