



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

For Immediate Release

World Pac Paper, LLC Named Small Business of the Year for 2009

Cincinnati, Ohio, October 22, 2009. Cincinnati based World Pac Paper, LLC has earned the Greater Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky African American Chamber's 2009 Small Business of the Year Award in the category of Small Business of the Year - Less Than 16 Employees.

This is the first year that World Pac Paper, LLC has been honored with an award from the African American Chamber, the largest African American Chamber in the state of Ohio. World Pac Paper was one of four companies to receive awards on October 22, 2009 at the 9th Annual Business to Business Exchange & Expo sponsored by The African American Chamber. The awards luncheon was held at the Hilton Netherland Plaza Hotel in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. The event key note speaker was Roland S. Martin, national award winning and multifaceted journalist and CNN Analyst, who presented best practice business models for the Greater Cincinnati business community to embrace and assist minority businesses grow to support the future economic development of the region.

World Pac Paper, LLC has demonstrated significant growth in sales, boosting this certified MBE to be recognized as a fast growing company in Ohio and the nation. It has been recognized for entrepreneurial business achievements and community involvement since its inception. It gives back and supports many professional associations and community & civic service organizations with significant contributions of both time and financial donations. The company supports the African American Business Community/Economic Inclusion via volunteer work. Edgar L. Smith, Jr., Chairman & CEO of World Pac Paper, LLC states "entrepreneurs build ventures that create jobs, innovative products and services, export trade and tax revenues of the future. Entrepreneurs and growing businesses are at the heart of the free enterprise system."

"We focused this year on the resiliency and tenacity of our minority business community," said Sean Rugless, President and CEO of the Greater Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky African American Chamber. He goes on to say, "This year's Business to Business Expo is one of the most robust in its nine year history. This year's set up presented an opportunity for small business owners and procurement officers from corporations and government to meet and discuss real, tangible opportunities for business, build leads and foster new relationships."

“This award is a very special award to me and World Pac Paper, as it represents and shows support for minority businesses within our region,” said Edgar L. Smith, Jr. “We work hard daily to bring our business to new heights to serve our customers with innovative, sustainable products, services and solutions that bring cost savings. We are proud to represent and support other minority small businesses, as we cannot do this alone, it takes everyone working together to move progress forward.”

About World Pac Paper, LLC

World Pac Paper, LLC, an Inc. 500 company, is a national distributor of high quality printing and packaging papers, serving 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.

About The African American Chamber

Formed in 1996, The African American Chamber began with a group of African American business owners and citizens. Its vision and commitment to African American-owned businesses has resulted in significant regional contributions and a consistent voice for minority business inclusion for all sectors of our regional economy. Today, the Chamber's staff and board are building on our rich history and revitalizing our approach to better prepare businesses for opportunities in an ever-changing economic environment. The Chamber's charge is to identify new market opportunities, improve access to capital, and accelerate economic growth for established and emerging African-American businesses.

The African American Chamber has grown to be one of the largest African American Chambers in the State of Ohio and it continues to be committed to inclusion, business development, advocacy and building business capacity and sustainability. The African American Chamber's Walnut Hills headquarters is located at 2945 Gilbert Avenue. The office provides a central repository of community information and resources. It is also well utilized as a site for meetings and seminars by AACC members, industry associations, and a host of non-profits organizations. The leadership efforts of previous board chairs and others greatly contributed to the Chamber's current success.

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