



*Inc. The Handbook of the American Entrepreneur*

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## ***Inc. Magazine Reveals Its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual List of America's 500 Fastest-Growing Private Companies***

***Group9, Inc. Ranks No. 45 on the 2006 Inc. 500  
With Three-Year Sales Growth of 1217%***

**New York, August 23, 2006** – *Inc.* magazine today announced its 25<sup>th</sup> annual Inc. 500 ranking of the fastest-growing private companies in the country. **Group9, Inc.** currently ranks No. 45 on the list, with three-year growth of 1217 percent.

### **Responding to Industry Demand with an Innovative Offering of Services**

The real estate and mortgage boom of the last five years created a demand for the lending industry to close loans faster and reduce the cost of processing. Group9's products streamline the loan process; increasing a lender's business volume and helping them market to new customers at the same time.

Group9's focus is to offer solutions that provide lenders with the ability to consolidate their loan processing operations and increase their profitability. The company has a wide-array of products and services designed to meet the needs of the lending industry, including property reports, title services, flood certifications, collateral valuation services, closings, recordings, and insurance services.

Founded in 2000, by Christopher Ulsh, Christopher Mallon and Theresa Littleton Mallon, the organization also recently received the distinction as Philadelphia's fastest growing company by the *Philadelphia Business Journal*. The company is headquartered in Langhorne, Pennsylvania, with an office in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, that houses its loan closing operations.

The 2006 Inc. 500, as revealed in the September issue of *Inc.*, reported the most robust bunch of companies the magazine has ever compiled, with aggregate revenue of \$19.7 billion, up from \$16.5 billion last year and \$12.9 billion in 2000. Most important, the 2006 Inc. 500 companies were engines of job growth, having created more than 90,000 jobs since those companies were founded.

"If you want to find out which companies are going to change the world, look at the Inc. 500," said *Inc.* Editor Jane Berentson. "These are the most innovative, dynamic, fast-growth companies in the nation, the ones coming up with solutions to some of our most intractable ills, creating systems that let us conduct business faster and easier, and manufacturing products we soon discover we can't live without. The Inc. 500 list is *Inc.* magazine's tribute to American business ingenuity and ambition."

## **Methodology**

The 2006 Inc. 500 list measures revenue growth from 2002 through 2005. To qualify, companies had to be U.S.-based, privately held independent – not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies – as of December 31, 2005, and have, and have at least \$600,000 in net sales in the base year.

## **Visit <http://www.inc.com> to dig deeper into this year's Inc. 500 rankings**

To celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Inc. 500 list, Inc.com has assembled an exclusive lineup of interactive resources that includes:

- Interactive maps allowing for quick insight into regional and industry trends
- A timeline of world events and pop culture trends that shaped the past 25 years that explains how the Inc. 500 corresponds to and is reflected by those events
- Slide shows of the top companies and most innovative products from the Inc. 500 class of 2006
- A quiz that includes interesting facts such as which former Inc. 500 CEO won a World Series ring.

*Inc.*, <http://www.inc.com>, the only major business magazine dedicated exclusively to owners and managers of growing private companies, delivers real solutions for today's innovative company builders. It provides hands-on tools and market-tested strategies for managing people, finances, sales, marketing, and technology. *Inc.*, a Mansueto Ventures LLC publication, inspires and informs, with cutting-edge coverage that reflects our readers' energy, brashness, and imagination.

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