



## SARAH GANTZ

Covers health care reform and commercialization of technology

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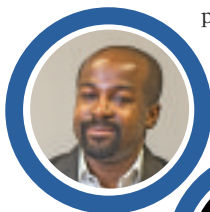
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### SARAH'S TAKE

# Local firms among fastest-growing

Almost half of the Maryland companies that made the cut for Inc. Magazine's 5,000 fastest-growing companies list hail from the Baltimore area.

A total of 121 companies in Maryland, including 57 in the Baltimore area,



Kwame Kuadey, top, founder of GiftCardRescue and Michael Rogers, CEO of Securityhunter. Their companies were made Inc.'s list.



made the list. The rankings are based on three-year revenue growth from 2010 through 2013.

Government contractor Securityhunter was the fastest-growing company in the Baltimore area, with 2,998 percent growth over the last three years. The Baltimore security firm reported \$35.9 million in revenue in 2013.

Securityhunter is in good company. Others in the Baltimore area to make the list include TheraPearl, recently bought by an Ohio company after years of solid growth; Columbia's WebMechanix; Ellicott City's GiftCardRescue; and Mindgrub in Baltimore.

Nationally, consumer products and services, advertising and marketing, software and government services are the fastest-growing business sectors. That's partly the case in Baltimore, too.

But more of Baltimore's fastest-growing companies are in IT service

es, such as Optimus Technology and Scepter Technologies.

That's good news for Baltimore. Inc. found that IT was among the sectors that created the most jobs in 2013. Only security (another of Maryland's strengths) and human resources created more jobs, according to the report.

These are some of the Baltimore-area companies that made the cut for Inc. Magazine's top 5,000 fastest-growing companies list.

**No. 123** - Securityhunter in Baltimore, 2,998 percent growth, \$35.9 million revenue.

**No. 271** - Optimus Technology in Columbia, 1,702 percent growth, \$2.1 million revenue.

**No. 447** - TheraPearl in Columbia, 1,068 percent growth, \$9.5 million revenue.

**No. 606** - Scepter Technologies in Owings Mills, 783 percent growth, \$10.2 million revenue.

**No. 640** - Signature Consulting Group in

Windsor Mill, 727 percent growth, \$15.4 million revenue.

**No. 743** - HostVentures.com in White Marsh, 613 percent growth, \$12.5 million revenue.

**No. 774** - WebMechanix in Columbia, 590 percent growth, \$2.4 million revenue.

**No. 876** - RPI Consultants in Baltimore, 512 percent growth, \$9.5 million revenue.

**No. 903** - Arocon Roofing and Construction in Westminster, 496 percent growth, \$9.9 million revenue.

**No. 918** - Premier Management in Columbia, 490 percent growth, \$19.2 million revenue.

**No. 992** - Keller Williams Legacy Partners in Baltimore, 453 percent growth, \$8.5 million revenue.

**No. 1,039** - GiftCardRescue in Ellicott City, 428 percent growth, \$10.1 million revenue.

**No. 1,130** - CFM Engineering in Millersville, 390 percent growth, \$22.4 million revenue.

**No. 1,176** - Waldon Studio Architects in Columbia, 372 percent growth, \$7.4 million revenue.

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