

WHAT TO BUY
TECH • REITS • ASIA

WELLS FARGO
ONE SMART BANK

VISA
CREDIT: THE
LEAST OF ITS
PROBLEMS

GE: IT'S WORSE
THAN YOU THINK

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Forbes

The Other Economy

**BEYOND
WALL STREET
THERE'S STILL
CASH, JOBS
AND GROWTH**

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**200 BEST
SMALL COMPANIES**

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**METALICO CEO
CARLOS AGUERO**



RANK '08	RANK '07	COMPANY (consolidative years on list) Industry	RETURNS ON EQUITY 3-year average	GROWTH		SALES Latest 12 months (\$mil)	NET INCOME Latest 12 months (\$mil)	RECENT PRICE (\$)	P/E 2008 average	MARKET CAPITALIZATION (\$mil)
				SALES 1-year change	EPS 1-year change					
33	35	Synaptics (2) designs user-interface hardware for PCs and electronic devices	17	27	25	361	31	29.74	38*	394
34	56	American Reprographics (2) provides business-to-business document management services	55*	11	57*	723	70	16.56	12	756
35	103	Atwood Oceanics (2) explors for oil & gas	11▲	22▲	44▲	488	195	33.31	10	2,133
36	■	Volcom designs and markets skateboarding and surfing apparel	48*	37	25	313	36	17.27	11	421
37	2	NutriSystem (3) provides weight management and fitness programs	44	123*	164*	736	70	18.59	9	584
38	48	Natural Gas Services Group (4) provides horsepower compression equipment to natural gas industry	13	57*	43	77	14	15.95	14	193
39	■	NVE sells devices that use spintronics to transmit information	20	15	49*	21	8	29.25	17	138
40	91	Metalico (2) processes and sells recycled scrap metal	19	44▲	26▲	681	24	5.55	6	200
41	■	Bankrate operates online consumer banking and finance network	30*	29▲	8▲	133	20	38.31	26	72
42	■	Blue Nile retails diamonds and fine jewelry online	26▲	32*	29*	323	16	42.50	42	63
43	159	AZZ (2) makes electrical gear and provides galvanizing services	13▲	15	34▲	345	34	39.72	13	48
44	10	Bolt Technology (3) designs seismic energy sources to map underground oil & gas reservoirs	12▲	28	44	62	14	14.01	9*	12
45	85	Raven Industries (3) makes industrial, agricultural, construction and aerospace products	27	15	22	265	31	36.81	21	66
46	97	Chatterm markets over-the-counter health care and consumer products	26	12	37	450	64	76.05	19	1.44
47	54	Jos. A. Bank Clothiers (4) retails men's clothing and apparel	24	21	34*	638	52	32.75	11	59
48	■	Air T provides overnight air cargo and ground support services and equipment	18	11▲	42▲	85	4	9.50	NA	2
49	■	Fuel Tech provides pollution control for utility and industrial customers	16	23	35▲	87	8	16.00	50	38
50	57	Ansys (2) develops engineering-simulation software	16	33	14▲	426	102	34.60	21	3,07
51	■	Integral Systems develops satellite ground systems	8	18▲	31▲	160	21	18.90	18	32
52	156	Buckle (4) operates apparel retail outlets	17	9▲	21▲	705	92	57.01	17	1,74
53	68	Dril-Quip (3) manufactures offshore drilling and production equipment	13	21	72*	538	113	42.09	15	1,68
54	■	Art's Way Manufacturing manufactures farm equipment and steel truck bodies	24	19	13▲	29	3	8.08	NA	3
55	88	Green Mountain Coffee Roasters (2) distributes and sells coffee-related products	17	27▲	12▲	458	19	37.95	47	9
56	16	Diodes (5) manufactures and distributes semiconductors	20	30*	49*	424	62	17.31	13	71
57	■	Badger Meter manufactures meters to measure flow of liquids and gases	21	7	20▲	263	23	45.30	27	64
58	45	FactSet Research Systems (12) provides online financial information to investment community	29	20	21	576	125	50.00	20*	2,44
59	■	American Physicians Service Group provides medical malpractice insurance and investment services	17	22▲	18	83	21	21.39	7	1
60	61	National Presto Industries (2) manufactures appliances, defense products and absorbent products	9	29*	30	432	42	70.34	NA	5
61	86	Multi-Color (2) produces labels for consumer products and wines	19	16	15▲	237	16	23.63	21	2
62	■	Argon ST provides system engineering to defense and intelligence customers	16*	40*	20*	330	16	23.01	24	4
63	■	Astronics designs lighting and electronic control systems for aerospace industry	13▲	37*	41*	163	14	22.64	14	1
64	■	Zumiez operates stores with action sports apparel and equipment	25	32*	40*	402	25	16.53	21	4
65	■	eResearch Technology offers cardiac clinical trial management software	21	15▲	7▲	122	21	10.66	21	5
66	50	Bio-Reference Laboratories (2) provides clinical laboratory testing services	20	21	19	290	15	28.56	25	3

■ Not on last year's list. ▲Recent trend up versus five-year average. *Recent trend down versus five-year average. See additional footnotes on page 174. See index on page 195.

For more information, go to www.forbes.com/2008