

# Edgar L. Smith Jr.'s Cincinnati-based World Pac Paper gains national minority business recognition

In recognition of the economic power of minority businesses, the National Minority Business Council, Inc. presented World Pac Paper LLC of Cincinnati the Outstanding Minority Business Award. The awards ceremony held its 30th Annual Awards Luncheon recently in New York City. The event honored major corporations and minority enterprises whose leadership and endeavors in the past year contributed to the small business sector as a whole as it coped with the economic recession in the country.

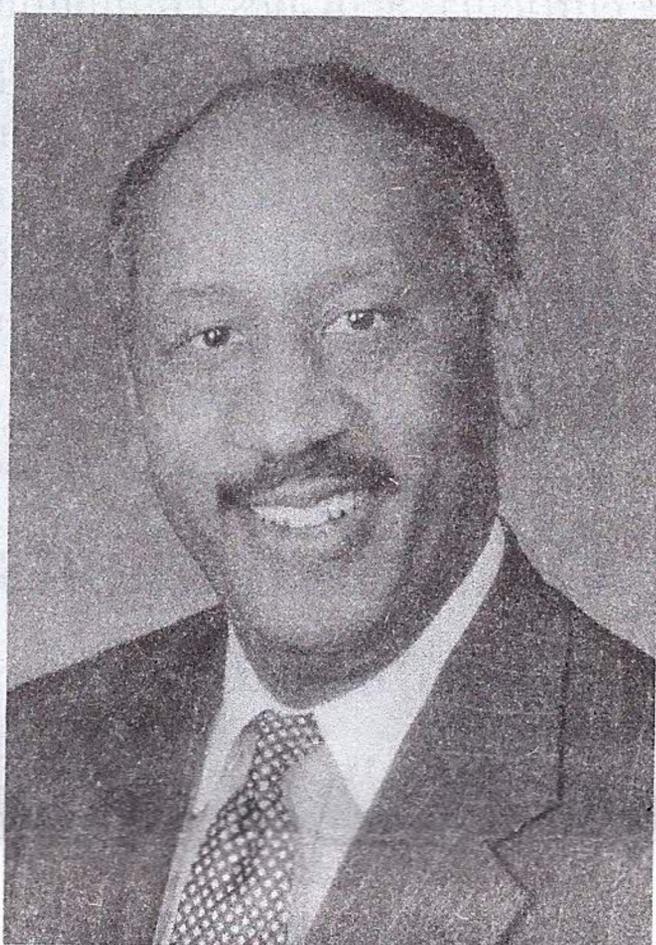
This event also celebrated the NMBC's 38th year of helping to grow minority businesses through education, training and advocacy.

"We're proud to honor such a distinguished group of entrepreneurs and corporations in our 30th anniversary luncheon year. The awards luncheon has been an annual tradition of the NMBC since we started the program in 1980, and over the years we have consistently honored the best of the best," said John F. Robinson, president and CEO, NMBC.

The Outstanding Minority Business Award goes to that minority business that has demonstrated innovative, creative and productive endeavors to ensure stability and sustainability for their business and their customers.

Edgar L. Smith Jr., chairman and CEO of World Pac Paper, accepted the prestigious award on behalf of the local company. He addressed the large crowd with an informational and motivational acceptance speech while thanking his employees and supporters who also attended the awards luncheon.

"The entrepreneurial growth engine fosters economic renewal and revitalization. It also sustains corporate supply and value chains. Our customers understand this, support this, and they



Edgar L. **Smith**, Jr.

encourage this. This award is so significant because minority entrepreneurs will have to be successful for the national economy to be successful," Smith said. He went on to say, "As a minority business, receiving such national recognition and honors also means that others can look to us as emerging and existing companies, which can get the job done. This is going to be critically important to the nation as we all work to create jobs to put America back to work and to fully embrace the growing minority demographics."

World Pac Paper, an award winning company, is a national distributor of high quality printing and packaging papers and packaging solutions. The minority business enterprise was incorporated in June 2004. World Pac Paper serves the Fortune 500/1000, commercial printers, catalogers, book and magazine publishers, integrated and independent corrugated converters, folding carton box manufacturers, tube winders, laminators and paper converters.

The National Minority Business Council, with offices in New York City, is a minority- and women-owned business certifying organization, whose mission is to propel minority- and women-owned businesses through education, training and advocacy.