

DEMPSEY, PENN FOSTER among best places to work

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SCRANTON – Many of the “Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania,” as named each year by the Best Companies Group, are commonly white collar industries.

Announced Tuesday by the Textile Rental Services Association of America, Dempsey Uniform and Linen Supply, Inc., a business where employees spend most of their day on their feet, was included on that list of 100 places for the second consecutive year.

“A lot of the other companies honored are insurance companies or in the healthcare industry,” P.J. Dempsey, president of Dempsey Uniform and Linen Supply, said in a phone interview. “We go out of our way to make the production industry as comfortable as possible.

“This recognition is a tremendous honor, but my barometer is how we’re meeting our own standards,” he continued.

Dempsey said the company, which has been headquartered in an \$18 million facility at 1200 Mid Valley Dr., Jessup, since 2006, makes its expectations of employees clear, but also keeps an open line of communication between workers and managers.

Despite a drop in the overall need for uniforms, the textile rental supply company has experienced an increased demand for flame resistant garments used on drilling sites in the Marcellus Shale region and high visibility clothing, which is commonly used by road crews and toll companies, Dempsey said.

As a local, family owned business, he added that the company has

avoided painful layoffs.

“I’m quite certain that if you looked a Dempsey’s response to the downturn versus large corporations, they would be very different,” Dempsey said.

Also included in the 2010 “Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania” is Penn Foster, Inc., a distance learning institution whose Student Services Center is located at 925 Oak St., Scranton.

All 100 businesses will be recognized at an event on November 30 at the Lancaster County Convention Center in Lancaster.

A publication about the business will be produced by the Central Penn Business Journal on December 1.

Dempsey Uniform and Linen Supply, which employs approximately 300 people in its Jessup Headquarters and locations in Sunbury, Harrisburg and Baltimore, MD., has been named one of the Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania for the second consecutive year.

