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## **FuelBelt Named to Inc. 5,000 List of Fastest-Growing Private Companies for a Second Straight Year**

### **FuelBelt, Inc. Ranks No. 2384 on the 2008 Inc. 5,000 with Three-Year Sales Growth of 157.4%**

*Barrington, RI* — Inc. today ranked FuelBelt, Inc. No. 2384 on its annual ranking of the 5,000 fastest-growing private companies in the country. The list is the most comprehensive look at the most important segment of the economy — America's independent-minded entrepreneurs.

“Our second annual Inc. 5000 continues the most ambitious project in business journalism,” said Inc. 5000 Project Manager Jim Melloan. “The Inc. 5000 gives an unrivalled portrait of young, underreported companies across all industries doing fascinating things with cutting-edge business models demonstrating impressive growth.”

FuelBelt, Inc. continues to be the fastest growing company in the endurance sports channel and is the only company in the sporting goods category to make the Inc. 5000 list two years in a row. Founded eleven years ago by 25-time Ironman triathlete Vinu Malik of Barrington, RI, FuelBelt, Inc. continues to experience unparalleled growth as demand for its products reaches new heights.

“FuelBelt is the most authentic brand in the hydration category and has an incredibly committed customer base. We create innovative products that appeal to a fast growing population of athletes who enjoy training for events like triathlons and running races of all distances. Making the Inc. 5000 for a second year validates what the market has been saying all along — if you dream big, work hard, and surround yourself with great people, you could just find yourself competing with the Nikes of the world,” said founder and president, Vinu Malik.

The 5000 companies that made the list reported aggregate revenue of \$185 billion and median three-year growth of 147%. Most important, the 2008 Inc. 5000 companies were engines of job growth, having created more than 826,033 jobs since those companies were founded. Complete results of the Inc. 5000, including company profiles and a list of the fastest-growing companies, can be found at [www.inc5000.com](http://www.inc5000.com).

### **About FuelBelt, Inc.**

FuelBelt is the fastest-growing company in the endurance sports channel. The company is the pioneer of the popularized multi-bottle hydration belt design and manufactures more than 100 accessories for the triathlon, run and cycling markets. Products are marketed and sold through specialty retailers throughout the US and more than 40 countries abroad. FuelBelt's strategic partners include Gatorade, Powerbar, Zoot Sports, Profile Design, Team In Training, Triathlete Magazine and K-Swiss. The company also owns and operates the top ranked website, Xtri.com, which serves the triathlon world with news and content. FuelBelt is located in Barrington, RI, which was named one of the top ten places to live by CNN/Money Magazine. Visit [www.fuelbelt.com](http://www.fuelbelt.com).

### **About Inc.com**

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## **Hottest Regions for Fastest-Growing Companies**

The New York metro area tops the Inc. 5000 list with the most companies of any city with 355. Washington, D.C. comes in a close second with 300 companies on the list, Los Angeles comes in third with 244 companies, and Atlanta (194 companies) and Chicago (189 companies) round out the top five. Interestingly, only 62 companies on the Inc. 5000 are not based in metropolitan areas. FuelBelt ranked 5th overall among companies making the Inc. list in the state of Rhode Island.

## **Hottest Industries for Fastest-Growing Businesses**

The most notable median growth categories among the Inc. 5000 fastest-growing businesses are in the Energy category (which grew by 298%), followed by Government Services (which grew by 220%), Security (200% growth), IT Services and Software (both grew by 187%), and Consulting (which grew by 182% on average).

The largest business category is IT Services, with 579 Inc. 5000 companies. Business Services (532 companies), Construction (459), Manufacturing (405), and Advertising & Marketing (361) complete the top five industries ranked on the 2008 Inc. 5000.

## **Methodology**

The 2008 Inc. 5000 list measures revenue growth from 2004 through 2007. To qualify, companies must be U.S.-based and privately held, for profit, independent — not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies — as of December 31, 2007, and have had at least \$200,000 in revenue in 2004, and \$2 million in 2007. •