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## 2010 Tri-State Family & Private Business Awards

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Leading through Innovation

## World Pac Paper, LLC

Determination and high standards have always been part of World Pac Paper's Chairman and CEO Edgar Smith.

"I learned as a youth that you can have an idea and an aspiration, and if you work to put together the pieces of that puzzle, work through and with others, gain experience and develop relationships, a lot of your dreams can be achieved," Smith said.

Today, World Pac Paper, LLC, is an award-winning national distributor of high quality printing and packaging papers, as well as packaging solutions such as folding cartons, slip sheets, shrink film and straw wrap. The company was founded in 2003, but to find the origin of the firm, one must go back 30 years to the 1980s.

Edgar Smith first had the idea

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in business



for what would become World Pac Paper in the early 1980s while working for the R.R. Donnelley & Sons Co., the world's premier commercial printing company. As a sales representative handling the Macy's account in New York City, he saw the company go through a lot of paper. To print tabs for insertion into the New York Times, R.R. Donnelley would use upwards of 30,000 tons of paper annually. Smith saw great potential in the paper industry - it was one that touched just about every business. After all, everybody needs paper. Smith had the determination, now he just needed the experience.

Over the subsequent years,
Smith worked at three major
paper companies: James River,
Georgia-Pacific and SmurfitStone. There he gained the experience and cultivated the relationships that would lead him to success with his own company.

In March, 2003, he and business partner Richard Baptiste, a 20-plus year printing and publishing industry veteran, created

World Pac Paper. The company has been growing ever since.

Smith is reluctant to take all the credit for his company's success.

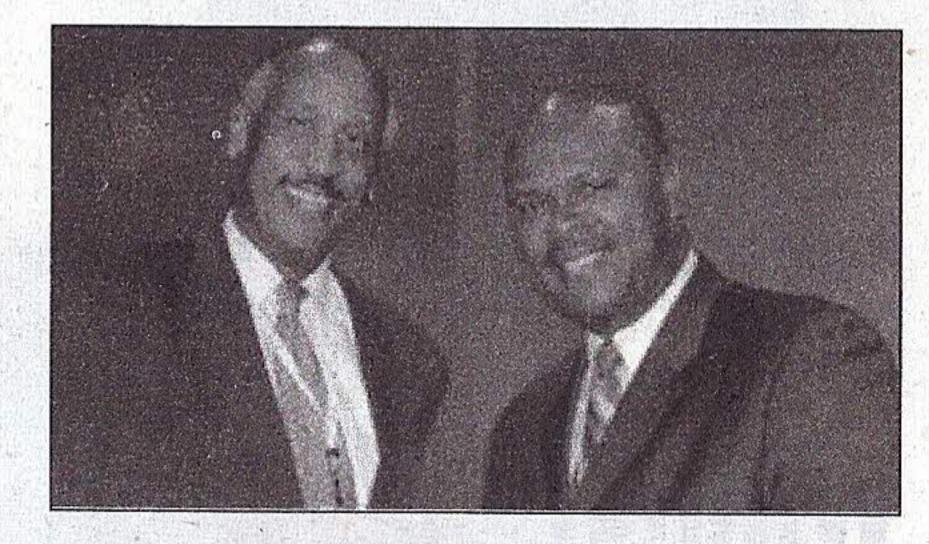
"I like to say that a person does not build a business, a person builds an organization that builds a business," Smith said. "My goal is to be a net creator of energy; to have others strive to employ high standards."

As such, World Pac's culture is employee centered and customer focused. The team is passionate about paper and excited to be involved in a product that's so versatile and vital to the business community, Smith said.

That passion also extends to the community in which the company lives and works.

"Local businesses must do their part to improve the quality of life in the areas they do business," Smith said.

World Pac's leaders serve on the boards of many trade associations, professional associations and nonprofits, including the National Minority Business



Left to right: Edgar Smith; Richard Baptiste

Council, the Boy Scouts of America and the American Red Cross. Smith also encourages his leadership team and employees to get engaged with the community.

At the end of the day, World Pac Paper has a lot to be proud of.

"Ours is a company that was truly built from the ground up by industry experts in combination with proven leaders, and in a relatively short time, considering we were incorporated in 2004," Smith said. "A lot of determination and high standards have gone into what we are and what we continue to work to accomplish."