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Hardin Construction Proudly Announces the Completion of Darden's Restaurant Support Center

Orlando, FL – November 9, 2009 – Hardin Construction Company proudly announces the completion of Darden Restaurant's New Restaurant Support Center (RSC) located on 57 acres at the intersection of John Young Parkway and Taft-Vineland Road. The combined efforts of Trammell Crow Company (Development Agent), Perkins + Will (Architect) and Hardin Construction Company (General Contractor) resulted in the construction of a 469,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility on track to receive Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification. Upon final certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, it will become the largest LEED Gold New Construction building in Florida.

Darden's new headquarters greatly exemplifies Hardin Construction's continued pursuit to go green. Examples of the "green" initiatives Hardin took while working on this project include use of systems such as high efficiency heating and air conditioning and an automatic lighting system that dims or brightens according to the amount of sunlight entering the building which will in turn help reduce energy consumption by 16 percent, increased use of natural daylight made possible by a 114,000 square-foot glass curtainwall exterior, a highly reflective roof system that reduces the heat island effect and

help maintains the buildings interior temperature and more than 90 percent of the waste generated from construction was recycled. “Darden continues to be impressed by Hardin Construction’s expertise, quality service and performance at all levels of the project. We are extremely proud of our beautiful new corporate headquarters,” stated Jim Lawrence, Senior Vice President of Darden Restaurants.

Additionally, the building features multiple amenities for Darden’s employees including a 5,000 square foot fitness center staffed by Florida Hospital, a wellness center complete with exam rooms and diagnostic laboratory staffed by Florida Hospital, a financial services center operated by Wachovia, an on-site dining facility and company store and wireless data connectivity throughout the campus.

“It is especially rewarding that after three years of planning and building, our Hardin associates were able to deliver Darden’s new home to achieve their vision. This is a facility that will stand the test of time and one which we proudly display and will talk about for years to come,” states Bill Pinto, President of Hardin Construction Company, LLC.

About Hardin Construction

Founded in 1946, Hardin Construction Company, LLC is a leading general contractor and construction manager in the United States and has consistently been in the forefront of safety and sustainable practices in its industry for years. With offices in Atlanta, Ga., Tampa, Fla., Orlando, Fla., Raleigh, N.C., and Austin, Texas, Hardin Construction provides comprehensive construction services including general construction, construction management, design-build, and renovation. A privately-held company, Hardin Construction provides these services in markets such as retail, hospitality, residential, office, education, healthcare, public assembly, governmental and institutional. For more information, visit www.hardinconstruction.com.

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