
Mini Warehouse invests \$7.1 million in cutting-edge, solar-energy system

BY INDA M. RODRÍGUEZ

With an investment of \$7.1 million, local self-storage company Mini Warehouse recently installed the first Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (Prepa) certified solar-energy system in its three locations in Caguas, Carolina and Bayamón. The system, coupled with Prepa's grid, produces 3,520 kilowatts of alternative energy on a daily basis.

Anthony Clementi, general manager of the warehouse chain, indicated that the system completes another stage in the company's environmental push.

"We started with cardboard recycling, then we implemented rainwater recycling for the air-conditioning systems and, just recently, installed solar panels in our facilities. With these combined energy-efficient initiatives, we are contributing to our environment and the quality of life of surrounding communities," Clementi said proudly.

"Moreover, there's also an educational use for this photovoltaic system since researchers can coordinate with Mini Warehouse to use it as a lab to do research on solar and renewable energy," Clementi said.

"Since global warming is a scientifically proven fact, we believe it is part of our social responsibility to contribute to the preservation of natural resources by seeking the natural energy sources readily available," he said.

Clementi explained the system at the Caguas warehouse produces 150 kilowatts of direct energy that can be transformed into 613 kilowatts of alternative energy per hour. The system, which covers 36,000 square feet of the roof surface, consists of 627 panels (224 watts each) that generate 84% of the total energy required to keep the building up and running on a daily basis. ■

