

NEWS RELEASE
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CONTACT: Jack Lawson
President
317-786-4444
jackl@catalystpdg.com

Catalyst Product Development Group named a 2004 Indiana Growth 100 Awardee

(Indianapolis) -- The Johnson Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation, a division of Indiana University's Kelley School of Business, recognized Indiana's leading high potential, high growth companies at its 11th annual Growth 100 Dinner and Awards Banquet Wednesday, (October 27) at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in Indianapolis.

Catalyst Product Development of Indianapolis, was among the winners. Catalyst has received the Growth 100 Award for the third time in as many years.

Catalyst was founded in 1999 and currently employs (#) persons from this community. Jack Lawson, President, states that he is proud to be recognized as an Indiana Growth 100 Company. "As a product development company specializing in rapid market deployment, I believe that this recognition shows that innovation and creativity is alive and well within Indiana's business community. As always, I would like to dedicate this award to the incredible team of people we have at Catalyst. It is their commitment to excellence that has made this possible".

The Growth 100 award honors Indiana's rapid growth, high potential entrepreneurial companies. Nominees for the award must be privately held Indiana businesses and have at least \$500,000 in annual sales or have raised a significant amount of funding. This year, 88 highly qualified companies were carefully selected from across the state. Growth 100 companies are identified through an analysis process that is based upon High Performance Organization research conducted by The Johnson Center.

Sponsors who generously contributed to the event included: The Indiana Venture Center, the law offices of Katz, Sapper and Miller, and the accounting firm Ernst & Young.

"This year's 2004 Growth 100 awardees have a combined 2003 sales total of more than \$1.17 billion, with an incredible growth rate averaging 58 percent," said Tom Hustad, interim Director of the Johnson Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation at IU's Kelley School of Business. "To be able to build this type of momentum in such a challenging economic climate is quite a feat."

"These companies are a vital, central contributor to the state. Combined, they employ more than 8,600 Indiana residents, and have increased their employment numbers by an average of 33% in the last three years. With the state experiencing an overwhelming loss of jobs through an equivalent period, this is quite remarkable." Hustad adds, "We recognize these companies because they represent the entrepreneurial spirit of Indiana business, working to enlarge the state's role in the national and global corporate arena."

Individuals who wish to nominate their own or another's company for consideration for next year's Growth 100 award should contact The Johnson Center at 812.855.4248. For more information regarding the Growth 100 program and The Johnson Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation, visit The Johnson Center's web site at www.kelley.indiana.edu/jcei.

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