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## CHARLOTTE BUSINESS JOURNAL

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# 38 Charlotte-area firms make Inc. list

Charlotte Business Journal - by [Adam O'Daniel](#) Staff Writer

Thirty-eight businesses in the Charlotte region are among the country's fastest-growing private companies, according to *Inc.* magazine.

Four of those firms are on this year's Inc. 500 list: **Red Ventures** of Charlotte, ranked No. 17; **FireFold** of Concord, No. 73; **nGroup** of Fort Mill, No. 246; and **Red F** of Charlotte, No. 476.

Thirty-four more area companies are in the top 5,000.

The list previously ranked the 500 highest-growth companies in United States but was expanded to 5,000 this year.

Red Ventures, founded in 2000 by Dan Feldstein and Ric Elias, is a marketing firm that solicits new customers for national companies such as DirectTV, Sirius satellite radio and ADT security systems.

It ranked No. 2 among U.S. marketing firms, according to *Inc.* The company's revenue grew to more than \$103 million in 2006 from \$1.7 million in 2003, an increase of more than 5,800 percent.

Last year, *Inc.* ranked Red Ventures as the top marketing firm in terms of growth and listed the company No. 4 overall.

FireFold, founded in 2002, specializes in retail sales of audio and video cables and other accessories for high-definition television. It also boasts a strong online presence.

FireFold ranked No. 3 in growth among retail companies on *Inc.*'s list. Its revenue grew to \$6 million in 2006 from \$200,000 in 2003, an increase of nearly 2,400 percent.

Human-resources firm nGroup, founded in 2002, supplies temporary workers to manufacturing and distribution operations. Its clients include The Home Depot Inc. and Target Corp., says David Hair, co-founder and chief executive. The company ranked No. 10 among HR firms on *Inc.*'s list. Its revenue grew to \$6 million in 2006 from \$510,000 in 2003.

Red F, a marketing firm, increased its revenue to \$12.8 million in 2006 from \$1.7 million in 2003. The company, founded in 2002, focuses on nontraditional marketing methods for clients that include Wachovia Corp. and DirectTV.

*Inc.*, a publication aimed at entrepreneurs, will publish the full list in its September issue, available Aug. 26. The list is also available on the magazine's Web site, [www.inc.com](http://www.inc.com).

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