

ClearStar.net Honored by Inc. 5000 for Third Year as One of America's Fastest Growing Private Companies

ALPHARETTA, GA – August 25, 2010 – ClearStar.net, a leading information provider for the employment and tenant screening industry, announced today that they have been recognized by *Inc.* magazine in its fourth annual ranking of the 5,000 fastest-growing private companies in the country. The list represents the most comprehensive look at the most important segment of the economy—America's independent-minded entrepreneurs.

"During a time when employers are looking more closely at the candidates they select, we've found success by supporting the professional companies that are actively engaged in the background screening industry with the robust and flexible technology they need to operate their business," stated R.J. Vale, CEO of ClearStar.net.

ClearStar.net's three-year sales growth of 106% earned them a ranking of 2346. This year marks the third year in a row that ClearStar.net has been included in the list. In 2009 they were ranked 2540. In 2008 they were ranked 2949.

"Three straight years of progressively higher rankings is a testament to the concerted efforts our clients, strategic partners and the ClearStar.net team," continued Vale.

The 2010 Inc. 5000, unveiled Tuesday on Inc.com, serves as a unique illustration of the profound changes taking place in the U.S. economy.

"The leaders of the companies on this year's Inc. 5000 have figured out how to grow their businesses during the longest recession since the Great Depression," said Inc. president Bob LaPointe. "The 2010 Inc. 5000 showcases a particularly hardy group of entrepreneurs."

Despite the fact that most of this year's measuring period of 2006-2009 took place during the latest recession, aggregate revenue among the companies on the list actually increased to \$321.6 billion, up more than 50 percent from last year. The effects of the recession are seen, however, in the median three-year growth rate, which dropped to 96 percent from last year's 126 percent. This year's Inc. 5000 employ a record 1.4 million people, up from one million on last year's list.

The Inc. 5000 posted an aggregate revenue of \$321.6 billion in 2009, up more than 50 percent from the previous year. The top five industries by total revenue are Business Products & Services (\$84.7 billion), Health (\$48.3 billion), Consumer Products & Services (\$26.4 billion), Retail (\$22.3 billion), and Government Services (\$15.1 billion).

Complete results of the Inc. 5000, including company profiles and an interactive database that can be sorted by industry, region, and other criteria, can be found on www.inc.com/5000.

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Methodology

The 2010 Inc. 500|5000 is ranked according to percentage revenue growth when comparing 2006 to 2009. To qualify, companies must have been founded and generating revenue by June 30, 2006. Additionally, they had to be based in the United States, privately held, for profit, and independent—not subsidiaries or divisions of other companies—as of December 31, 2009. (Since then, a number of companies on the list have gone public or been acquired.) The minimum revenue required for 2006 is \$80,000; the minimum for 2009 is \$2 million. As always, *Inc.* reserves the right to decline applicants for subjective reasons. The top 10 percent of companies on the list constitute the Inc. 500, now in its 29th year.

About *Inc.* Magazine

Founded in 1979 and acquired in 2005 by Mansueto Ventures LLC, *Inc.* (www.inc.com) is the only major business magazine dedicated exclusively to owners and managers of growing private companies that delivers real solutions for today's innovative company builders. With a total paid circulation of 712,647, *Inc.* provides hands-on tools and market-tested strategies for managing people, finances, sales, marketing, and technology. Visit us online at www.inc.com.

About ClearStar.net

ClearStar.net is a trusted provider of strategic services and decision making information for background screening firms. ClearStar.net's proven technology infrastructure is HR-XML Consortium certified and sets the foundation for a strong community of progressive, independent retailers who provide risk mitigation, employment and tenant screening services.

ClearStar.net and its distribution network have been facilitating confident business decisions by serving consumers of public records from its corporate offices near Atlanta, Georgia, since 1995. For more information, please visit: www.ClearStar.net.

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Contacts:

Jennifer Koon
Michael Mackenzie Communications
770.645.7990
jenniferk@michaelmackenzie.com