



**WORLD PAC PAPER**  
Paper/Paperboard Marketing & Solutions

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**World Pac Paper, LLC among ICIC and *FORTUNE*'s Inner City 100 winners**  
*Annual ranking showcases the 100 fastest-growing urban businesses in America*

**Cincinnati, OH (May 2013)** – The Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) and *FORTUNE* announced that World Pac Paper, LLC (Rank # 69) was selected for the 2013 Inner City 100, a list of the fastest-growing inner city companies in the U.S. The Inner City 100 program recognizes successful inner city companies and their CEOs as role models for entrepreneurship, innovative business practices and job creation in America's urban communities. World Pac Paper, LLC is a national distributor of high quality printing & packaging papers and packaging solutions. The company was founded in 2004 and has demonstrated consistent growth in a competitive market and challenging economic climate. The company's 5-year annual growth rate was calculated to be 19% measuring from 2009-2011. Today the company is poised for continued growth. World Pac Paper, LLC is a certified minority business enterprise that is a national distributor of innovative paper and packaging solutions. Edgar L. Smith, Jr., Founder, Chairman and CEO, along with the company's President & COO, Richard A. Baptiste, were present for the awarding of this honor. They participated in the interactive educational activities at the Harvard School of Business. These varied and informative activities provided these entrepreneurs and business owners with insights into exceptional business performance and growth. Edgar Smith states "These fast growing inner city business, and their entrepreneurs, are very important to the core of our cities across the U.S." Mr. Baptiste stated "the ICIC100 program was another excellent experience linking world class educational sessions with great recognition of a wide array of companies. These companies are growing and making an impact in their respective industries. It was a pleasure to part of this year's program."

The rankings for each company were announced at the Inner City 100 Awards on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 in Boston, Massachusetts. The Awards marked the Inner City 100 program's 15<sup>th</sup> year and launched a formal alumni network of Inner City 100 winners. Preceding the Awards celebration, winners attended a two-day small business Symposium featuring business management case studies presented by Harvard Business School professors and peer-to-peer learning sessions led by CEOs of fast-growing firms. Keynote speakers included Harvard Business School Professor Michael E. Porter; Tim Westergren, Founder and Chief Strategy Officer of Pandora Media; Tom Szaky, CEO of TerraCycle; and Hamdi Ulukaya, Founder, President and CEO of Chobani.

The Inner City 100 list provides unmatched original data on the fastest-growing inner city businesses in the U.S. In the last 15 years, 750 unique companies have earned positions

on the Inner City 100, collectively generating more than \$2.1 billion in annual revenues and creating over 76,000 new jobs. Chevron Corporation, Staples and Goldman Sachs *10,000 Small Businesses* are long-time sponsors of the program.

For the 2013 list, winners represent a wide span of geography, operating in 48 cities and 27 states. The 2013 Inner City 100 winners grew at a compound annual growth rate of 36 percent and an average standard growth rate of 411 percent between 2007 and 2011. Collectively, the top 100 inner city businesses employ 10,391 employees and have created more than 5,863 new jobs between 2007 and 2011. Not only are the winners powerful job creators in their communities, but they also help grow their employees – 56% provide onsite training programs.

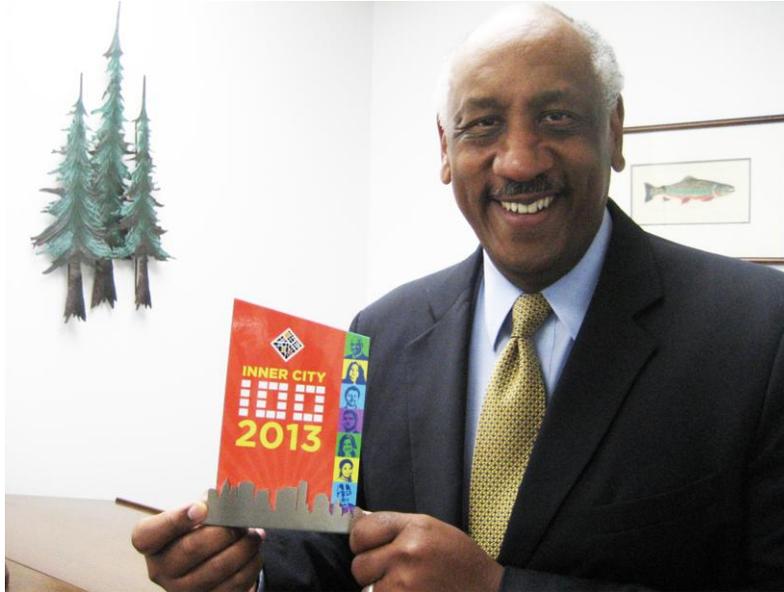
“We are excited to celebrate inner city businesses like World Pac Paper, LLC, whose success stories are not told nearly enough,” said Mary Kay Leonard, ICIC President and CEO. “These entrepreneurs are driving economic forces in America’s urban cores, growing their communities along with their businesses.”

The list is proof of the concept that doing business in an inner city area holds a distinct competitive advantage. ICIC has been studying the economic condition of the largest 100 American cities for more than a decade and is working to revitalize inner cities across the country.

**Highlights of the 2013 Inner City 100 include:**

- Employ 10,391 workers (48% inner city residents; 20% immigrants; and 37% minorities).
- Created 5,863 new jobs in the last five years.
- 28% are woman-owned. Nationally, only 10% of companies with over \$1 million in annual revenues are woman-owned.
- 35% are minority-owned. Nationally, only 21% of all companies are headed by minorities.
- Median company age is 14 years.

Companies generated \$23.4 million in revenues on average and \$2.3 billion in the aggregate.



Edgar L. Smith, Jr., CEO of World Pac Paper, LLC, holding the 2013 IC100 Award

### **About World Pac Paper, LLC**

World Pac Paper, LLC is an award winning national distributor of high quality printing & packaging papers and innovative packaging solutions serving the Fortune 500/1000, commercial printers, catalogers, book and magazine publishers, integrated and independent corrugated converters, folding carton/rigid box manufacturers, tube winders, laminators, paper converters, and the healthcare and foodservice industry.

### **About the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City**

ICIC is a non-profit research and strategy organization and the leading authority on U.S. inner city economies and the businesses that thrive there. Founded in 1994 by Harvard Business School Professor Michael Porter, ICIC expands inner city economies by providing businesses, governments and investors with the most comprehensive and actionable information in the field about urban market opportunities. ICIC's unique knowledge and expertise about inner city success factors and thriving companies is developed from specialized urban networks and path-breaking research.

ICIC's mission is to promote prosperity in America's inner cities through private sector engagement that leads to jobs, income and wealth creation for local residents.

The complete list of winning companies can be viewed at *Fortune.com*.

### **World Pac Paper Contact Information**

For more information about World Pac Paper, LLC and its extensive paper and paperboard products and solutions, call 1-(513) 779-9595 or visit [www.worldpacpaper.com](http://www.worldpacpaper.com)

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