



**James J. Smart, CPA**  
*CEO, Smart Devine and Company, LLC*

Mr. James Smart is CEO of the recently formed Smart Devine and Company, LLC, with longtime co-partner Mr. Richard Devine. The new firm acquired Nihill & Riedley, P. C., a CPA practice that specializes in fraud and forensic investigations, while offering traditional audit and tax services.

Jim has been a visionary in the accounting and business advisory services industry for over twenty years. Through his keen anticipation of market needs and trends, he has strategically provided companies of all sizes and industries with practical and cost effective accounting, assurance, tax, business, technology and financial advisory services. For his vision, Accounting Today has recognized Jim in 2003, 2004 and 2007 as one of the 100 most influential people in the accounting profession.

Jim founded SMART in 1988 as a sole proprietorship, and built it into one of the fastest growing full service business advisory, consulting and accounting firms in the country. With revenue of more than \$100 million in 2006, SMART had more than 650 employees with offices across the U.S. in Albany, Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Hartford, New York, Philadelphia, Portland, and Washington, DC, and internationally in Amsterdam and London. The firm has been named as the 21<sup>st</sup> largest accounting firm in the U.S. by Accounting Today Report in 2006, ranked as the Philadelphia Business Journal's fifth largest CPA Firms, and is one of the fastest growing companies in the Philadelphia region.

In May 2007, Jim led a leveraged recapitalization of the Firm, attracting \$60 million in Private Equity financing from Great Hill Partners and \$45 million in bank debt from a syndicate led by the Bank of Montreal in a deal valued at \$120 million.

Jim is often quoted in industry trade journals such as Accounting Today, Public Accounting Report, Philadelphia Business Journal, Practical Accountant, Crain's, and Public Accounting Report, and has presented numerous seminars on business planning and industry trends. He speaks regularly on business and financial planning. Jim has been very active in supporting Higher Education. He has been an Adjunct Professor of Accounting at Saint Joseph's University where he taught Advanced Taxation. Jim is a member of the Board of Trustees for LaSalleUniversity. He is also a Trustee for St. Joseph's Prep, as well as Malvern Prep. Jim was also a member of the Villanova University College of Commerce & Finance, Financial Services Advisory Council.

A native of Philadelphia, Jim is involved in numerous community and business organizations. He is a member of the American and Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Jim is a former member of the Board of Directors of the International Group of Accounting Firms (IGAF), one of the largest associations of independent public accounting firms in the world. Jim was a member of the Board of Directors for the Bryn Mawr Trust Company. He is a former member of the Board of Directors of the Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry as well as the Paoli Memorial Hospital Development Board. Additionally, he is the former Chairman of the Marple Township Pension Advisory Board.

Jim's entrepreneurial and humanitarian endeavors have brought him many awards, including the 2000 Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry's Small Business Leader of the Year, 2002 Devon-Berwyn Business of the Year Award and the 2005 Eagles Fly for Leukemia Humanitarian Award. In 2009 Jim received the Beta Gamma Sigma Lifetime Leadership Award from La Salle University.

Jim is a CPA and graduate of the LaSalle University School of Business.