

The Lighthouse  
500 N. Bois D' Arc  
Tyler, Texas 75702  
903.595-3444

## Backgrounder

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 25, 2010

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
Allie Abel  
Public Relations Specialist  
903.590.4339  
aabel@etlb.org

### **The Lighthouse**

The Lighthouse opened its doors in April 1976 as East Texas Workshop Industries, Inc. being chartered by a small group of directors and founders who believed a facility providing services and employment to blind and visually impaired East Texans was sorely needed. The founders were prominent Tyler businessmen working in conjunction with the Texas Commission for the Blind. Over time The Lighthouse has grown into three divisions that employ 69 blind and visually impaired employees who serve in a variety of positions including production and management.

Horizon Industries, the largest employer, specializes in non-woven paper converting and manufactures a broad line of wiping products ranging from delicate tissue towels to rugged reinforced biodegradable rayon. Horizon's customer base includes federal and state agencies such as General Services Administration, US Navy, Department of Defense and the Texas Department of Transportation.

-more-

All products under federal contract are produced under strict specifications and quality standards and as a result Horizon Industries is ISO 9001 certified.

We are applying those qualifications and 34 years of production experience to our newest operation, Lighthouse Graphics. Offering screen printing and embroidery services to non-profits, commercial and government customers, we have the very best in equipment including our 14 station press capable of 12 color printing. Computer to screen digital imaging makes Lighthouse Graphics more advanced and efficient than most screen printing operations. Our staff is experienced not only in printing, but also graphic design, product development and marketing.

Rehabilitative Services was established in April 2009 to create and strengthen programs for blind individuals living in Smith County and surrounding areas. We offer orientation and mobility training, senior and independent living programs, adaptive equipment lending program, vocational training and awareness programs. A low vision store in this facility recently opened and has a wide variety of equipment that ranges from talking products to closed circuit magnification readings systems or CCTV's.