

Reed's Fuel and Trucking

Springfield, Oregon – Member Since January 2006



Trucks have been in the Reed family blood for over 70 years. That type of longevity takes commitment and the ability to adapt to change in the customer's needs and demands. Reed's Fuel and Trucking has the tenacity for that challenge!

In 1940 William Reed and his son Alvin, began a firewood delivery and household goods moving business in Springfield, Oregon. Known as Reed's Transfer, it had two trucks that it kept busy. After the first year the



Reed's Fuel and Trucking . . . lined up and ready to go!



William & Alvin Reed with the Reed's Fuel fleet, circa 1951.

company realized that the firewood delivery business was their market niche and changed the company name to Reed's Fuel and specialized in heating wood delivery. The business grew and by 1946, it had four trucks delivering wood for heating and an additional truck that was converted to deliver home oil fuel.

Another decade of change took place during the 1950s. Customers began heating their homes with sawdust. Customers would have a sawdust burner in the basement of their home to heat the entire house. A delivery truck would pull along-side the house and sawdust would be shoveled thru a window into the basement. Even the local Springfield High School was heated by sawdust delivered by Reed's Fuel.

The fuel oil side of the business was sold and Reed's Fuel purchased equipment to haul larger loads of lumber products. The diversification resulted in a future capability of transporting a larger number of lumber products. By 1959, Reed's Fuel invested in mobile radios for all of its vehicles, which helped the company stay in direct communication with the drivers and office.

As new uses for wood products grew, so did the Reed's Fuel



Loading filbert shells for Co-Generation facility.

Company operations.

By 1970, the company was hauling sawdust, hogged fuel, chips, presto logs, lumber, veneer and plywood. The combined fleet was 46 power units and 31 trailers strong.



Loading sawdust fuel for delivery at the old Springfield, Oregon yard.

In 1982 Reed's Fuel Company obtained extensions to its Common Carrier Authority to carry pulp, paper, lumber and other related wood products between points in seven states. Diversification was becoming vitally important in the trucking industry. In 1984, Reed's Fuel Company purchased a General Commodities Authority and



Parked neatly together, the Reed's Fuel Company was ready to meet the need for fuel delivery to the community and beyond.

began to do business as Reed's Fuel and Trucking. This name change helped identify that the company was primarily a trucking business.

Recycling in wood by-products and other industries again provided Reed's Fuel and Trucking the opportunity to expand and diversify into other markets. Co-Generation plants started burning wood by-products to provide electricity to power companies. Reed's currently hauls dried filbert shells from packaging companies which remove the meat of the hazelnut from the shell. Then the split shell is hauled via truck to the Co-Gen facility to make electricity. Another recycling opportunity for the company is hauling recycled commingled material (paper, cardboard, plastic, etc.) from a collection facility to a processing

plant. Other recycled products that are currently being hauled by Reed's are; shredded tires, used carpet, and wood scraps from demolition jobs.

Reed's continues to look for opportunities to diversify. Currently they are hauling tree seedlings from nurseries to Weyerhaeuser locations to be replanted in areas that have been logged.

Jason Reed, President, and Dan Leavitt, Vice President, joined the company in the late 80s. The company has continued growing and has 80 employees working at the truck shop in Coburg, Oregon. The company headquarters are located in Springfield, Oregon.

Employees are the life blood of the company. Having quality motivated employees enables Reed's Fuel and Trucking to offer honest, courteous and dependable service. Dan Leavitt said, "We strongly feel that our dedication to customer service sets us apart from our competition. Without our employees and their loyalty to customer service, we would be just another trucking company."

Reed's fleet of Chip and Refuse trucks are available 24 hours a day; seven days a week and if necessary can self-load its trucks with rubber tire front end loaders. The fleet consists of 6, 7 and 8 axle tractor/semi combinations, and a front end loader. Live bottom trailers are capable of being unloaded anywhere. Reed's Fuel and Trucking has authority to haul throughout Oregon, including interstate between Oregon and Washington.

Reed's Fuel and Trucking continues to listen to its customers and strives to resolve any transportation needs that come up. One of the keys to the success of Reed's Fuel and Trucking is its "business partner" relationship to its customers. The company is always looking for opportunities to diversify into other industries.



Today, Reed's Fuel and Trucking hauls a wide variety of products. This truck is unloading co-mingled material at a recycling facility.

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