

FAST 50 2009

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Rank	Company Name	Brand Names	Compound Annual Growth Rate	Latest Financial Year	Latest Sales (£000s)	Base Year (£000s)	Sector	Key Sectors	Offices	Shareholders	Private Equity backed Y/N?	M&A Activity
1	Mentor International	Mentor International	137.2%	2007	17,661	3,139	Engineering and technical	Oil & gas	London, Houston, Lagos, Doha, Kuala Lumpur, Beijing, Seoul, Jakarta, Perth	Iceni Capital and management	Yes	-
2	The Aldridge Group	Hobson Prior	135.7%	2007	8,186	1,473	Healthcare	Clinical	South-East England	50:50 ownership — Jane Woodhead, finance director; Matthew Parrett, managing director	No	-
3	FiveTen Group (previously Greythorn Recruitment)	WH Marks Sattin: financial; EMR: marketing; Ortus: HR; Laurence Simons: legal; Greythorn: IT	123.5%	2007	82,601	16,532	Multi-sector	Financial, management consultancy, creative, marketing, HR, legal, IT and telecoms	Amsterdam, Boston, Brisbane, Brussels, Canberra, Chicago, Dubai, Dublin, Ekaterinburg, Frankfurt, Geneva, Hong Kong, Leeds, London, Melbourne, Moscow, Paris, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, Singapore, Sydney	Englefield Capital	Yes	Aug 2006: Englefield Funds acquired Greythorn Holdings; group rebranded as FiveTen Group. Sep 2006: investor buy-out led by Englefield Capital of Greythorn Holdings. Undisclosed sum. Jan 2007: Greythorn acquired WH Recruitment, Australia. Undisclosed sum. Feb 2007: Greythorn acquired Ashsale (T/A Marks Sattin). Undisclosed sum. Jun 2007: Greythorn acquired Laurence Simons International Recruitment. Undisclosed sum. Jan 2008: FiveTen Group acquired EMR Search & Selection. Undisclosed sum. Feb 2008: FiveTen Group acquired Antal International Russia, the Russian subsidiary of Antal International. Undisclosed sum
4	33Six Consultancy	33Six	115.0%	2006	6,067	1,313	IT & telecoms	IT & telecoms	London	John Taylor, director (99%); John Devonshire (1%)	No	-
5	First People Solutions (Holdings)	FPSG (First People Solutions Group), Tudor Personnel, Jobact Petrochem	108.0%	2007	52,269	12,086	Multi-sector	Financial, aviation, HR, health & social care, oil & gas, office support, retail	Glasgow, Edinburgh, Manchester, Leeds, London, Bristol	John Hailstone, director (61%); Kevin Cruickshank, director (19.5%); Scott Morrison, director (19.5%)	No	Nov 2005: First People Solutions Group acquired Tudor Personnel, Sutton, Surrey, for a consideration of £4.5m. Oct 2007: First People Solutions Group acquired Jobact Petrochem, Wallington, Surrey, for a consideration £4m
6	Global Resource Solutions Group	GRS Group	90.9%	2007	6,303	906	Financial and legal services	Legal, risk & compliance, tax, interim solutions, insurance, executive search	UK, Germany, Hong Kong, the US, France, Switzerland	Penta Capital and management team	Yes	-
7	Huntress Holdings	Huntress Hamilton Chase Financial Markets	83.5%	2007	78,070	23,179	Multi-sector	Secretarial, professional services, financial, sales & marketing, IT & telecoms, legal, commercial, executive search, PR	Exeter, Leeds, London, Maidstone, Reading, Guilford, Epsom, Croydon, Crawley, Bromley, Brighton, Bracknell, Reading, Nottingham, Portsmouth, Reading, Sutton	Nomura Private Equity. Chief executive and co-founder Gary Lawrence likely to have retained significant stake. No detailed ownership data available because Annual Return following deal in November 2007 has not as yet been filed	Yes	-
8	Fast Temp Engineering	Fast Temp Engineering	81.8%	2007	6,596	1,996	Engineering and technical	Industrial and engineering (specialist in marine and petrochemical industries)	North-East England	Sandra Brennan (49%); Steve Brennan (51%)	No	-
9	Jenrick Engineering Ltd	Jenrick Engineering	76.5%	2007	5,425	1,742	Multi-sector	Engineering, IT, medical, commercial and building services	Burton, Camberley, Crick, Walton-on-Thames	Simon Holdings plc (75%); Julie Alton, director (25%)	No	-
10	Investigo	Investigo	72.2%	2008	19,200	6,478	Multi-sector	Banking, public sector, change solutions, telecoms, IT, retail, FMCG, media, advertising, marketing, engineering, manufacturing, business services, legal	London and home counties	Majority shareholders: Simon Smith, partner; Scott Beckson, partner; Robert Stodel, director	No	-
11	Rise Scotland	Rise Group, Rise Executive, Rise Industrial, Rise Jobs, Hammond Resources	68.3%	2007	11,666	4,118	Multi-sector	Executive search, engineering & industrial, financial services, professional services, sales & marketing, non-professional services. Rise Executive: multi-disciplinary middle and senior management appointments. Rise Industrial: driving, labouring, production, trades, warehouse operative and related positions. Rise Jobs: contact centre recruitment business	Scotland	Murray Capital (98%); Gregor Campbell, director (2%)	Yes	May 2008: Rise Group, backed by Murray Capital, acquired HRL Realisations (T/A Hammond Resources), Glasgow. Undisclosed sum
12	Industry Resource Services	IRS Recruitment	65.2%	2007	13,299	4,874	Multi-sector	Secretarial & clinical, professional services, engineering & industrial, construction, non-professional services, financial	Suffolk, Yorkshire	Christopher Blythe, director (80%); Diane Blythe, director (20%)	No	-
13	Eden Brown	Eden Brown	62.9%	2007	153,599	57,848	Multi-sector	Technical, professional services, health & social care	London HQ, Birmingham, Leeds, Ealing, Bristol, Manchester	Hamilton Bradshaw Private Equity. Exact shareholding percentage not disclosed	Yes	-
14	Eurostaff Group	Eurostaff Group	59.5%	2008	13,200	5,189	Multi-sector	Finance, IT & telecoms	London, Paris, Brussels, Munich, Amsterdam, Zurich	Mark Znowski joint managing director and Paul Flynn joint managing director	No	-
15	Diamond Resourcing	Diamond Resourcing	59.4%	2008	5,218	2,054	Multi-sector	Secretarial & clinical, sales & marketing, healthcare, financial, professional servs, IT & telecoms	London	Marc Diamond 100%	No	-

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16	Bostonair	Boston Air	55.8%	2007	11,267	4,642	Engineering and technical	Aerospace, power	Yorkshire, Netherlands	David Parkes (62%); Mark Parkes, managing director (38%)	No	-
17	Rapier Employment	Total Rapier	49.1%	2007	19,895	8,948	Non-professional services	Non-professional services (drivers)	Abingdon, Camberley, Dartford, Didcot, Iver Heath, Newport, Northampton, Reading, Southampton, Swindon; Slovakia	Frank Townson 100%	-	-
18	Aston Carter	Aston Carter	48.4%	2008	115,000	52,000	IT & telecoms	Financial services IT sector, ERP, consultancy and operations & finance	UK, Belgium, France, Sweden, Switzerland Hong Kong, Ireland, Japan, Singapore, Bangalore	Baird Capital Partners, management and employees	Yes	-
19	Fusion People	Fusion People	46.2%	2007	34,135	15,963	Multi-sector	Construction, professional services, engineering & industrial, non-professional services, secretarial & clerical	UK: Hampshire, Bristol, Birmingham, London, Leeds, Manchester; Australia: Sydney, Perth, Brisbane	Significant shareholders who are also directors: Phillip Anders (26%); Paul Metcalfe (15%); Christopher Fenn (10%); Stephen Fisher (9.1%); Mark Swain (9.4%); Paul Scott (9%)	No	-
20	Staffwise Holdings	Staffwise Solutions; WSS Staffwise; Oasis Recruitment Group; Simpson Lang Search & Selection	44.2%	2007	20,328	9,770	Multi-sector	Construction, engineering & industrial, non-professional services, IT & telecoms, secretarial & clerical	Glasgow, Newcastle, Scunthorpe, Birmingham, Ipswich, Bristol, Exeter, Liskard; Hampshire: Fareham, Port Solent, Cosham, Chichester, Bognor	Major shareholders: Cameron Lang (45%); Roy Butterworth (31%). Other significant shareholder: William Craddock (13%)	No	-
21	Relay Recruitment	Relay Recruitment	42.8%	2007	7,849	3,850	Multi-sector	Engineering, construction, logistics	Yorkshire	Brandon Barnett (7%); Laurence N Elliott (46%); Steven Street, managing director (46%)	No	-
22	Claremont Consulting	Claremont Consulting	41.1%	2007	7,846	3,943	IT & telecoms	IT & telecoms	London, Scotland	John Cavalli (35%); Mark Baker (15%); Mrs Nicola J Baker (15%); Mrs Rosemary A Cavalli (35%)	No	-
23	Astbury Marsden and Partners	Astbury Marsden	38.9%	2007	23,377	12,112	Multi-sector	Banking, commerce and professional services	London	Northern Venture Managers (NVM) and management team	Yes	-
24	Bright Purple Resourcing	Bright Purple	38.8%	2007	10,968	5,694	IT & telecoms	IT & telecoms	London, Edinburgh	Alastair Maclean (1.2%); Jan E Mutch (2.6%); Nicholas C Price (48.1%); Thomas A Smith (48.1%)	No	-
25	Connect Group Consulting	Connect Group	38.7%	2006	8,892	4,620	Multi-sector	IT, rail, construction, oil & gas	Middlesex, Surrey, West London	PD Manvell (10%); T Grondona (90%)	No	-
26	Morgan Law Recruitment Consultancy	Morgan Law	38.3%	2007	13,997	7,316	Multi-sector	Financial services, executive search, sales & marketing, professional services	London	David Morgan (25%); E Law (25%); M Morgan (25%); Simon Law (25%)	No	-
27	Hazell Engineering	Hazell Engineering	36.6%	2007	20,647	11,060	Engineering and technical	Oil & gas	Aberdeen	Steven Dodds 100%	No	-
28	MSI Recruitment	MSI Recruitment	36.2%	2007	9,200	4,956	IT & telecoms	IT & telecoms	London	50:50 ownership: James Parker; Nicky Simpson	No	-
29	Flex Recruitment	Flex Recruitment	35.3%	2007	12,766	6,978	Multi-sector	Secretarial & clinical, professional services, engineering & industrial, non-professional services	Leicester and East & West Midlands	Five individual shareholders, including: James Robinson (58%); Jacqueline Jackson (22%); Adrian Hobbs, managing director (9%)	No	-
30	Omega Resource Group	Omega Resource Group	35.2%	2008	24,072	13,164	Multi-sector	Engineering & industrial, non-professional services	Gloucester, Worcester; Poland: Warsaw; Netherlands: Rotterdam	Alan Beresford (33%); James Strickland (33%); Raymond Pugh (33%)	No	-
31	Technicad Recruitment	Technicad Recruitment	34.2%	2007	5,951	3,302	Engineering and technical	Engineering & industrial, professional services	Wokingham	Paul Middleweek (90%); Raymond Middleweek (10%)	No	-
32	Driver Hire Investments	Driver Hire	33.7%	2008	13,442	7,525	Non-professional services	Non-professional services	Nationwide (106 franchises)	Aberdeen Asset Management	Yes	-
33	Qubic Recruitment Solutions	Qubic Recruitment	32.7%	2007	7,779	4,418	Multi-sector	IT & telecoms, secretarial & clerical, engineering & industrial, non-professional services	Cambridgeshire	Mark Ambler (52%); other directors own remaining shares	No	-
34	Watson	Setsquare Recruitment	32.7%	2007	18,553	10,539	Construction	Construction	Bristol, Croydon, Manchester, Southampton, Taunton, Truro, Wolverhampton	Murray Watson (76%); Roderick Watson (24%)	No	-
35	Drivers Direct Recruitment Agency	Drivers Direct	31.8%	2006	5,896	3,394	Non-professional services	Drivers	Runcorn, Nuneaton, Northampton, Feltham, Fareham, Preston	Gethin Roberts, founder and managing director, and other significant shareholders include: Paul Timms, operations director North; Steve James, operations director South; William Tirebuck	No	-
36	Recruit 121	Recruit 121	30.9%	2007	12,485	7,290	IT & telecoms	SAP solutions	Cardiff, Amsterdam, the US	Christopher J Holcroft, chief executive and founder 100%	No	-
37	Extrastaff	Extrastaff	30.3%	2007	9,161	5,399	Non-professional services	Non-professional services	St Albans HQ, plus 11 offices in surrounding areas	Tim Millward, chairman and founder (93%); Steven Hill, operations director (6%); Beverley Perry (1%)	No	-

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38	Aquila Consulting Group	Matrix, Hamilton Parker, Jupitec, Aquila International Telecoms	30.1%	2007	7,856	4,643	Multi-sector	Matrix: programme & project management Hamilton Parker: international recruitment in engineering, telecoms & networking, sales & marketing, executive appointments Jupitec: IT professionals and investment banking Aquila International Telecoms: telecommunication personnel worldwide	Bracknell, Bristol, London	Close Summit Trust (69.5%) — unable to identify ultimate owner/beneficiary of this trust; Paul B Walsh (16.2%); Parminder Flora (10%); Nathan Arter (1.9%); Simon Miller (2.4%)	No	-
39	Atlan Resource Solutions	Atlan Resource Solutions	29.5%	2008	34,610	20,630	Multi-sector	IT & telecoms, executive search, engineering & industrial, professional services (specialist public sector division)	Winchester, Sale	Peter Lynch (42%); John Holman (19.5%); Kenneth Bayes (19.5%); RMP Investment Partnership (1.6%)	No	-
40	RP International	RP International	29.2%	2007	22,449	13,458	Multi-sector	IT & telecoms, financial services, executive search, professional services	London, Dubai, Singapore	Stuart Wilson, group chief executive (41%); Julian Frankum, group business development director (41%); Stephen Lovelace, chairman (16%); Stephen Trigg (2%)	No	-
41	Rouge 1	Red Commerce	29.1%	2008	37,397	22,450	IT & telecoms	IT & telecoms	Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Luxembourg, UK	Inflexion Private Equity (68%); Ezra Chapman, non-exec director (8%); Andrew Vaughan, chairman (2.5%); Alan Hunt, business development director (2.5%); Richard Vercesi, director (3%); Stephen Lawrence, director (2.5%)	Yes	-
42	Xchangeteam Group	Xchangeteam	29.0%	2007	6,071	3,648	Professional services	Marketing, media, communications	London	Majority shareholder: Emma Brierley, founder and chief executive	No	May 2005: Xchangeteam Group acquired BDG Recruitment. Undisclosed sum. Aug 2005: Xchangeteam Group acquired The Davis Company. Undisclosed sum. The acquired company will operate under the name Davis Xchangeteam.
43	Venn Group	Venn Group	28.2%	2007	74,137	45,079	Multi-sector	Financial services, professional services, IT & telecoms	London, Bristol, Birmingham, Leeds, Leicester, Manchester, Milton Keynes, Surrey, Watford	Deirdra Moynihan (43.5%); Alex Badenoch (21.7%); No Phillip Hanna, managing director (8.7%); R & H Trust Co (Jersey) (21.7%); Avtar Singh (1.7%); Stan Murray-Hession (2.6%)	No	-
44	Beaver Management Services	Beaver Management Services	27.2%	2007	107,742	66,573	Construction	Construction	Middlesborough	Majority shareholder: Bernard Goodchild, director (78%)	-	Feb 2004: Synopsis Beaver Management Services acquired Grovetex Trading, Ingatestone, Essex, for a consideration of £13m. Debt funding in support of the deal was provided by Enterprise Finance Europe in the form of a confidential invoice discounting facility
45	Jark	Jark	26.6%	2007	42,232	26,353	Multi-sector	Industrial, construction, commercial, driving, healthcare	Norfolk HQ, over 40 locations across UK, plus Poland: Warsaw	50:50 ownership: John Andrews; Preston Buckman	No	Feb 2006: Jark Recruitment acquired Tactical Solutions, Letchworth. Undisclosed sum. Apr 2008: Jark Recruitment acquired a majority stake in Aptus Personnel, Leicester, from its three directors Phil McTaggart, Steve Gray and Gary Wiley. All three remain with the business. Undisclosed sum
46	Kinetic	Kinetic	26.2%	2008	45,414	28,498	Multi-sector	Kinetic Contract Professionals, Kinetic Industrial, Kinetic Nursing Services, Kinetic Rail, Kinetic Search & Selection, Kinetic Skilled & Trades, Kinetic Technical	North-West, North-East, Midlands, Scotland	Terry Maunder, chairman and founder (28%); Dorothy Maunder (25.3%); Timothy Maunder (20.4%); J Bakkali (14.4%); P J Bakkali (6%); Kinetic Employee Benefit Trust (5.9%)	No	-
47	Faststream Recruitment	Faststream Recruitment	25.6%	2006	12,930	8,201	Engineering and technical	Shipping, marine, energy, commodities, architectural, civil and structural engineering	Southampton, Singapore, the US, Norway	Mark Charman, founder; Christopher Bramley, group commercial director; Rachel Farndell, director	No	-
48	Sheffield Haworth	Sheffield Haworth	25.5%	2006	11,846	7,524	Financial services	Global corporate and structured finance, wealth & asset management, infrastructure, technology, global investor services, risk management, legal and compliance, consumer & commercial, banking, insurance	New York, London, Dubai, Mumbai, Delhi, Hong Kong, Tokyo	Majority shareholder: Timothy J Sheffield (52%); Patrick Morrissey (10%)	No	-
49	Computer Aided Designers	TOPS Engineering Recruitment	25.4%	2007	15,484	9,843	Engineering and technical	Petrochemical, power and water, and other heavy industries	Brighton, Aberdeen	John E Dunning (33%); John H Schooling (33%); Lesley A Bolton (33%)	No	-
50	Levy Associates	Levy Associates	22.5%	2007	13,173	8,776	Multi-sector	IT, healthcare	St Albans, Amsterdam	Lawrence Levy, managing director 100%	No	-