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List of 50 'Companies to Watch' Unveiled

From food manufacturers to software developers, 50 companies have earned a place on Indiana's second "Companies to Watch" list. The program highlights privately held businesses that employ up to 150 employees and have between \$750,000 to \$100 million in annual revenue or working capital. Companies on this year's list will be honored at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis August 27.

Indiana IT consulting firm

ENTAP and 49 additional companies from 17 Indiana counties have earned a place in Indiana's second annual field of "Companies to Watch."

The accolade, presented by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, its Small Business Development Center network, Purdue University and the Edward Lowe Foundation, recognizes the state's privately held businesses that employ up to 150 employees and have between \$750,000 to \$100 million in annual revenue or working capital.

"Mid-sized companies like these named Companies to Watch make up the foundation of the Indiana economy," said Mitch Roob, Secretary of Commerce and chief executive officer of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. "Congratulations to this year's field and the

hundreds of other nominees who have had such a tremendous impact as they grow and continue to create new jobs for Hoosiers."

The 50 "Companies to Watch," which were named after evaluating the more than 500 nominations for the awards, represent industries ranging from food manufacturers to software developers and medical device makers to financial services firms.

The 50 chosen companies project to have combined revenues in excess of \$671 million and create more than 560 new jobs this year. The revenue projections represent an increase of more than \$200 million from 2008.

Nearly 3,800 mid-sized companies with between \$5 million and \$100 million in annual sales operate in Indiana, according to a 2008 Indiana

Chamber of Commerce Foundation study. Those companies employed more than 386,000 workers and produced more than \$55 billion in annual sales.

With major sponsorship from Barnes & Thornburg LLP, the "Companies to Watch" awards program is an initiative developed by the Cassopolis, Mich.-based Edward Lowe Foundation. The foundation hosts similar programs in Michigan, Arizona, Mississippi and Colorado. Indiana Companies to Watch is also sponsored in part by KeyBank, Premier Capital Corporation and Katz, Sapper & Miller.

The 50 "Companies to Watch" will be honored at an Aug. 27 ceremony at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in Indianapolis.

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