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# Ridgemont EQUITY PARTNERS

# **Building Better Businesses**

For Nearly 30 Years

Since 1993, the principals of Ridgemont Equity Partners have invested over \$5 billion in 154 companies. Ridgemont is the largest private equity firm in North Carolina and among the largest in the Southeast. The firm was named to *Inc.*'s inaugural list of "Top 50 Founder-Friendly Private Equity Firms," which recognized Ridgemont for a track record of building leading middle market companies alongside entrepreneurs.

For the second year in a row, we are pleased to sponsor *Business North Carolina's* "Top 125 Private Companies" list and wish to congratulate the honorees! For more information on Ridgemont's team and investment strategy, visit www.ridgemontep.com.

#### We back management teams.

These are not just financial relationships – these partnerships require complete alignment in vision for the future of the business and **mutual trust in each other's capabilities**. From the first 100-day plan, to geographic and product expansion, to investments in technology; and, most importantly, alignment in the **culture of the business and investments in the employee base**.

#### **BUILDING FOUNDATIONS**

- Supporting perpetual recruiting and talent development
- Building-out the technology and systems infrastructure

#### **IGNITING GROWTH**

- Investing in promising new business lines and sales initiatives
- Pursuing strategic acquisitions





# BNC125 TOP PRIVATE COMPANIES

Chevrolets, Cheerwine, turkey legs and solar panels are some of the products powering the state's biggest closely held enterprises.

#### By Alyssa Pressler, Taylor Wanbaugh and David Mildenberg

elcome to Business North Carolina's annual list of the state's largest privately held companies. For more than 30 years, similar lists have showcased the hometown businesses that sustain North Carolina's economy, often with little or no fanfare.

Most of the information on the list comes directly from the companies. For a second consecutive year, the list also includes our best estimates for revenues and employment at some businesses that didn't want to share the basics. It took many phone calls and emails to compile what is an unparalleled look at North Carolina's private-company universe.

This year's list is based on 2019 revenue. Hence, it reflects the

pre-COVID-19 environment that virtually everyone hopes will return as soon as possible. The most notable newcomer is Cary-based Epic Games, which ranks No. 3 after enjoying explosive growth because of the popularity of its Fortnite video game.

Private equity-controlled companies whose operations are based in North Carolina are eligible for the list. An example is newcomer Segra, a Charlotte-based telecommunications provider owned by a large Swedish investment group. It bought High Point-based North State Telecommunications this year.

But the list is mostly companies owned by families that have operated in North Carolina for decades, if not generations. To say they are the backbone of the Tar Heel economy is an understatement.

## **\$1 billion** *or more* in revenue (latest fiscal year)

#### 1. Hendrick Automotive

#### Charlotte

Automotive dealerships 2019 Rank: 1 CEO: Rick Hendrick Employees: 10,600



Hendrick has a new leadership structure, with founder and Chairman Rick Hendrick assuming the role of CEO after the Jan. 1 retirement of Edward Brown III. Brown had held the post since 2011. Greg Gach, who has been affiliated with the business since 1984, was named president. Gach has a bachelor's degree from Miami University in Ohio and a law degree from the

University of Michigan. Automotive News ranked Hendrick Automotive as the fifth-largest U.S. dealership group and No. 1 based on body shop revenue. It operates 95 dealerships.

#### 2. American Tire Distributors

#### Huntersville

Tire distribution service 2019 Rank: 2 CEO: Stuart Schuette Employees: 4,700 (estimated)

#### 3. Epic Games

#### Cary

Video game company 2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Tim Sweeney

Employees: 2,200 (estimated)

#### 4. Belk

#### Charlotte

Department store chain 2019 Rank: 3 CEO: Lisa Harper

Employees: 24,000 (estimated)

#### 5. Transportation Insight

#### Hickory

Logistics consultant 2019 Rank: 5

CEO: Reynolds Faulkner Employees: 1,460

#### **6.** SAS Institute

#### Cary

Software development 2019 Rank: 4

CEO: James Goodnight Employees: 13,939

#### 7. Alex Lee

#### Hickory

Wholesale and retail grocer

2019 Rank: 6 CEO: Brian George Employees: 13,700

#### 8. Parkdale

#### Gastonia

Textile company 2019 Rank: 7

CEO: Anderson Warlick Employees: 5,000 (estimated)

#### 9. Flow Automotive

#### Winston-Salem

Automotive dealerships

2019 Rank: 8 CEO: Don Flow

Employees: 1,800 (estimated)

#### **10.** Pike

#### **Mount Airy**

Construction and engineering services for electric utilities

2019 Rank: 10 CEO: J. Eric Pike Employees: 8,300



#### 11. Leith Cars

#### Raleigh

Automotive dealerships 2019 Rank: 14

CEO: Danny Williams

Employees: 1,800 (estimated)

#### 12. Form Technologies

#### Charlotte

Manufacturer of metal components

2019 Rank: 12 CEO: Mike Grunza

Employees: 10,000 (estimated)

#### 13. Prestage Farms

#### Clinton

Pork and poultry production

2019 Rank: 25 CEO: Bill Prestage Employees: 2,900

#### **14.** National Gypsum

#### Charlotte

Manufacturer of wallboard products

2019 Rank: 9 CEO: Thomas Nelson

Employees: 2,500 (estimated)

## **\$500** million *to* **\$999** million

#### 15. Market America

#### Greensboro

Product brokerage and digital marketer

2019 Rank: 16 CEO: JR Ridinger Employees: 805

#### **16.** Variety Wholesalers

#### Henderson

Discount retailer 2019 Rank: 22 CEO: Art Pope

Employees: 8,000 (estimated)

#### 17. Goldsboro Milling

#### Goldsboro

Grain, poultry and pork production

2019 Rank: 15 CEO: H.G. Maxwell III Employees: 800 (estimated)

#### 18. SteelFab

#### Charlotte

Steel fabricator 2019 Rank: 18

CEO: R. Glenn Sherrill Jr. Employees: 1,288

#### **19.** CTE

#### Charlotte

Dealer of construction and industrial equipment

2019 Rank: 17 CEO: Ed Weisiger Jr.

Employees: 1,500 (estimated)

#### **20.** Concord Hospitality Enterprises

#### Raleigh

Hotel management and development

2019 Rank: 19 CEO: Mark Laport Employees: 6,014



The hotel developer ended 2019 with 120 hotels in the U.S. and Canada, many of them with Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt, Choice and IHG brands. The company is developing the world's tallest modular hotel, a 26-story inn near

Pennsylvania Station in New York City with a frame constructed in Poland. It is expected to open this fall. Alleghany Capital bought a majority stake in 2018.

#### 21. AmWINS Group

#### Charlotte

Wholesale insurance distributor

2019 Rank: 11 CEO: Scott Purviance Employees: 4,000 (estimated)

#### 22. Window World

#### North Wilkesboro

Window installation service

2019 Rank: 29

CEO: Tammy Whitworth Employees: 1,000 (estimated)

#### **23.** Charlotte Pipe & Foundry

#### Charlotte

Pipe manufacturer and supplier

2019 Rank: 24

CEO: Roddey Dowd Jr. Employees: 1,500 (estimated)

#### **24.** Barnhill Contracting

#### **Rocky Mount**

General contractor 2019 Rank: 26 CEO: Robert Barnhill Employees: 1,020

#### **25.** ACN

#### Concord

Telecommunications service provider

2019 Rank: 21

CEO: Greg Provenzano Employees: 1,100 (estimated)

#### **26.** Gregory Poole Equipment

#### Raleigh

Dealer of construction and other equipment

2019 Rank: 27

CEO: J. Gregory Poole III Employees: 1,300 (estimated)

#### 27. Southco Distributing

#### Goldsboro

Convenience-store supplier

2019 Rank: 33 CEO: Sherwin Herring Employees: 217



# **CAROLINA HANDLING**

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We did not win *Business North Carolina's* "Top 125 Private Companies for 2020" alone. Far from it. We would like to thank our associates for their dedication and hard work, along with our customers for their continued support and trust. This award is truly a team effort—and we are grateful.

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Carolina Handling is the exclusive Raymond Sales & Service Center for North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama

#### 28. Sampson-Bladen Oil Co.

#### Clinton

Distributor of petroleum products

2019 Rank: 28 CEO: Haddon Clark III Employees: 1,000 (estimated)

#### **29.** Shurtape Technologies

#### Hickory

Manufacturer of adhesive tape, consumer goods and office supplies

2019 Rank: 30 CEO: Vuk Trivanovic Employees: 1,600



Established in 1955 and still owned by the Shuford family, Shurtape Technologies makes tape and other office supplies for global markets. Its ShurTech division, which is responsible for Duck Tape and FrogTape, rebranded to the Shurtape Technologies name this year. Demand for pandemic-related social distancing tape floor markings has spurred sales.

#### **30.** Ennis-Flint

#### Greensboro

Manufacturer of pavement markings and traffic products

2019 Rank: 31 CEO: Matt Soule Employees: 1,500

#### **31.** Atlantic Packaging

#### Wilmington

Distributor of industrial packaging materials and paper converter

2019 Rank: 34 CEO: Russell Carter Employees: 1.171

#### **32.** Clancy & Theys Construction

#### Raleigh

General contractor 2019 Rank: 36 CEO: Tim Clancy Employees: 400

#### **33.** Vannoy Construction

#### **Jefferson**

General contractor 2019 Rank: 45 CEO: Eddie Vannoy Employees: 331

#### **34.** CaptiveAire Systems

#### Raleigh

Manufacturer of kitchen-ventilation equipment

2019 Rank: 39 CEO: Bob Luddy Employees: 1,400

#### 35. National Coatings & Supplies

#### Raleigh

Paint distributor for collision-repair

shops

2019 Rank: 35 CEO: John Leavy Employees: 1,350

#### **36.** ECMD

#### North Wilkesboro

Manufacturer and distributor of millwork products

2019 Rank: 42 CEO: Todd Meade Employees: 875

### **37.** Liberty Healthcare & Rehabilitation

#### Wilmington

Nursing homes and health services

2019 Rank: 51

CEO: John A. McNeill Jr. Employees: 1,500 (estimated)

#### **38.** The Cook & Boardman Group

#### Winston-Salem

Distributor of architectural doors, frames, door hardware and related building products

2019 Rank: 38 CEO: Darrin Anderson Employees: 1,300

#### 39. Flexential

#### Charlotte

*Data-center operator* 2019 Rank: 40 CEO: Chris Downie

Employees: 900 (estimated)

#### **\$200** million *to* \$499 million

#### **40.** Snider Fleet Solutions

#### Greensboro

Tire distributor and service provider

2019 Rank: 41 CEO: Marty Herndon Employees: 1,200

#### 41. ettain group

#### Charlotte

Information-technology staffing agency

2019 Rank: 80 CEO: Trent Beekman Employees: 3,000

#### **42.** Renfro

#### **Mount Airy**

Sock manufacturer 2019 Rank: 37 CEO: Stan Jewell

Employees: 4,000 (estimated)

#### **43.** Rodgers Builders

#### Charlotte

General contractor 2019 Rank: 43 CEO: Pat Rodgers

Employees: 300 (estimated)

#### 44. Segra

#### Charlotte

Telecommunications service provider

2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Timothy Blitz

Employees: 1,000 (estimated)



Charlotte is home to this fast-growing U.S. telecom. Segra was formed in 2019 by the merger of Columbia, S.C.-based Spirit Communications and Waynesboro, Va.-based Lumos Networks. In May, it acquired High Point-based North State Telecommunications, one of the state's last independent telephone companies, for \$240 million. Segra's main owner is Swedish private equity group EQT Partners.

# **GO MAJESTIC**

Majestic is the Carolina's preferred manufacturer and installer of fabricated stone, glass, countertops, and kitchen and bath accessories to custom and mass production homebuilders, apartment developers, medical facilities, commercial builders, and general contractors.

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Clancy & Theys Construction Company is one of the largest vertical builders owned and headquartered in North Carolina. Originally founded in Raleigh in 1949, the company is one of the largest privately-owned entities in the state and one of the largest contractors in the Southeast. With offices in Raleigh, Wilmington and Charlotte, as well as Newport News, Virginia and Orlando, Florida, Clancy & Theys has a solid construction presence throughout the southeast region of the United States.

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#### **45.** Samet

#### Greensboro

General contractor 2019 Rank: 54 CEO: Arthur Samet Employees: 238

#### 46. D.H. Griffin

#### Greensboro

Demolition, environmental and site-development conglomerate

2019 Rank: 48 CEO: David Griffin

Employees: 1,000 (estimated)

#### 47. Adams Beverages of NC

#### Charlotte

Beer distributor 2019 Rank: 32

President: Clay Adams Employees: 700 (estimated)

#### **48.** Strata Solar

#### Chapel Hill

Solar developer 2019 Rank: 44

CEO: Markus Wilhelm Employees: 400 (estimated)

### **49.** Global Knowledge

#### Cary

Information technology and businessskills trainer

2019 Rank: 50 CEO: Todd Johnstone Employees: 1,000

#### **50.** Murphy Family Ventures

#### Wallace

Hospitality, farming, boatmaking

2019 Rank: 52

CEO: Wendell "Dell" Murphy Jr. Employees: 1,000 (estimated)

#### **51.** True Homes

#### Monroe

Homebuilder 2019 Rank: 53

CEOs: Dan Horner and Mark Boyce Employees: 300 (estimated)

#### **52.** Edifice

#### Charlotte

General contractor 2019 Rank: 56 CEO: Eric Laster

Employees: 100 (estimated)

#### **53.** Eastwood Homes

#### Charlotte

Homebuilder

2019 Rank: 57 CEO: Clark Stewart

Employees: 300 (estimated)

#### **54.** Crowder Constructors

#### Charlotte

General contractor 2019 Rank: 55 CEO: Lynn Hansen Employees: 927

#### **55.** Carolina Handling

#### Charlotte

Distributor of material-handling

*equipment* 2019 Rank: 62 CEO: Brent Hillabrand Employees: 600

#### **56.** Harvey Enterprises & Affiliates

#### Kinston

Distributor of farm equipment and petroleum products

2019 Rank: 49 CEO: John McNairy Employees: 801

#### **57.** MegaCorp Logistics

#### Wilmington

Logistics consultant 2019 Rank: 58 CEO: Ryan Legg Employees: 325

#### **58.** Golden Corral

#### Raleigh

Restaurants 2019 Rank: 60 CEO: Lance Trenary

Employees: 2,100 (estimated)

#### **59:** Blythe Development

#### Charlotte

General contractor 2019 Rank: 64 CEO: Jack Blythe Employees: 925

#### **60.** Salem Holding

#### Winston-Salem

Provider of transportation and truck-leasing services

2019 Rank: 67 CEO: Thomas Teague Employees: 1,029

#### **61.** Colony Tire

#### Edenton

Tire distributor and auto repair service

2019 Rank: 68 CEO: Charles Creighton Employees: 600



Founded in 1976 in Rodanthe with just two gas pumps, the automotive and tire service provider has grown to 40 locations in the Carolinas and Virginia. CEO Charles Creighton was named Modern Tire Dealer magazine's 2007 Tire Dealer of the Year and was inducted into the N.C. Tire Industry Hall of Fame in 2011. Last year, it began a \$3.3 million, 100,000-square-foot expansion of its 200-employee Edenton facility with plans to add at least 40 jobs.

#### **62.** Precision Walls

#### Cary

Building contractor 2019 Rank: 72 CEO: Brian Allen Employees: 949

#### **63.** Baker Roofing

#### Raleigh

Roofing contractor 2019 Rank: 61 CEO: Mark Lee Employees: 1,033

#### **64.** Boddie-Noell Enterprises

#### **Rocky Mount**

Hardee's franchise operator 2019 Rank: 46

CEO: William Boddie

Employees: 10,000 (estimated)

#### **65.** Biltmore

#### Asheville

Museum and lodging 2019 Rank: 65 CEO: William Cecil Jr.

Employees: 2,600 (estimated)







### A Company Built On Innovation & Passion

Founded in 2008 by President and CEO, John Treece, and company CFO, Steve Bertling, DMA Sales has quickly grown to become a trusted supplier to the automotive and heavy-duty parts aftermarket industry. Serving OES, big box retail, wholesale, and e-tail sales channels, DMA is a leading product development, engineering, and diversified manufacturer whose portfolio of product brands have become some of the most recognized and respected in their industry. In addition, DMA is a leading private label manufacturer with over 60% of its global revenues coming from products produced by them but under the customer's brand.

For the fourth consecutive year, DMA has been named to the prestigious *Inc.* 5000 list of the fastest growing private companies in America. In 2019, DMA ranked as the #2 fastest growing Mid-Market sized company in North Carolina. The company has won numerous national awards for its engineering innovations and brand marketing strategies. Mr. Treece was named Person of the Year for 2019 by the Auto Care Association and serves as Chairman of the Executive Leadership Council for the Import Vehicle Community.

Headquartered in Tabor City, NC, with over a 1,000,000 square feet of distribution space across its four facilities in North and South Carolina, DMA continues to deliver on its mission to provide innovation and value for its customers. With growth in sales to soon approach over \$130 million and no signs of slowing down any time soon, DMA is poised for continued success. "Our company has a dynamic, performance -driven culture that embodies the entrepreneurial spirit from which we were founded. Hard work, collaboration with our partners, and taking care of our employees and their families are what has propelled our company's success. That's why we say, we are a company that is built on passion," said John Treece.

DMA is also a company which cares about its communities. Having donated over \$2.5 million in charitable contributions, DMA actively supports its local civic initiatives and encourages its employees to get involved and give back.

DMA's Senior Management Team (pictured above from left to right) Larry Clark, Director of Product Development, Steve Bertling, CFO, John Treece, President & CEO, Maria Treece, EVP & CPIO, Olga McIntyre, CIO, Sophie Mirabel, Director of HR













#### **66.** Frank L. Blum Construction

#### Asheville

General contractor 2019 Rank: 63 CEO: Mike Lancaster Employees: 175 (estimated)

#### **67.** HSM Hickory Springs Manufacturing

#### Hickory

Furniture component manufacturer

2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Mark Jones

Employees: 2,700 (estimated)

#### **68.** Camco Manufacturing

#### Greensboro

Manufacturer and distributor of RV accessories

2019 Rank: 70

CEOs: Donald Caine and Lisa Cook

Employees: 462

#### **69.** Tencarva Machinery

#### Greensboro

Distributor of liquid- and air-handling equipment

2019 Rank: 71 CEO: Ed Pearce Employees: 370

#### 70. JF Petroleum Group

#### Morrisville

Fuel-equipment installer and service provider

2019 Rank: 69 CFO: Keith Shadrick Employees: 800 (estimated)

#### **71.** Union Corrugating

#### **Favetteville**

Manufacturer of metal roofing materials

2019 Rank: 73 2019 Rank: Keith Medick

Employees: 640



The residential, commercial and agricultural roofing and siding company opened in Fayetteville in 1946. It has expanded to 18 manufacturing and distribution locations across 15 states. It recently acquired Florence, Ala.-based Oakland Metal Buildings.

#### **72.** Landmark Builders

#### Winston-Salem

Construction company 2019 Rank: 66 CEO: Steve Stephens

Employees: 176

#### 73. Carolina Beverage Group

#### Salisbury

Cheerwine distributor 2019 Rank: 76 CEO: Cliff Ritchie Employees: 600

#### **\$100** million *to* **\$199** million

#### 74. Epes Logistics Services

#### Greensboro

Logistics consultant 2019 Rank: 74 CEO: Jason Bodford Employees: 183

#### 75. Advantage Truck Center

#### Charlotte

Retail truck dealership 2019 Rank: 78 CEO: Terry Young Employees: 160

#### **76.** Powerhome Solar

#### Mooresville

Solar energy and roofing company

2019 Rank: 102 CEO: Jayson Waller Employees: 1,106

#### 77. Omega Construction

#### Winston-Salem

Commercial construction

2019 Rank: 88 CEO: Barry Hennings Employees: 90

#### **78.** Electrical Equipment

#### Raleigh

Distributor of electrical equipment

2019 Rank: 79 CEO: Mark Holmes Employees: 258

#### 79. Carolina Wholesale Group

#### Charlotte

Distributor of office supplies and equipment

2019 Rank: 75 CEO: Larry Huneycutt Employees: 175

#### 80. American Welding & Gas

#### Raleigh

Manufacturer and distributor of gases and welding supplies

2019 Rank: 81 CEO: Jason Krieger Employees: 571

#### **81.** Parata Systems

#### **Durham**

Provider of drug-dispensing technology

for pharmacies 2019 Rank: 108 CEO: Rob Kill Employees: 400

#### **82.** Furnitureland South

#### **Jamestown**

Furniture retailer 2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Jeffrey Harris Employees: 495

#### 83. T.A. Loving

#### Goldsboro

Commercial construction 2019 Rank: 77 CEO: Samuel Hunter

Employees: 245

#### **84.** The Budd Group

#### Winston-Salem

Provider of janitorial, landscaping and maintenance services

2019 Rank: 86 CEO: Joseph Budd Employees: 4,417

#### 85. AvidXchange

#### Charlotte

Payment-processing software

2019 Rank: 92 CEO: Michael Praeger Employees: 1,500

#### **86.** insightsoftware

#### Raleigh

Software developer 2019 Rank: 103 CEO: Mike Lipps Employees: 727

#### 87. N2 Publishing

#### Wilmington

Publisher of community magazines

2019 Rank: 84 CEO: Duane Hixon Employees: 325

# BETTER **TOGETHER**

National Coatings & Supplies / Single Source, Inc. (NCS/ SSI) is your local paint, body, and equipment ("PBE") distributor with a national footprint. With over 180 stores and multiple mobile stores, we distribute the top brands in the automotive refinish industry. Our primary focus is to help our customers be more profitable and productive by providing industry leading Paint & Material Inventory Control solutions as well as access to extensive industry training. NCS/SSI has joined forces to forge ahead, knowing we are "Better Together."















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#### **88.** Morrisette

#### **Browns Summit**

Distributor of paper, packaging and janitorial supplies

2019 Rank: 85 CEO: Bill Morrisette Employees: 260

#### 89. Mako Medical Laboratories

#### Raleigh

Laboratory testing services

2019 Rank: 94 CEO: Chad Price Employees: 715



Demand for COVID-19 testing prompted Mako to add more than 200 employees in the last year, even as the pandemic initially caused a 40% decline in its core business as medical visits plummeted. But the company was growing rapidly long before the pandemic. Chad Price and Josh Arant founded the business in 2014, and it topped \$100 million in revenue in 2018. Forbes named it to its list of America's Best Startup Employers in July.

#### 90. TrialCard

#### Morrisville

Pharmaceutical marketing services

2019 Rank: 87 CEO: Mark Bouck

Employees: 1,100 (estimated)

#### **91.** Wayne Brothers

#### Davidson

Provider of concrete and site-work construction services

2019 Rank: 83 CEO: Keith Wayne Employees: 513

#### **92.** Best Logistics Group

#### Kernersville

Transportation services and management

2019 Rank: 89 CEO: Roy Cox

Employees: 500 (estimated)

#### 93. Mickey Truck Bodies

#### **High Point**

Manufacturer of truck bodies and

2019 Rank: 99 CEO: Matt Sink Employees: 479

The company opened as a blacksmith shop 116 years ago. The fourth-generation family-owned business is one of the largest suppliers of beverage trailers, beverage bodies, side loaders and emergency vehicles in the U.S. The company distributes its vehicles to more than 50 countries around the world. It manufactures about 5,000 dry freight van bodies annually.

#### 94. InVue Security Products

#### Charlotte

Provider of security products for retail displays

2019 Rank: 90 CEO: Jim Sankey

Employees: 275 (estimated)

#### 95. Carotek

#### Matthews

Distributor of industrial equipment

2019 Rank: 91 President: Deryl Bell Employees: 175 (estimated)

#### 96. Autobell Car Wash

#### Charlotte

Car wash operator 2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Chuck Howard

Employees: 3,000 (estimated)

#### **97.** Jaggaer

#### Morrisville

Cloud-based automation technology provider

2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Jim Bureau Employees: 1,000

Jaggaer is the renamed SciQuest, which started 25 years ago as an online marketplace for scientific equipment. It has evolved into a digital-procurement company, helping companies buy equipment and supplies efficiently using cloud-based technology. Private equity group Accel-KKR bought the then-public company in 2016 for \$519 million and changed its name a year later. Cinven, a British private equity group, bought controlling interest from Accel-KKR in August 2019. Jaggaer is a derivation of the German word for hunter.

### **98.** MedStream Anesthesia Solutions

#### Asheville

Anesthesia services provider

2019 Rank: 101 CEO: Doug Ellington Employees: 84

#### 99. Myers & Chapman

#### Charlotte

General contractor 2019 Rank: 93 CEO: Marcus Rabun Employees: 68

#### **100.** Smith Turf & Irrigation

#### Charlotte

Distributor of landscaping and irrigation equipment

2019 Rank: 95 CEO: Stephen Smith Employees: 253

#### **101.** Daly Seven

#### Greensboro

Hotel management and development

2019 Rank: 96 CEO: Bob Daly

Employees: 1,200 (estimated)

#### **102.** Smart Choice Insurance

#### **High Point**

Insurance broker
2019 Rank: 97
CEO: Douglas Witcher
Employees: 60 (estimated)

#### **103.** DuBose Strapping

#### Clinton

Distributor of industrial equipment

2019 Rank: 98

CEO: Charles DuBose Jr. Employees: 180

#### **104.** Prometheus Group

#### Raleigh

Software developer 2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Eric Huang

Employees: 300 (estimated)

#### **105.** McGee Brothers

#### Monroe

Masonry contractor 2019 Rank: 100 CEO: Mike McGee

Employees: 650 (estimated)



# How North Carolina's largest residential solar power installer found great success amid pandemic

COVID-19 forced businesses to make hard decisions in March, when the virus reached pandemic status. For Mooresville-based POWERHOME SOLAR, one of the leading residential installers of solar in the U.S., its decision involved whether to remain open amid the uncertainty. It had that choice to stay open because of its status as an essential business providing energy infrastructure. Company CEO Jayson Waller and his executive team removed themselves from payroll and opted to forge ahead to give employees the opportunity to continue earning paychecks, but also gave concerned workers the chance to take leave without penalty until conditions improved.

While the company encountered soft sales over those first 30 days, the executives did not anticipate what lie ahead. Record sales months came in May, June and July, with the company discovering homeowners with strong appetites for taking control of their energy futures and investing in solar.

Also playing a part in the company's success was forming a partnership with Generac, allowing POWERHOME SOLAR to begin selling Generac's solar batteries and generators. Both items give customers opportunities to benefit from a whole-home energy package.

"We wanted to make sure that the moms and dads who needed to buy diapers and keep their families running had a chance to do that," POWERHOME SOLAR CEO Jayson Waller said of the company's COVID response. "It was incredibly humbling and emotional when we had a number of employees volunteer to take pay cuts to improve our cash flow. That we've managed to weather this storm and emerge stronger is a testament to the team that we've built, and continue to build."

POWERHOME SOLAR began 2020 with 756 employees, but the company has since added 400 more staffers. The company is now ranked as the No. 7 residential installer in the U.S. according to Solar Power World's 2020 rankings, up one spot from a year ago, and it remains as North Carolina's No. 1 residential installer.

"We know what we're doing changes lives," Waller said.
"We're building a movement of solar energy, one solar panel, one customer and one employee at a time, and every array we install gets us all to a cleaner tomorrow."



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#### 106. Allen Industries

#### Greensboro

Sign manufacturer 2019 Rank: 115 CEO: Tom Allen Employees: 338

#### **107.** Remi

#### Charlotte

Equipment-maintenance management

2019 Rank: 106 CEO: Dan Schuster Employees: 129

#### 108. Oliver's Oil

#### Lumberton

Convenience stores, distributor of petroleum products 2019 Rank: 110

CEO: Christopher Oliver Employees: 125

#### \$99 million and under

#### **109.** Spectraforce Technologies

#### Raleigh

Staffing and consulting services

2019 Rank: 105 CEO: Amit Singh

Employees: 2,500 (estimated)

#### 110. Capitol Broadcasting Co.

#### Raleigh

Media company 2019 Rank: N/A CEO: James Goodmon Employees: 550

#### 111. Pine Hall Brick

#### Winston-Salem

Brick manufacturer 2019 Rank: 107 CEO: Fletcher Steele Employees: 350 (estimated)

#### 112. CornerStone United

#### Hickory

Provider of warranties and service contracts

2019 Rank: 112 CEO: Richard Swartzel Employees: 70

#### 113. DMA Sales

#### **Tabor City**

Auto-body parts supplier

2019 Rank: N/A CEO: John Treece Employees: 89

### 114. Alliance of Professionals & Consultants

#### Raleigh

Professional and staffing services

2019 Rank: 111 CEO: W. Troy Roberts Employees: 398

#### 115. Systel Business Equipment

#### Fayetteville

Electronics dealer and service provider

2019 Rank: 116 CEO: Keith Allison Employees: 250

#### 116. Fairfield Chair

#### Lenoir

Furniture maker 2019 Rank: 117

CEO: R. Dixon Mitchell Jr.

Employees: 420

## 117. Majestic Kitchen & Bath Creations

#### Youngsville

Countertop and mirror shop

2019 Rank: N/A CEO: Scott Byers Employees: 246



CEO Scott Byers and three senior managers led a buyout of the business in June from Majestic's founding family, completing a transition that started in 2017. The 30-year-old company makes and sells a wide range of granite, marble, stone and other kitchen and bath products. The company has seven locations in the Carolinas, including Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh and Wilmington. Its payroll increased 30% in the last four years.

#### 118. Hissho Sushi

#### Charlotte

Sushi bars and kiosks 2019 Rank: 118 CEO: Dan Beem Employees: 200

#### 119. Warren Oil

#### Dunn

Manufacturer and distributor of petroleum products

2019 Rank: 59 CEO: Dan Owczarzak Employees: 431

#### **120.** Hickory Construction

#### Hickory

General contractor 2019 Rank: 120 CEO: Mark Baucom Employees: 38

#### **121.** Enviro-Master Services

#### Charlotte

Commercial cleaning service

2019 Rank: 121 CEO: Pat Swisher

Employees: 500 (estimated)

#### **122.** Imagine Software

#### Charlotte

Billing-automation software for medical industry

2019 Rank: 123 CEO: Sam Khashman Employees: 162

#### **123.** Hornwood

#### Lilesville

Fabric manufacturer 2019 Rank: 122 CEO: Chuck Horne Employees: 300

#### **124.** Transportation Impact

#### **Emerald Isle**

Logistics consultant 2019 Rank: 125 CEO: Berkley Stafford Employees: 73

#### **125.** DuBose Industries

#### Clinton

Service provider of steel and steel strapping

2019 Rank: N/A

CEO: Charles DuBose Jr.

Employees: 20

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAJESTIC KITCHEN AND BATH CREATIONS



**Industry Sectors and Investment Criteria** 

**BUSINESS & INDUSTRIAL SERVICES** 

**ENERGY & SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES** 

HEALTHCADE

TECHNOLOGY & TELECOM

Majority ownership or lead minority investor

Equity for organic or aquisition growth

Transactions involving full or partial liquidity in private companies or corporate divestitures

New platforms backing experienced executives in proven business models

C17E

Up to \$250 MILLION EQUITY INVESTMENTS

\$5-50 MILLION TYPICAL EBITDA

GEOGRAPHY

North America

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