



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tejas Office Products, Inc. ranked 296 in Hispanic Business Magazine Top 500 List

Tejas Office Products, Inc. of Houston, Texas was ranked 296 in the Hispanic Business Magazines' Directory of the top 500 Hispanic owned companies in the United States. To be included on The Hispanic Business 500 annual list a company must show 51 percent ownership by a Hispanic U.S. citizen and must maintain headquarters in one of the 50 states or Washington D.C. Tejas Office Products, Inc. has been ranked every year since the inception of the list in 1983.

Article featured in the June 2007 Hispanic Business Magazine

Feeding Demand with Supplies

It was 1961 and Lupe Fraga had just wrapped up three years in the military when he began working in a Houston firm as an accountant. He met an office supply vendor, Jim Kendig, who was eager to unload his business ... for \$10,000.



Stephen Fraga, president
of Tejas Office Products

"He told me he was getting ready to get out of the office supply business and asked if I would be interested in buying his company," recalls Mr. Fraga, CEO of Tejas Office Products Inc. "I said, 'Yeah I'll do it.'"

The owner helped Mr. Fraga, then 26, secure a loan to buy Kendig's Office Supply, which featured one employee and very little inventory.

"I thought, 'You've got to start somewhere,'" Mr. Fraga says.

Forty-four years and a name change later, he has built Tejas Office Products into one of Houston's largest independent office supply companies despite facing steep competition from big-box retailers, such as Office Depot.

Tejas, No. 296 on the **Hispanic Business 500®**, has grown to more

than 60 employees and 2006 revenues of \$15 million. From its 25,000-square-foot warehouse, the company distributes office supplies around the country.

Mr. Fraga says he has had numerous offers to sell the family-run business [his wife, Irene, is vice-president and his son, Stephen, is president].

"I always believed when you start your own business and you put in the blood, sweat, and tears, you leave it behind for your family. You just don't sell your company and leave with a bunch of money."

Being listed in the **Hispanic Business 500** is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the Tejas team. "We take a lot of pride in that," Mr. Fraga says. "We also take pride in being a Hispanic-owned business."

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