

## 10 Southern Arizona firms honored as Arizona companies to watch

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Ten Southern Arizona firms were among the inaugural 50 Companies to Watch in Arizona for 2006 honored in ceremonies Thursday night (June 1) at the Arizona Biltmore in Phoenix.

The list was compiled by the Edward Lowe Foundation, a not-for-profit operating foundation, to recognize second-stage companies that are critical, but often overlooked, drivers of the state's economy. They are past the start-up phase; are generally concerned with issues of growth, not survival and have not yet become large corporations. The event was hosted by the Arizona Small Business Association.

The 10 Southern Arizona firms are:

- AGM Container Controls Inc., 3526 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson - Howard Stewart, president and CEO. FTE: 83. Founded: 1970. Designer, manufacturer and distributor of container products control and monitor moisture, pressure and vacuum changes and shock and vibration.
- AmpliMed Corporation, 4280 N. Campbell Ave., Tucson - Robert Ashley, chairman, CEO and president. FTE: 15. Founded: 1989. Develops pharmaceuticals for cancer treatment.
- Arizona Capacitors LLC, 3151 E. Drexel Road, Tucson - Anne Waisman, president. FTE: 24. Founded: 2002. Manufactures film and foil capacitors and large format magnetic components and filters for government, industrial and commercial applications.
- Dorn Homes Inc., 3950 S. Camino del Heroe, Green Valley - David Grounds, president and CEO. FTE: 40. Founded: 1971. Custom home builder.
- Interior Expressions Design Showroom, 1171 E. Rancho Vistoso Blvd., Suite 131, Oro Valley - Betty Jones, co-owner. FTE: 10. Founded: 2000. Business and residential interior design and decorator.
- Native Tele-Data Solutions, 4443 N. Flowing Wells Road, Tucson - Marilyn Steeber, president. FTE: 28. Founded: 1986. Telecommunications and cabling company offering voice and data networking systems.
- Protein Technologies Inc., 4675 S. Coach Drive, Tucson - Chris Patterson, president and CEO. FTE: 30. Founded 1985. Developers and suppliers of instruments and reagents for bio-organic synthesis.
- SEBRA, 100 N. Tucson Blvd., Tucson - Roger Vogel, CEO. FTE: 74. Founded: 1982. Producer of precision instruments for blood banks, catheter manufacturers, biotechnology companies and medical device manufacturers.
- SynCardia Systems Inc., 1992 E. Silverlake Road, Tucson - Rodger Ford, president and CEO. FTE: 24. Founded: 2001. Develops biomechanical cardiac replacement and assist devices. Its CardioWest temporary Total Artificial Heart is designed for severely ill patients with end-stage congestive heart failure to serve as an in-hospital bridge-to-transplantation for patients at imminent risk of death.
- Tucson Embedded Systems Inc., 5620 N. Kolb Road, Suite 160, Tucson - Dennis Kenman, vice president and co-owner. FTE: 70. Founded: 1997. Designs and certifies mission-critical embedded software systems for the aerospace, transportation, military, scientific, and medical industries.