



Eleven Tennessee companies make list of fastest growing

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Inc. magazine today released its 24th annual Inc. 500 ranking of the fastest-growing private companies in the country. The Inc. 500 ranks privately held companies according to year-over-year sales growth from 2001 to 2004. Tennessee landed 11 companies on the list.

At No. 16, Franklin-based Spheris, a medical transcription company, was the highest-ranking Tennessee company, with 2004 revenue of \$152.7 million, or 2710.8 percent growth over the three-year period.

Brentwood's Guy Brown Products, a manufacturer of laser toner cartridges, was ranked 34th, with \$44 million in revenue and a 1755.3 percent growth rate.

These were the only two Tennessee companies in the top 100. The Nashville area had two other companies on the list, however: Hiller Plumbing, Heating & Cooling at No. 455 and Edison Automation at No. 461.

Topping the list this year was Video Gaming Technologies, maker of touch-screen gaming machines for casinos, with three-year sales growth of 9,720 percent.

With approximately 75 percent of all new job creation in the U.S. coming from entrepreneurial businesses, the Inc. 500 opens a window onto the companies and industries that are driving the economy forward. It can be found in the November issue.— Staff report

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