



Fastest growing EMEA high-tech firms identified

Confidence remains high despite word-wide economic turbulence

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London, 2 December 2008 – The full list of the Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA was announced on 26 November. This ranks public and private technology companies from 23 countries in EMEA with a minimum revenue of €50,000 in year one. It is the most objective industry-ranking standard to focus on the technology sector. The Fast 500 is researched by Deloitte's Global Technology, Media & Telecommunications (TMT) Group.

- Average five-year revenue growth for all companies is 1,297%
- France has the most ranked companies with 75 of the 500, closely followed by the UK with 69. The two countries switched positions from last year
- The UK has two companies in the Top 5 this year claiming first and third place
- Survey of Fast 500 CEOs reveals that 58% of this year's CEOs were "extremely" or "very confident" of managing the same growth rates over the coming two years

Key trends observed in this year's Deloitte Technology Fast 500 are:

- The software sector continues to dominate the ranking, making up 197 of the 500 companies. This is followed by Internet/Media with 98 and Telecommunications/Networking with 64;
- The environment is playing an increasingly important part in the operations of EMEA companies with waste reduction through reduce, reuse and recycle generating the largest following among those surveyed at 21%. However, 19% of respondents admitted they are doing nothing at all to address environmental concerns. This was in contrast to the Asia-Pacific region where only 12% said they are not yet implementing programs to protect the environment; and
- The Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA shows a decrease in average growth rates over the prior year with the Top 500 growing by 1,297% in 2008 compared to a record-breaking 1,443% last year which is still impressive in this turbulent economy.

Top Five Ranked Companies in the 2008 Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA

Rank	Company	5yr%	Industry
1	Thunderhead Limited: UK	28,558.39%	Enterprise Communications Software
2	Albumprinter: Netherlands	21,952.02%	Printed photo albums
3	Ubisense: UK	15,323.53%	Real-time location software
4	Morphic Technologies AB (publ).: Sweden	10,838.96%	Renewable energy products

Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA CEO Survey

Deloitte is also announcing the 2008 Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA CEO Survey - a comprehensive analysis of the business trends and background statistics of the winning companies and a summary of the key concerns and expectations of technology sector CEOs. Some of the key trends are:

- Despite wider economic turbulence, confidence is high. 58% of this year's CEOs were "extremely" or "very confident" of managing the same growth rates over the coming two years, which is lower than last year's 78%, however this year more CEOs recorded being "somewhat confident" than last year with the number increasing from 20% to 37% in 2008;
- A large number, 37% of CEOs surveyed have not yet experienced a significant impact from the downturn in the global economy. However, 30% responded that they are reviewing their strategy in light of recent economic conditions; and
- Good technology people are still hard to find. Finding, hiring and retaining qualified employees is still the greatest operational challenge for 42% of CEOs, similar to last year.

"The financial tsunami isn't slowing or diverting top EMEA tech leaders attention," says Igal Brightman, Global Managing Partner of Deloitte's Technology, Media & Telecommunications (TMT) Industry group. "These growth companies continue to maintain an optimistic outlook and remain focused on developing talent and innovating themselves"

"After eight years of examining the data that underpins the EMEA region ranking, the more telling trends are beginning to emerge", said Karel Bakkes, Deloitte's Partner in charge of the Deloitte Technology Fast 500 EMEA. 'France remains a frontrunner in terms of overall numbers, followed by the UK, but hard on their heels are the emerging tech club of Israel, Scandinavia, Ireland, and the Netherlands."

Read more about [Technology, Media & Telecommunications](#) or [Technology Fast 500](#).

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