

# St. Louis Business Journal

TOP 150

MARCH 25-31, 2011

If you read each profile of the Business Journal's Top 150 Privately Held Companies as closely as I have, you'll hear the excitement in executives' voices as they tell their stories of success in 2010.

The overall picture is one of recovery. Ninety-nine companies had revenue increases in 2010, and 13 were even. It's a boon compared with 2009, when only 45 were up and nine were even.

Two industries showed interesting growth. In construction, eight companies had revenue increases, and Holland Construction Services, at No. 145, was the list's top gainer overall, up 79.1 percent. BSI Constructors Inc., at No. 118, increased revenue by 62.1 percent, second overall. Manufacturing also took a leap, as 15 companies in that sector had increases over 2009.

Total revenue added up to more than \$84.3 billion. That's a 6.5 percent increase over 2009, when the Top 150 revenue totaled \$79.2 billion.

Not all companies are forthcoming when it comes to revealing revenue. I would like to thank the companies that shared their results, as well as all the reporters and researchers who helped track down the numbers this year. Thanks also to the designers and editors, who put all the pieces of the puzzle together.

And I can't go without mentioning our Top 150 sponsors: Bank of America, GFI Digital, McGladrey, Stifel Nicolaus and Thompson Coburn. Their support is critical to the success of our annual Top 150 dinner, which will be held Thursday, May 5 at the World's Fair Pavilion in Forest Park. Jim O'Donnell, CEO of Bush O'Donnell & Co., will be the featured speaker.

Tickets are \$150 per person or \$1,500 per table of 10 if paid before April 28. You can purchase tickets online at [stlouis.bizjournals.com/stlouis/event/35981](http://stlouis.bizjournals.com/stlouis/event/35981), or contact Kelly Rowland at (314) 421-8307 or [stlevents@bizjournals.com](mailto:stlevents@bizjournals.com).

— Chris Bergeron Linton, section editor

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## Whelan Security

2010 revenue: \$126.3 million +11.8%



**GREG TWARDOWSKI**

Revenue growth improved in 2010 without many changes to the security company's operations, Greg Twardowski, president and CEO said. "We continued to expand our footprint nationwide and added offices in Kentucky, Ohio and the Pacific Northwest in early 2010."

Twardowski said the expansion will continue this year. The company provides security staffing services to customers ranging from office buildings to shopping malls. Its event services division provides security for the St. Louis Cardinals, the Edward Jones Dome and the Minnesota Vikings, among others.

The company was founded by Twardowski's great-uncle, Jim Whelan, in 1949 to provide a security patrol along the St. Louis riverfront. It continues to be managed and owned by the family. Patrick Twardowski is chairman.

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