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Ten local tech firms make statewide fast-growing list

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Ten Houston-area firms were among 50 companies recently named by **Deloitte & Touche USA LLP** to the Texas Technology Fast 50, an awards program that ranks Texas technology companies by revenue growth over a five-year period.

Four of the 10 Houston companies were in the top 10, and all 10 were in the top 35.

RigNet Inc. ranked second overall in the state, while **Tanox Inc.** came in third.

Last year, seven Houston-area firms made the list.

The Fast 50 program is presented by Deloitte & Touche in association with CRESA Partners, HumCap Inc., Merrill Lynch & Co. Inc., NASDAQ and Texas law firm Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP.

In second place, RigNet was the highest-ranked Houston-area company. The firm logged a five-year growth rate of 10,810 percent. RigNet provides information and communications technology solutions for the upstream oil and gas industry. The firm works to deliver broadband, plug-and-play data, communication services to offshore rigs, land rigs, and remote locations over a secure Internet protocol network.

Last year, RigNet raised \$6 million in its third round of funding.

Ranked No. 3, Tanox (NASDAQ:TNOX) specializes in the discovery and development of biotherapeutics for the treatment of immune-mediated diseases, inflammation, infectious disease and cancer. The biopharmaceutical firm, which was absent from the list last year, experienced a five-year growth rate of 10,565 percent.

Other Houston-area companies included in the Texas Technology Fast 50 are: **PreCash Inc.** at No. 9; **WebXites LP** at No. 10; **INX Inc.**, formerly I-Sector Corp. (NASDAQ:INXI) No 18; **DataCert Inc.** at No. 21; **FuelQuest Inc.** at No. 25; **ObjectWin Technology Inc.** at No. 28; **Network International Inc.** at No. 32; and **Paymetric Inc.** (No. 35).

Winners are selected based on percentage revenue growth from 2001 to 2005.

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