

# TRSA TEXTILE RENTAL WEEKLY

## Dempsey Hailed as 'Best Place to Work in Pennsylvania'

For the second consecutive year, the *Central Penn Business Journal* has named Dempsey Uniform & Linen Supply Inc., Jessup, PA, one of the 'Best Places to Work in PA.' Dempsey was one of 50 companies to earn the honor in the large category, which recognizes businesses with 251 or more employees.

Dempsey, which employs more than 300 people in its textile rental facilities in northeastern and central Pennsylvania, earned the accolade in part because professional evaluators determined that the company has exemplary workplace policies, practices, philosophy, systems and demographics. However, this assessment accounted for only 25% of the company's overall score in the survey. Employee assessments of the company were three times as important to its rating.

"This is further proof of the importance of good pay and benefits to employee satisfaction, particularly for production workers," President P.J. Dempsey said.

"Here, people know what is expected of them," Dempsey added. "They know that we have family-friendly hours that allow them to balance work and family responsibilities. They know what their pay is going to be. They know that if something is not going well, if a machine is not working right, or that production isn't flowing right, everybody cares. So they will go out of their way to say something about it because management and supervision will do something about it."

TRSA President Joseph Ricci added that Dempsey stands out as an outstanding example for the entire industry. "Dempsey and other TRSA member companies have long provided their people with rewarding opportunities and good benefits," Ricci said. "These are jobs that cannot be exported because textile rental is an industry of local service operations. Dempsey, in addition, is locally owned. They are committed to employing and serving Pennsylvania residents because that is their home state."

What does it take to earn an award like this one? Dempsey says it comes down to how you treat people. That may include the fact that despite the rough economy, Dempsey has avoided layoffs. P.J. Dempsey suggests that it's not any one thing, though, but rather the relationships between employer and employees. "I can't tell you exactly what we do that puts us over the top as one of the best places to work," he said. "But I know it is nothing revolutionary or gimmicky. It might be just that our people know what it means to do a good job and their work is appreciated. So when things got tough in the economy, more than ever, they understood that we value their contributions."

Contest organizers, including the *Central Penn Business Journal* as well as a number of public, private and civic groups, have notified those entrants that are 2010 winners. However, the lists won't be publicized until the awards ceremony on Nov. 30 at the Lancaster County Convention Center in Lancaster, PA. Each winner will be ranked 1-50 in its category when the full list is released; last year, Dempsey was 37th in its division.

