



Verso Paper Corp.
6775 Lenox Center Court
Memphis, TN 38115

For details, contact:
Monica Garvey
Sustainability Manager

T 901-369-4154
monica.garvey@versopaper.com

www.versopaper.com

news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Verso Paper Corp. Receives Green Business Innovator of the Year Award

MEMPHIS, Tenn., April 16, 2010 – Verso Paper Corp. (NYSE:VRS) announced today it was honored as the 2009 Southeast Regional Green Business Innovator of the Year in a ceremony at the Green Business Summit hosted by Lipscomb University in Nashville.

Verso was recognized for its continued efforts to work with customers and suppliers as partners, often sharing environmental performance data, to enable the evaluation of sustainability throughout the supply chain and promote forest certification and recycling programs.

“Verso has made tremendous strides in addressing sustainability throughout the supply chain,” said William Paddock, Co-Founder of WAP Sustainability, a business sustainability consultant based in Nashville, and Chairman of the Tennessee Sustainability Roundtable’s Green Business Leadership Award Committee. “Verso went above and beyond, strategically evaluating their environmental impacts through effective collaboration with core customers such as National Geographic. As Chairman of the awards committee, we felt this approach to sustainability exhibited the highest level of institutional practices and led to innovative learning that has helped the company address its most important environmental and social goals.”

About the Green Business Awards

“The Green Business Awards were established to recognize businesses, individuals and organizations that have demonstrated unusually exceptional leadership in green business practices and to encourage others to exceed their example,” said Lipscomb University President, L. Randolph Lowry. “Each honoree succeeded in establishing institutional practices, a policy framework, new products or services, or a vision resulting in precedent setting business practices in Tennessee in 2009.” Other notable honorees include Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen and the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority.

Verso simple.™

About Verso

Based in Memphis, Tennessee, Verso Paper Corp. is a leading North American producer of coated papers, including coated groundwood and coated freesheet, and supercalendered and specialty products. Verso's paper products are used primarily in media and marketing applications, including magazines, catalogs and commercial printing applications such as high-end advertising brochures, annual reports and direct-mail advertising. Additional information about Verso is available on the company's Web site at www.versopaper.com.