



**EMBARGOED UNTIL
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Virginia Chamber of Commerce Honors Virginia's FANTASTIC 50 Businesses
Chesapeake, Fredericksburg, Woodbridge, Fairfax, and Reston Companies Take Home Top Awards
Chamber Also Honors Senator John Chichester and Delegate Vince Callahan

Richmond, VA—The names of the fifty fastest growing Virginia companies were announced at the twelfth annual Virginia's FANTASTIC 50 Banquet on April 26 at the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly. Over 400 attendees at the ceremony saluted the winners for their entrepreneurial success and contribution to Virginia's economic vitality.

Calling to mind the upcoming Jamestown 2007 anniversary in his opening remarks, Virginia Chamber President & CEO Hugh D. Keogh said, "As we celebrate tonight we proudly note that the entrepreneurs in this room are a testament to the same bold adventuresome spirit that gave birth to our nation and which still thrives in Virginia today."

A highlight of the awards banquet was the announcement of the five Virginia Vanguard Winners—one for the highest overall growth rate, and the other four for highest growth in the categories of Manufacturing, Retail/Wholesale, Service, and Technology.

SE Solutions, Inc, a Reston-based firm specializing in solving strategic enterprise management and technology challenges, won the **2007 Virginia Vanguard award for Technology**. John Rothenberger, CEO, accepted the award for the firm, recognizing his employees' contribution to the growth and success of the company. Other Vanguard award categories included highest overall growth, manufacturing, retail/wholesale, and service.

A list of the 50 award winners is attached below. Detailed company profiles will be posted on our website, www.vachamber.com, on April 27.

The evening's keynote speaker, Virginia Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board Julien G. Patterson, OMNIPLEX World Services Corporation, gave an inspiring address to the audience of over 400. Mr. Patterson is the first African-American Chairman of the Virginia Chamber and a 2000 Virginia Vanguard FANTASTIC 50 winner. Mr. Patterson founded OMNIPLEX World Services Corporation, a Chantilly-based leading security services firm, after serving with the Central Intelligence Agency for 10 years.

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At the event, the Chamber also honored two long serving leaders of the Virginia General Assembly for their efforts to protect and enhance Virginia's strong business climate. Senator John H. Chichester and Delegate Vincent F. Callahan, Jr., were recognized for their service to Virginia and leadership of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees, respectively.

Finally, the Virginia Chamber expressed its deep appreciation to the 2007 FANTASTIC 50 Sponsors. Signature Sponsors of the award program included Goodman and Company, SunTrust Bank, *Virginia Business*, and Westfields Marriott, the host hotel for the banquet. Verizon Wireless sponsored the popular Networking Reception held just before the banquet; and the Virginia Department of Business Assistance sponsored the networking booklet which includes the company profiles of all 50 winners. The BergmanGroup, and In Your Ear Creative Post were also sponsors.

About the Awards—Virginia's FANTASTIC 50 award program is a signature event of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce. The FANTASTIC 50 awards recognize leading businesses across the Commonwealth in all types of industries, and are the only statewide awards of this type in Virginia. Nominations for the 2007 FANTASTIC 50 were sought last fall from local chambers of commerce, economic development organizations, and through the sponsors' networks; companies may also nominate themselves.

To be eligible, a company must be privately held with headquarters in Virginia, show sales between \$200,000 and \$100,000,000, and demonstrate positive revenue growth and positive net income in its most recent fiscal year over the previous year. Companies are judged on four-year sales revenue history. The professional service firm Goodman and Company verifies all award entries. For more information about the FANTASTIC 50 Awards, visit our [website](#).

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