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Jim graduated in 1974 from St. Joseph's College of Indiana with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management. While going to school and paying for his tuition he worked at the then Inland Steel Co. in East Chicago, Indiana working labor. After graduation he took a job with Bearing Headquarters, a bearing and power transmission supplier as an inside salesman. Two years later he moved to General Bearings in Gary, Indiana where he was Sales and Office Manager. He called on the local Steel and support industries.

One of Jim's accounts was National Briquette Corporation in East Chicago, IN. Jim joined NBC in January of 1979 as a salesman. He worked various positions at NBC from Sales to Dispatch to Purchasing. NBC grew to 5 Briquetting facilities and became National Recovery Systems; Jim helped build and manage the last two facilities built; GLRS Briquetting Facility in Ecorse, Michigan and ARI, Briquetting Facility in Ashland, Kentucky. In 2002, Jim became Vice President of Operations for all 5 Briquetting facilities, of National Recovery Systems.

In 2005, Jim moved back into the Sales Department into his current position following the buyout of NRS by MultiServ. Jim has given several papers in Europe and the US on waste oxide recycling. He has co-authored and given two papers at the Colorado School of Mines Conference for Recycling Heavy Metals from Industrial Wastes on briquetting for the Steel Industry.

Jim has been married for almost 30 years to wife June. The Torok's have two children Jill 29 and Lucas 16. The Torok's live in Schererville, IN Jill and Son-In Law Tim will make Jim a grandpa for the first time in December of 2007.

Jim has been to several IBA Conventions as early as 1979. IBA sites attended are Savannah, San Diego, Colorado Springs, Charleston, Clearwater and Santa Fe.