

1 to 35

Vital Statistics

Company profiles, why they grew, and last available revenue figures

No. 1 New to list! ATLANTIS AVIATION

Industry: **Transportation**
Growth rate: **24,234%**
Revenue: **\$1,006,313**
Employee growth: **67%**
Full-time employees: **5**
President/CEO: **Partnership (Paul Lannon, David Rankin, Norm Richard, Lewis Stoyles, and Harold Wareham)**
Founded: **2004**
Head office: **St. John's, N.L.**
www.atlantisaviation.ca

Provides aviation consulting to passenger, cargo, and charter airlines, airports, and other related organizations, as well as air charter and general sales agency services. Acquired Integrated Aviation Services in 2007 and fuelled growth through increased partnerships.

No. 2 New to list! TECHLINK ENTERTAINMENT

Industry: **IT and telecommunications**
Growth rate: **1,115%**
Revenue: **\$485,128**
Employee growth: **45%**
Full-time employees: **64**
President/CEO: **John Xidos**
Founded: **1994**
Head office: **Sydney, N.S.**
www.techlinkentertainment.com

Researches and develops responsible gaming products, including Gameplan, which lets VLT players see how much and for how long they're gambling and sets time and money limits for play. Capitalized on growth in the gaming industry; investments in innovation helped the company move forward with five patents pending this year.

No. 3 New to list! VERAFIN

Industry: **IT and telecommunications**
Growth rate: **567%**
Revenue: **\$4,362,683**
Employee growth: **139%**
Full-time employees: **56**
President/CEO: **Jamie King**
Founded: **2003**
Head office: **St. John's, N.L.**
www.verafin.com

Provides anti-money-laundering and fraud-detection software to North American financial institutions. Increased total export revenues with over 75% of the company's revenues based in the U.S. market.

No. 4 (Last year: No. 5) HOMBURG INVESTMENT INC

Industry: **Real estate/property management**
Growth rate: **551%**
Revenue: **\$465,935,000**
Employee growth: **No response**
Full-time employees: **No response**
President/CEO: **Richard Stolle/Richard Homburg**
Founded: **1999**
Head office: **Halifax, N.S.**
www.homburginvest.com

Owns and develops commercial and residential real estate properties throughout Canada, the U.S., Germany, and the Netherlands. Completed major acquisitions last year, including the purchase of CN Central Station in Montreal and 37 office and retail spaces in Baltic countries.

No. 5 New to list! ORIGIN BIOMED

Industry: **Medical and health care products**
Growth rate: **527%**
Revenue: **\$1,767,000**
Employee growth: **275%**
Full-time employees: **30**
President/CEO: **Robert Cervelli**
Founded: **2001**
Head office: **Halifax, N.S.**
www.originbiomed.com

Develops over-the-counter natural health products for neuropathic pain management, as well as a line of green tea therapeutics. Expanded its exporting operations in the U.S. and has 22 patents pending.

No. 6 New to list! HOLLOWAY LODGING REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST

Industry: **Accommodations**
Growth rate: **511%**
Revenue: **\$94,000,000**
Employee growth: **61%**
Full-time employees: **789**
President/CEO: **Michael Jackson/Glenn Squires**
Founded: **2006**
Head office: **Bedford, N.S.**
www.hlreit.com

Acquires and operates primarily limited-service hotels, such as Super 8 and Holiday Inn Select, in suburban and smaller-city markets in four provinces, Northwest Territories, and South Carolina. Acquired 14 hotel properties in 2007, increasing the company's total hotel holdings to 22.

No. 7 New to list! VIMSOFT

Industry: **IT and telecommunications**
Growth rate: **300%**
Revenue: **\$603,350**
Employee growth: **100%**
Full-time employees: **6**
President: **Mitch Manuel**
Founded: **2004**
Head office: **Dieppe, N.B.**
www.vimsoft.ca

Creates customized information-management software for customers in the media production, post-production, broadcasting, and distribution industries, including CBC, YTV, and Playhouse Disney. Expanded its exporting operations with total export revenues jumping from under \$20,000 in 2007 to under \$150,000 in 2008.

No. 8 New to list! NOREX

Industry: **Marketing/communications**
Growth rate: **219%**
Revenue: **\$565,000**
Employee growth: **225%**
Full-time employees: **14**
President/CEO: **Matt Rudderham/Brandon Kolybaba**
Founded: **2000**
Head office: **Halifax, N.S.**
www.norex.ca

Specializes in online marketing, web design and programming, and content-management systems. Clients range from yacht clubs and restaurants to universities and power companies. Merged with Queen Street Studios, a creative arts firm specializing in providing studio space to artists, writers, and photographers.

No. 9 (Last year: No. 10) TRAIL BLAZER PRODUCTS LTD

Industry: **Manufacturing**
Growth rate: **195%**
Revenue: **\$2,021,412**
Employee growth: **144%**
Full-time employees: **22**
President/CEO: **Shawn Levangie/Curtis Levangie**
Founded: **1995**
Head office: **Dartmouth, N.S.**
www.trailblazerproducts.com

Designs and manufactures lawn and garden tools. Best known for its line of saws and hatchets. Introduced 15 new products to market last year with over \$1.3 million in revenue from exports.

No. 10 New to list!
COBHAM TRACKING & LOCATING LTD.

Industry: **Aerospace and defence**
Growth rate: **159%**
Revenue: **\$34,806,294**
Employee growth: **99%**
Full-time employees: **168**
President: **Michael L. Morris**
Founded: **2007**
Head office: **Dartmouth, N.S.**
www.cobhamtl.com

Designs and manufactures tracking and locating equipment used by search and-rescue groups and law-enforcement agencies. Created new organization in January of 2007 following the merger with Orion Electronics Limited, a manufacturer of surveillance equipment.

No. 11 New to list!
AD-DISPATCH INC

Industry: **Marketing/communications**
Growth rate: **151%**
Revenue: **\$2,752,178**
Employee growth: **50%**
Full-time employees: **9**
President/CEO: **Nathan Kroll**
Founded: **1999**
Head office: **Dartmouth, N.S.**
www.ad-dispatch.com

Creates web-video content, radio advertisements, and customized interactive training for such clients as Loblaw's and HBC. Company more than doubled its number of employees to deal with customer demand. Developed videos for major customers, including President's Choice.

No. 12 New to list!
CARSVILLE LTD.

Industry: **Automotive**
Growth rate: **136%**
Revenue: **\$8,418,562**
Employee growth: **50%**
Full-time employees: **9**
President/CEO: **Alan Jewell**
Founded: **2000**
Head office: **Lower Sackville, N.S.**
www.mycarsville.ca

Sells reconditioned, pre-owned, import cars. Continued growth through increased marketing and expansion of inventory.

No. 13 (Last year: No. 14)
BULLETPROOF SOLUTIONS INC.

Industry: **IT and telecommunications**
Growth rate: **129%**
Revenue: **\$5,502,772**
Employee growth: **136%**
Full-time employees: **52**
President/CEO: **Steven Burns**
Founded: **2000**
Head office: **Fredericton, N.B.**
www.bulletproofsi.com

Provides information technology service, specializing in managed services, security, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), and systems integration. Continued to grow existing markets, improved its technology, and strengthened its marketing and sales efforts.

No. 14 (Last year: No. 3)
LUMINULTRA TECHNOLOGIES LTD.

Industry: **Bioindustries**
Growth rate: **129%**
Revenue: **\$800,000**
Employee growth: **57%**
Full-time employees: **11**
President: **Pat Whalen**
Founded: **2004**
Head office: **Fredericton, N.B.**
www.luminultra.com

Sells and services test kits for measuring microorganisms in water, wastewater, and chemical products. Worked on educating clients on new products. Introduced three new products to market.

No. 15 New to list!
MARINER PARTNERS INC

Industry: **IT and telecommunications**
Growth rate: **114%**
Revenue: **\$9,942,422**
Employee growth: **85%**
Full-time employees: **78**
President/CEO: **Curtis Howe**
Founded: **2003**
Head office: **Saint John, N.B.**
www.marinerpartners.com

Provides IT consulting, business analysis, project management, and software-development services, with a focus on Internet Protocol Television (IPTV). Made nearly \$1 million in revenue on exports last year. Expanded exporting operations to Eastern Europe and the Caribbean.

No. 16 (Last year: No. 23)
JUST US! COFFEE ROASTERS COOPERATIVE

Industry: **Food and beverages**
Growth rate: **99%**
Revenue: **\$6,500,000**
Employee growth: **131%**
Full-time employees: **81**
President/CEO: **Bill Lord/Jeff Moore**
Founded: **1996**
Head office: **Wolfville, N.S.**
www.justuscoffee.com

Imports and distributes fair trade organic coffee, tea, chocolate, and sugar across the country and operates four cafés in Atlantic Canada. Improved its manufacturing process through the automation of packaging products and opened a new café last year.

No. 17 (Last year: No. 33)
PRAXES EMERGENCY SPECIALISTS INC.

Industry: **Medical and health care services**
Growth rate: **89%**
Revenue: **\$1,417,117**
Employee growth: **20%**
Full-time employees: **6**
CEO: **Susan Helliwell**
Founded: **1996**
Head office: **Halifax, N.S.**
www.praxes.ca

Provides telemedicine, health staffing, and clinical services to primarily remote public and private clients, including oil rigs, correctional facilities, and the Armed Forces. Company grew based on improved sales efforts.

No. 18 (Last year: No. 35)
FORTIS INC.

Industry: **Energy and real estate**
Growth rate: **89%**
Revenue: **\$2,718,000,000**
Employee growth: **46%**
Full-time employees: **6,000**
President/CEO: **H. Stanley Marshall**
Founded: **1987**
Head office: **St. John's, N.L.**
www.fortisinc.com

Owns and operates 10 natural gas and electricity utility companies in Canada, the U.S., and Caribbean. The real estate subsidiary owns and operates hotels and commercial buildings across Canada. Acquired Terasen Inc., the natural gas utility company based in British Columbia, in 2007 and expanded operations in Western Canada and the Caribbean.

No. 19 New to list!
VISTACARE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES OF CANADA INC.

Industry: IT and telecommunications
Growth rate: 87%
Revenue: \$4,769,112
Employee growth: 133%
Full-time employees: 42
President/CEO: Ed Webber
Founded: 2003
Head office: Dartmouth, N.S.
www.vistacaretech.com

Builds and maintains broadband and fibre-optic systems for communications companies and provides VoIP, security, and cabling services to business clients. Secured building project for Dartmouth Crossing and developed relationship with its largest client, Eastlink.

No. 20 (Last year: No. 22)
MAJOR DRILLING GROUP INTERNATIONAL INC.

Industry: Mining and energy
Growth rate: 87%
Revenue: \$590,309,000
Employee growth: -11%
Full-time employees: 4,100
President/CEO: Francis McGuire
Founded: 1980
Head office: Moncton, N.B.
www.majordrilling.com

Provides services such as surface and underground coring and environmental drilling to mining companies around the world. Purchased Harris y Cia Ltd., an exploration drilling company in Chile, seven drill rigs, and existing inventory from Paragon del Ecuador S.A. in Ecuador.

No. 21 (Last year: No. 6)
KILLAM PROPERTIES INC.

Industry: Real estate/property management
Growth rate: 86%
Revenue: \$88,970,000
Employee growth: 16%
Full-time employees: 369
President/CEO: Philip Fraser
Founded: 2000
Head office: Halifax, N.S.
www.killamproperties.com

Owns and operates 118 multi-unit apartment buildings in Atlantic Canada and 55 manufactured home communities across the country. Acquired properties in Ontario and Western Canada and introduced Yardi Property Management software for greater efficiency.

No. 22 New to list!
STARK INTERNATIONAL- THE OIL EXPERTS

Industry: Mining and energy
Growth rate: 80%
Revenue: \$1,800,000
Employee growth: 150%
Full-time employees: 10
President: Scott MacEachern
Founded: 2004
Head office: New Glasgow, N.S.
www.starkoil.com

Provides oil diagnostics, maintenance, and repair for power transformers, oil conditioning for mechanical systems, and reclaimed oil sales. Continuing to develop markets in Canada and seeking expanded operations into the U.S.

No. 23 New to list!
EGG FILMS

Industry: Marketing/communications
Growth rate: 80%
Revenue: \$3,286,533
Employee growth: 125%
Full-time employees: 9
President/CEO: Mike Hachey
Founded: 2004
Head office: Halifax, N.S.
www.eggfilms.ca

Produces TV commercials, corporate videos, and radio advertising for such clients as Nova Scotia Liquor Corporation, New Brunswick Community College, and McDonald's. Developing markets in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island.

No. 24 (Last year: No. 20)
COMPOSITES ATLANTIC LIMITED

Industry: Advanced manufacturing technologies
Growth rate: 79%
Revenue: \$42,131,143
Employee growth: 94%
Full-time employees: 418
President/CEO: Maurice Guitton
Founded: 1993
Head office: Lunenburg, N.S.
www.compositesatlantic.com

Designs and manufactures advanced composites, such as aircraft panels and space antennae, for the aerospace, space, defence, and security industries. Increased export sales for products after the introduction of the Boeing 787 to the market.

No. 25 New to list!
PROFESSIONAL QUALITY ASSURANCE (PQA) LTD.

Industry: IT and telecommunications
Growth rate: 79%
Revenue: \$5,884,439
Employee growth: 57%
Full-time employees: 97
President/CEO: Keith MacIntosh
Founded: 1997
Head office: Fredericton, N.B.
www.pqa.ca

Tests software quality and provides quality-assurance consulting to such clients as CitiBank, Atlantic Lottery Corporation, Boeing, and IBM. Continues to develop markets and build on strong reputation.

No. 26 (Last year: No. 16)
OCEAN NUTRITION CANADA LIMITED

Industry: Bioindustries
Growth rate: 69%
Revenue: \$126,169,210
Employee growth: -10%
Full-time employees: 335
President/CEO: Robert Orr
Founded: 1997
Head office: Dartmouth, N.S.
www.ocean-nutrition.com

Manufactures omega-3 EPA/DHA ingredients from fish oil for the food and dietary-supplement industries. Entered new markets such as those in Asia and Europe and increased marketing department and sales force within new markets.

No. 27 (Last year: No. 28)
STAR DELIVERY SERVICE LTD.

Industry: Transportation
Growth rate: 64%
Revenue: \$834,652
Employee growth: 33%
Full-time employees: 12
President/CEO: Gerald Miller/Ryan Miller
Founded: 1974
Head office: Sydney, N.S.

Provides courier, warehousing, food-transportation, refrigerated-trucking and warehousing, distribution, and freight-consolidation services. Expanded to new locations.

No. 28 (Last year: No. 32)
BELL ALIANT

Industry: IT and telecommunications
Growth rate: 62%
Revenue: \$3,373,400,000
Employee growth: 0%
Full-time employees: 10,000
President/CEO: Karen H. Sheriff
Founded: 2005
Head office: Halifax, N.S.
www.bell.aliant.ca

Provides telecommunications service and products, including wireless telephone, land lines, digital TV, and high-speed Internet, to residential and business customers. Increased number of customers through various service products such as Value Packages and bundles, expanded coverage areas and wireless services, and increased presence in the health care industry.

No. 29 (Last year: No. 34)
INDEPENDENT SECURITY SERVICES ATLANTIC INC./ INDEPENDENT ARMORED TRANSPORT ATLANTIC INC.

Industry: Security
Growth rate: 50%
Revenue: \$2,730,380
Employee growth: 43%
Full-time employees: 100
President/CEO: Lawrence Conrad
Founded: 1996
Head office: Halifax, N.S.
www.issa.ns.ca

Provides general security, mobile patrol, armoured security, and security-training services. Attracted new business through marketing and growth in current customer base.

No. 30 (Last year: No. 24)
PLAZACORP RETAIL PROPERTIES LTD.

Industry: Real estate/property management
Growth rate: 43%
Revenue: \$41,000,000
Employee growth: 0%
Full-time employees: 145
President/CEO: Michael Zakuta
Founded: 1999
Head office: Fredericton, N.B.
www.plaza.ca

Develops, owns, and manages 95 retail real estate properties (malls, strip plazas, and single-tenant properties) in Atlantic Canada, Quebec, and Ontario. Developed strong business partnerships with Shoppers Drug Mart, Dollarama, and Bulk Barn stores.

No. 31 New to list!
NEWFOUNDLAND STYRO INC.

Industry: Advanced manufacturing technologies
Growth rate: 39%
Revenue: \$6,672,459
Employee growth: 50%
Full-time employees: 24
President/CEO: Deborah C. Coles
Founded: 1996
Head office: Bishops Falls, N.L.
www.nfstyro.com

Manufactures expanded polystyrene packing containers and insulation products for the fishery, aquaculture, and construction industries. Improved economic conditions in province provided growth in existing market.

No. 32 New to list!
METRO MITSUBISHI SUZUKI VESPA

Industry: Automotive sales
Growth rate: 36%
Revenue: \$21,470,000
Employee growth: -2%
Full-time employees: 42
President/CEO: Jeannie Corkum/Eric Corkum
Founded: 1994
Head office: Dartmouth, N.S.
www.metromitsubishi.com

Sells new automobiles and scooters. Continued focus on customer service and sales experience for customers.

No. 33 New to list!
THERIAULT FINANCIAL INC.

Industry: Financial services
Growth rate: 26%
Revenue: \$7,708,533
Employee growth: 0%
Full-time employees: 4
President: Donald Theriault
Founded: 1981
Head office: Dartmouth, N.S.
www.theriaultfinancial.com

Provides employee-benefit consulting services, including drug and health plans and employee-assistant programs, to businesses in Nova Scotia. Increased marketing, grew existing markets, and introduced new products.

No. 34 (Last year: No. 18)
PREMIERE EXECUTIVE SUITES

Industry: Accommodations
Growth rate: 26%
Revenue: \$10,049,746
Employee growth: 68%
Full-time employees: 79
Senior VP/managing partner: Suzanne Bachur
Founded: 1999
Head office: Halifax, N.S.
www.premieresuites.com

Owns and manages extended-stay furnished houses, condominiums, apartments, and townhouses in 18 Canadian cities and Barbados. Created effective marketing campaigns, including TV advertising, utilization of website, and advertising on Air Canada flights.

No. 35 (Last year: No. 31)
THE JOHNSON CORPORATION

Industry: Insurance
Growth rate: 25%
Revenue: \$675,000,000
Employee growth: 9%
Full-time employees: 1,127
President/CEO: Ken Bennett
Founded: 1880
Head office: St. John's, N.L.
www.johnson.ca

Full-service insurance company providing home, auto, and group benefit plans in seven provinces. Acquired WSG Insurance, Fraser and Hoyt Personal Insurance, and Thomson Jemmett Vogelzang.