

## Local business

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## Up-and-coming companies

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Think of them as hot prospects.

Although their revenue has not yet crossed the threshold of the Deloitte Cincinnati USA 100, these companies' recent business activity and management track records indicate they could be future stars on the list of the largest privately held companies in the region.

Look, for example, at Mason-based Intelligrated, a manufacturer of warehouse conveyor systems, which was honored in 2005 as a "rising star." This year, the Mason-based company debuted on the 100 list itself.

This year's rising stars range from retail to architecture, high-tech manufacturing construction to distribution and medical testing. Their markets reach all over the country, and their growth is consistently aggressive

### • Presenting the 2007 Deloitte Cincinnati USA 100

#### **PURE ROMANCE**

Industry: Direct sales of what the company calls "relationship-enhancement" products. The lingerie, sex toys and other items it offers are sold at women-only home parties.

Headquarters: Loveland

Employees: 95

Top executive: Patty Brisben

#### **FRCH DESIGN WORLDWIDE**

Industry: Architecture, interior design, graphic design and brand strategy firm serving the retail, mixed-use, hospitality, restaurant, entertainment and corporate office markets

Headquarters: Downtown

Employees: 285

Top executive: James Tippmann

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## **CINCINNATI SUB ZERO**

Industry: Manufactures patient body, blood and fluid temperature-control products, industrial environmental-simulation testing chambers and an on-site testing laboratory

Headquarters: Evendale

Employees: 249

Top executive: Steven Berke

## **HIGHTOWERS PETROLEUM**

Industry: Petroleum and petroleum products distributor for business, government, and industry

Headquarters: Middletown

Employees: 18

Top executive: Stephen Hightower

## **MED PACE**

Industry: Contract research organization providing comprehensive clinical research support to the pharmaceutical industry

Headquarters: Norwood

Employees: 543

Top executive: August Troendle

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