

# About our 2010 MED Week Business Awards Winners

## **MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR – SUMMIT CONTAINER CORPORATION**

Summit Container Corporation is a 27 year old award-winning manufacturer of corrugated packaging. Their corporate headquarters are in Monument, Colorado. The firm has 3 primary manufacturing, assembly and logistic facilities in Monument, and Arvada Colorado and Downingtown, Pennsylvania. The company's objective is to not just provide creative cost effective quality packaging solutions, but to reach the highest levels of customer service. J. Joe Mena, President of Summit states that we want our customers to enjoy working with us. We have long held that any time one of Summit's employees contacts a customer – that customer should have a better day.

## **SUPPLIER/DISTRIBUTOR OF THE YEAR – AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL & CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY (AICS)**

American Industrial & Construction Supply (AICS) is a Hispanic family owned company that is a supplier/distributor specializing in the sale of fasteners, tools, concrete accessories, roofing materials, sealants, adhesives, visqueen, truck boxes and construction equipment to the construction industry. The Firm incorporated in November 1988 and is exclusively owned and managed by the members of the LeDoux family, Veronica, David, Mike, Vince and Michelle. Over the years the firm has developed strong customer relations, ensuring that their customer base is constant.

They have been a supplier to most of the major projects in the Denver area. They have been heavily involved with the contractors working at DIA, providing supplies to the many projects currently under construction. Projects include, the Original and the new Convention Center, Coors Field, Invesco Field, Byron Rogers Courthouse, Pepsi Center, South East Corridor/TREX, the Denver Art Museum , and more recently the Denver Justice Center & Jail and Union Station. Customers include, Sturgeon Electric, Intermountain, MA Mortensen, Hensel Phelps, Trautman & Shreve, Kewit, RK Mechanical, Douglas Roofing, CEI Roofing, Bechtel, and Helix Electric in Guam.

## **SERVICE FIRM OF THE YEAR – JG MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, INC.**

JG Management Systems, Inc. (JGMS) is a professional services firm providing facility assessments and operations support, program and project management, engineering design and analysis, and environmental services to government and private sector clients nationwide through numerous office locations. JGMS was founded in August of 2001 by Jerome Gonzales in Grand Junction, Colorado. JGMS is a small but sophisticated, 8(a), small disadvantaged business (SDB) and has grown rapidly over the last eight years by incorporating their mission statement: "We Promise, then Perform." JGMS has taken the company mission statement a step further by using it as the foundation for the ISO 9001:2008 based Quality Policy and Procedures. Everything revolves around making a solid promise to provide quality service and then precisely executing to customer requirements and satisfaction. JGMS became ISO 9001:2008 registered in November of 2009. As a diverse team of professionals, JGMS is focused on exceeding the needs of their clients and following through with real solutions that effectively and efficiently meet all budgetary and scheduling requirements.

## **CONSTRUCTION FIRM OF THE YEAR – NM INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, LLC**

NM Industrial Services is a construction company that offers a full range of services, which includes complete mechanical, electrical, and general construction capabilities in the Midwestern Regions. Nathan Martinez start NM Industrial Services in 2004, in the basement of his home with \$2,000, in savings and his own personal truck. He overcame several obstacles in his quest for success, no line of credit, not past performance and no bonding capability. Overcoming all of that, he persevered. A sign of his continued growth is that he has just recently purchased a 15,000 sq. ft of office and shop. The company's tremendous sales growth in this economic environment are proof that having goals and a solid plan to achieve them are possible despite adverse circumstances.

## **RETAIL FIRM OF THE YEAR – WYSTONE'S WORLD TEAS**

Wystone's World Teas is a café located in the Belmar Shopping District in Lakewood, Colorado. Wy Livingston, the owner, started out with an on-line business in 2006, and is now celebrating 2 years of being in business with her restaurant. Wystone's World Teas is a restaurant, meeting place, event destination, caterer, retail store, wholesale provider and tea education. Wystone's is also actively engaged in vringing unique tea-based retail products into the marketplace, as well as embarking into the franchise worls. The firm carries over 150 loos leaf teas from all over the globe. Wystone's has grown 35% year after year, even in this difficult economy. One of Wyston'e World Teas most important roles is its relationship to the community. Wystone's creates a place for people to gather, share, exchanfe, reunite and relax. While the world is spinning outside, time seems to stand still once you pass through Wyston's front door. Prior to beginning her adventure in tea, she was Senior Vice President of Operations at Pulte Mortgage LLC, a subsidiary of Pulte Homes, the largest home builder in the country. She served on the Pulte Diversity Council. Prior to joining Pulte, Ms. Livingston managed operations and service areas in several Fortune 500 companies including AIG

as Senior Vice President nationwide annuity operations and Federal Express as Regional Senior Manager overseeing customer service and new center openings. Ms. Livingtons received her B.A. degree in Political Science from the University of Denver.

### **CORPORATION OF THE YEAR – QWEST COMMUNICATIONS**

Qwest Communications Company is a leading provider of voice, video and data services. Qwest is the premier provider of full-service communications for people at work, at home or on the move. Qwest believes that embracing diversity and creating a culture of inclusion makes Qwest a better company. By incorporating a variety of viewpoints, insights and perspectives, Qwest is a better service provider, a better community partner and better able to serve its diverse employee and customer base. To achieve their goals, and assure continued opportunities and growth for MWDVBE suppliers, the Supplier Diversity Organization collaborates with Qwest's Procurement Organization's strategic sourcing managers, who oversee the daily management and strategic relationships with prime minority and non-minority suppliers. . Qwest's Supplier Diversity team meets regularly with the strategic sourcing teams to provide assistance with any MWDVBE issues or questions; to assist with the Request for Proposal ("RFP") bidding processes; and to ensure that the strategic sourcing teams understand and incorporate Qwest's MWDVBE initiatives in contracts with Qwest. Qwest supports a number of diversity groups made up of Qwest employees who have a common interest in promoting the company's diversity philosophy. These internal resource groups have as a goal to participate in community outreach activities on behalf of Qwest and often refer suppliers to Qwest. At Qwest, creating sustainable supplier diversity participation in their supply chain is critically important, and they are very successful at making it happen.

### **ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR – ERIN YOSHIMURA**

Erin Yoshimura is the sole proprietor of Empowerful Changes™ where she is the CEO (Chief Empowering Officer) and concentrates on personal branding, coaching, and training. Empowerful Changes™ has a target audience of Asian Americans between the ages of 25 and 55 both as individuals and within corporations. Erin has owned and operated her business since 2001, however has been an advocate of the Asian community all of her life. Three generations above her were interned during World War II and Erin has used these experiences that happened to her family and now speaks to high school and college students all over the country enabling others to understand how it might have felt to not have any power. She explains why many from that generation will not discuss what happened to them and how Asian American and Pacific Islanders communicate. As an advocate Ms. Yoshimura and her husband Gil Asakawa created a website and method to communicate to the Asian community. When asked why this was necessary she stated that the Asian community was in her opinion virtually invisible or misrepresented and they needed to have their voices heard in many platforms such as sports, politics, entertainment, business, news and not in a stereotypical manner.

Ms. Yoshimura is actively involved in the community as a volunteer as well.

- Mayor Hickenlooper's Denver Asian Pacific American Commission
- Asian Pacific Development Center Board of Director Board Member
- Colorado Dragon Boat Festival's Organizing Committee 2001-2007

### **YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR – RUVENCIA BOYD, OWNER OF RUE JEWELS**

Rue Jewels has been in existence for 5 years and has a well established clientele. Rue Jewels is an up and coming successful business, but what makes it very interesting is that it is owned and operated by Ruvencia Boyd a 13 year old 8th grader. Rue Jewels first started out using wooden beads to design jewelry then changed its line to glass beads with some wooden beads mixed together, spring 2009. By changing the product materials sales increased. Ruvencia designs ankle bracelets and arm bracelets using wooden beads. Her jewelry line serves men, women, children, and full figure women. She started Rue Jewels as a hobby but has now taken it to a professional level to save money for college.

Ruvencia is a leader with the drive determination and tenacity to be successful. She is a tremendous role model for the youth in her church and the community. Her ultimate goal is to establish a relationship with a mentor in an effort to have a support system in connecting with stores that might display her jewelry.