



STAR Energy FS Powers Rural Revitalization

PROFILE

STAR Energy FS

MANSON, IOWA

Employees: 49



Iowa Select Farms has worked with Star Energy FS since 2000, purchasing over one million gallons of propane for 110 farms located in western Iowa.

No matter what business you're in or where you live in Iowa, you're never far from farming. "If you eat, you're connected to agriculture," said Jeff Manthei, general manager of STAR Energy FS in Manson. "Everything in Iowa revolves around agriculture."

That's true for STAR Energy FS, a subsidiary of GROWMARK, whose Midwestern roots date back nearly 90 years when farmers were transitioning from traditional horse power to tractors.

As a full-service provider of refined and renewable fuels, lubricants and propane, STAR Energy FS moves 27 million gallons of energy products a year throughout its trade territory, which includes 26 northwest Iowa counties and nine South Dakota counties.

Service and safety drive STAR Energy FS, which has 49 full-time employees with 471 combined years of experience in the energy field. "Safety is reflected in our name," said Penny Lenz, risk management, who noted that STAR stands for Safety Tops All Requirements.

Commercial, farm and residential customers depend on energy solutions from STAR Energy FS. "We're proud to serve rural communities and agriculture," Manthei said. "Swine production is an important part of this."

Iowa Select Farms relies on STAR Energy FS's trusted advisors and highly-trained service team, who are known for their technical expertise and commitment to their customers' success. "We appreciate Iowa Select Farms, because they are professional, knowledgeable and easy to work with," Manthei added.

Giving back and growing

This partnership dates back decades. "The FS Energy System did business with Iowa Select Farms prior to the formation of STAR Energy, LLC in 2000," Lenz said. "We've been proud to serve Iowa Select Farms ever since."

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-Jeff Manthei, STAR Energy FS

This service includes the latest technology, such as on-site billing direct from the fuel truck. STAR Energy FS operates 12 propane bobtail trucks, seven refined fuel trucks, 1.5 million gallons of propane storage, 1 million gallons of refined fuel storage and 19 unmanned gas stations for fast, efficient service.

The STAR Energy FS team also supports the Deb and Jeff Hansen Foundation, which helps alleviate hunger in Iowa, combats childhood cancer and supports members of the U.S. armed forces.

"It's great to see Iowa Select Farms give back to the community," said Joe Mernka, manager, propane marketing and business development at STAR Energy FS. "Giving back is important to us, too."

STAR Energy FS contributes to local schools and animal shelters, plus it offers the Thin Blue Line consumer card to raise money for the Calhoun County Peace Officers Association. Local, designated peace officers receive 3 cents per gallon every time STAR Energy FS customer use their card.

"We're excited about future growth opportunities," Manthei said. "We're also glad that Iowa Select Farms is good for business growth in Iowa."

