



# **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ARAMARK AWARDED 12-YEAR CONTRACT TO PROVIDE DINING SERVICES AT UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

**PHILADELPHIA, April 15, 2008** – ARAMARK Corporation, a world leader in providing professional services, announced today that ARAMARK Higher Education has been awarded a 12-year contract to provide dining services at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities campus. ARAMARK, the dining provider since 1998, will build upon a partnership that has seen the introduction of contemporary dining options, new and renovated dining venues, organizational and financial stability, sustainability initiatives and continued programs to enhance customer satisfaction.

Beginning on July 1, 2008, ARAMARK will continue providing residential and retail dining, catering and special event services at the Twin Cities campus, including the Northrop Memorial Auditorium, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and Intercollegiate Athletic venues. University of Minnesota, one of the nation's largest and most prestigious educational institutions, has a total enrollment of over 65,000 students and approximately 18,000 faculty and staff members.

“Over the past decade, the Twin Cities campus has enjoyed significant progress and noticeable changes under the management of ARAMARK, resulting in a

more efficient and financially stable department of University Dining Services (UDS),” said Kathleen O’Brien, Vice President for University Services, University of Minnesota.

“We are proud to continue our partnership with the University of Minnesota, enhancing the living and learning environments for students, faculty and staff as we have since 1998,” said Chris Hackem, president of ARAMARK Higher Education. “We also look forward to supporting the University’s corporate social responsibility and environmental stewardship goals.”

Together, ARAMARK and the University of Minnesota have created a contemporary dining environment that includes the addition of new and renovated dining venues, increased customer options (vegan, vegetarian and kosher options with a focus on nutrition and dietary issues), and implementation of comprehensive sustainability initiatives.

ARAMARK’s sustainability efforts at University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, include organic composting; the development of a “Green Team” Internship Program, which assists research and customer engagement in the dining program’s social responsibility and environmental efforts; participation in recycling events, such as RecycleMania; the use of cage-free eggs and fair trade coffee; partnerships with local non-profit organizations; and support of local agriculture, including a partnership with Midwest Food Alliance, an organization that certifies products grown with environmentally friendly and socially responsible agricultural practices. In fact, in 2007, University of Minnesota Dining Services purchased 170,184 pounds of local produce, a 184% increase over 2006.

### **About ARAMARK Higher Education**

ARAMARK Higher Education is dedicated to excellence in dining, facility, conference center, and stadium and arena services. ARAMARK enhances the living and learning experience and environment for more than 600 colleges and universities throughout North America. For more information and a list of our services, visit [www.aramarkhighered.com](http://www.aramarkhighered.com).

## **About ARAMARK**

ARAMARK is a leader in professional services, providing award-winning food services, facilities management, and uniform and career apparel to health care institutions, universities and school districts, stadiums and arenas, and businesses around the world. In FORTUNE magazine's 2008 list of "America's Most Admired Companies," ARAMARK was ranked number one in its industry, consistently ranking since 1998 as one of the top three most admired companies in its industry as evaluated by peers and analysts.

ARAMARK also ranked first in its industry in the 2007 FORTUNE 500 survey.

ARAMARK seeks to responsibly address issues that matter to its clients, customers, employees and communities by focusing on employee advocacy, environmental stewardship, health and wellness, and community involvement. Headquartered in Philadelphia, ARAMARK has approximately 250,000 employees serving clients in 19 countries. Learn more at the company's Web site, [www.aramark.com](http://www.aramark.com).

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