

Rank	Change from 2007	Company Name	Location	Turnover £000s	Profit £000s	Employees	A/c Made Up	Activity
1	↔	GKN Plc	Redditch	3,634,000	182,000	36,117	31/12/2006	Group is engaged in engineering, manufacturing and supplying products to the automotive industry.
2	↑1	CARILLION Plc	Wolverhampton	3,064,900	67,600	31,576	31/12/2006	Provides expertise in commercial and industrial building, refurbishment, civil engineering, road and rail construction and maintenance, mechanical and electrical services, facilities management and PFI solutions
3	↓2	MITCHELLS & BUTLERS Plc	Birmingham	1,894,000	-48,000	42,741	29/09/2007	Group is engaged as a UK operator of managed pubs, and pub restaurants.
4	↑2	IMI Plc	Birmingham	1,504,900	158,200	14,738	31/12/2006	Group operates in the supply of fluid controls (pneumatics, severe service valves & indoor climate) & retail dispense (beverage dispense & merchandising systems).
5	↓1	SEVERN TRENT Plc	Birmingham	1,480,200	325,500	12,461	31/03/2007	Supply of water and the treatment and disposal of sewage.
6	↑1	ENTERPRISE INNS Plc	Solihull	921,000	337,000	510	30/9/2007	Group principal activities are that of a leased and tenanted pub operator in the UK.
7	↑2	HALFORDS GROUP Plc	Redditch	744,000	80,990	10,325	31/03/2007	Holding company, retailing of auto, leisure and cycling products.
8	↑7	WAGON Plc	Birmingham	710,000	-99,400	6,649	31/03/2007	Automotive group, specialising in the design, engineering and manufacture of automotive body structures, door systems, and engineering consultancy.
9	↑1	MARSTON'S Plc	Wolverhampton	652,800	94,700	12,870	29/09/2007	Group is engaged pub management the production of beer and the distribution of beer, wine and spirits.
10	↓2	MISYS Plc	Evesham	562,800	22,100	5,464	31/05/2007	Development, management & licensing of a variety of software products & solutions to customers in the financial service sectors and healthcare industries.
11	↑1	AGA RANGEMASTER GROUP Plc	Solihull	528,900	46,000	6,012	31/12/2006	Engaged in manufacture, retail, installation & maintenance of kitchen equipment & domestic heating appliances for commercial and domestic markets.
12	↑2	HEADLAM GROUP Plc	Birmingham	509,899	43,558	2,062	31/12/2006	Engaged in wholesale distribution of floor coverings and flooring accessories to independent retailers and contractors in the UK and Europe.
13	↔	MELROSE Plc	Alcester	507,000	37,000	5,369	31/12/2006	An engineering group involved in design, development and manufacture components for a wide range of markets, including aerospace and IT.
14	↑3	HOMESERVE Plc	Walsall	477,362	61,078	4,318	31/03/2007	Provider of insured repair solutions and emergency services to the home.
15	↑5	UMECO Plc	Leamington Spa	333,900	19,100	1,646	31/03/2007	Distribution, supply chain management and repair & overhaul services to the aerospace & defence industries, harnessing new methods for enhancing its customers' performance and profitability.
16	↑3	HILL & SMITH HOLDINGS Plc	Solihull	306,042	17,316	2,507	31/12/2006	Manufacture of building, construction and industrial products including galvanising, barrier and multiplate, flooring, infrastructure, fencing, roofing, pipes and pipe support, lintels and residential doors, steel & pressings.
17	↑4	DECHRA PHARMACEUTICALS Plc	Stoke-on-Trent	253,803	12,619	747	30/6/2007	The group manufactures and sells pharmaceuticals and also markets and sells veterinary equipment and related goods and services, predominantly to the UK veterinary market, but also to overseas markets.
18	↑5	DIGNITY Plc	Sutton Coldfield	149,800	27,200	2,271	29/12/2006	Engaged in the provision of funeral services including funeral directing, crematoria operation & marketing & administration of pre-arranged funeral plans.
19	↑7	HAMPSON INDUSTRIES Plc	Brierley Hill	146,297	6,295	1,701	31/03/2007	International group serving global aerospace, automotive and speciality engineering markets.
20	↑4	ST. MODWEN PROPERTIES Plc	Birmingham	127,500	100,100	241	30/11/2006	Specialises in partnership, regeneration, development and active property management.
21	↑4	METALRAX GROUP Plc	Birmingham	120,233	6,094	1,627	31/12/2006	Group is engaged in the engineering of products including aluminium extrusion and presswork, wooden cabinets and diecastings & the manufacture of products including bakeware, kitchen tools, & gadgets for the home.
22	↑9	ACCIDENT EXCHANGE GROUP Plc	Birmingham	116,909	13,605	514	30/4/2007	Group is a vehicle replacement specialist that provides support services to the retail motor industry and ABI(Association of British Insurers) approved car hire on credit to motorists involved in non-fault accidents.
23	↑5	CASTINGS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY	Walsall	86,230	13,057	990	31/03/2007	Foundry and machining group engaged in the worldwide supply of spherical graphite and ductile, malleable & grey iron castings, offering raw, coated or finished machined parts in high and low volumes.
24	↑3	MANGANESE BRONZE HOLDINGS Plc	Coventry	83,824	3,756	479	31/07/2006	UK-based engineering group engaged in the manufacture & sale of London taxis, introduction of a taxi mobile phone hailing system, & other engineering services.
25	↑4	GOODWIN Plc	Stoke-on-Trent	65,314	7,042	687	30/4/2007	The group is engaged in mechanical and refractory engineering.
26	↑7	VICTORIA Plc	Kidderminster	55,426	2,762	701	31/03/2007	Manufacture of carpets and carpet yarns, making tufted carpets in the UK and Australia, together with Axminster and Wilton woven products in the UK.
27	↑5	S & U Plc	Solihull	42,795	8,930	366	31/01/2007	The principal activity of the group is consumer credit and car finance.
28	↑9	A & J MUCKLOW GROUP Plc	Halesowen	24,965	33,369	17	30/6/2007	Industrial and commercial property investment and development.
29	↑9	THE PARAGON GROUP OF COMPANIES Plc	Solihull	N/A	91,000	763	30/9/2007	Holding company, group are involved in the operation of its consumer finance and first mortgage businesses. Consumer finance includes personal finance, retail finance, car finance and home improvement and caravan loans.

TOP QUOTED COMPANIES BY PROFIT

Rank	Change from 2007	Company Name	Location	Turnover £000s	Profit £000s	Employees	A/c Made Up	Activity
1	↔	ENTERPRISE INNS Plc	Solihull	921,000	337,000	510	30/9/2007	Group principal activities are that of a leased and tenanted pub operator in the UK.
2	↑1	SEVERN TRENT Plc	Birmingham	1,480,200	325,500	12,461	31/03/2007	Supply of water and the treatment and disposal of sewage.
3	↑2	GKN Plc	Redditch	3,634,000	182,000	36,117	31/12/2006	Group is engaged in engineering, manufacturing and supplying products to the automotive industry.
4	↑2	IMI Plc	Birmingham	1,504,900	158,200	14,738	31/12/2006	Group operates in the supply of fluid controls (pneumatics, severe service valves & indoor climate) & retail dispense (beverage dispense & merchandising systems).
5	↑3	ST. MODWEN PROPERTIES Plc	Birmingham	127,500	100,100	241	30/11/2006	Specialises in partnership, regeneration, development and active property management.
6	↑1	MARSTON'S Plc	Wolverhampton	652,800	94,700	12,870	29/09/2007	Group is engaged pub management the production of beer and the distribution of beer, wine and spirits.
7	↑2	THE PARAGON GROUP OF COMPANIES Plc	Solihull	N/A	91,000	763	30/9/2007	Holding company, group are involved in the operation of its consumer finance and first mortgage businesses. Consumer finance includes personal finance, retail finance, car finance and home improvement and caravan loans.
8	↑2	HALFORDS GROUP Plc	Redditch	744,000	80,990	10,325	31/03/2007	Holding company, retailing of auto, leisure and cycling products.
9	↑2	CARILLION Plc	Wolverhampton	3,064,900	67,600	31,576	31/12/2006	Provides expertise in commercial and industrial building, refurbishment, civil engineering, road and rail construction and maintenance, mechanical and electrical services, facilities management and PFI solutions
10	↑3	HOMESERVE Plc	Walsall	477,362	61,078	4,318	31/03/2007	Provider of insured repair solutions and emergency services to the home.
11	↑3	AGA RANGEMASTER GROUP Plc	Solihull	528,900	46,000	6,012	31/12/2006	Engaged in manufacture, retail, installation & maintenance of kitchen equipment & domestic heating appliances for commercial and domestic markets.
12	↑3	HEADLAM GROUP Plc	Birmingham	509,899	43,558	2,062	31/12/2006	Engaged in wholesale distribution of floor coverings and flooring accessories to independent retailers and contractors in the UK and continental Europe.
13	↑5	MELROSE Plc	Alcester	507,000	37,000	5,369	31/12/2006	An engineering group involved in design, development and manufacture components for a wide range of markets, including aerospace and IT.
14	↑5	A & J MUCKLOW GROUP Plc	Halesowen	24,965	33,369	17	30/6/2007	Industrial and commercial property investment and development.
15	↑6	DIGNITY Plc	Sutton Coldfield	149,800	27,200	2,271	29/12/2006	Engaged in the provision of funeral services including funeral directing, crematoria operation & marketing & administration of pre-arranged funeral plans.
16	↑1	MISYS Plc	Evesham	562,800	22,100	5,464	31/05/2007	Development, management & licensing of a variety of software products & solutions to customers in the financial services sectors & healthcare industries.
17	↑7	UMECO Plc	Leamington Spa	333,900	19,100	1,646	31/03/2007	Distribution, supply chain management & repair & overhaul services to aerospace & defence industries, harnessing new methods for enhancing performance and profitability.
18	↑5	HILL & SMITH HOLDINGS Plc	Solihull	306,042	17,316	2,507	31/12/2006	Manufacture of building, construction and industrial products including galvanising, barrier and multiplate, flooring, infrastructure, fencing, roofing, pipes and pipe support, lintels and residential doors, steel & pressings.
19	↑3	ACCIDENT EXCHANGE GROUP Plc	Birmingham	116,909	13,605	514	30/4/2007	Group is a vehicle replacement specialist that provides support services to the retail motor industry and ABI(Association of British Insurers) approved car hire on credit to motorists involved in non-fault accidents.
20	↑6	CASTINGS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY	Walsall	86,230	13,057	990	31/03/2007	Foundry and machining group engaged in the worldwide supply of spherical graphite and ductile, malleable & grey iron castings, offering raw, coated or finished machined parts in high and low volumes.
21	↑6	DECHRA PHARMACEUTICALS Plc	Stoke-on-Trent	253,803	12,619	747	30/6/2007	Manufactures & sells pharmaceuticals, markets & sells veterinary equipment & related goods & services to the UK veterinary market & overseas markets.
22	↑6	S & U Plc	Solihull	42,795	8,930	366	31/01/007	The principal activity of the group is consumer credit and car finance.
23	↑8	GOODWIN Plc	Stoke-on-Trent	65,314	7,042	687	30/4/2007	The group is engaged in mechanical and refractory engineering.
24	↑12	HAMPSON INDUSTRIES Plc	Brierley Hill	146,297	6,295	1,701	31/03/2007	International group serving global aerospace, automotive and speciality engineering markets.
25	↑5	METALRAX GROUP Plc	Birmingham	120,233	6,094	1,627	31/12/2006	Group is engaged in the engineering of products including aluminium extrusion and presswork, wooden cabinets and diecastings & the manufacture of products including bakeware, kitchen tools, & gadgets for the home.
26	↑6	MANGANESE BRONZE HOLDINGS Plc	Coventry	83,824	3,756	479	31/07/2006	Group engaged in manufacture and sale of London taxis, introduction of a taxi mobile phone hailing system, other engineering services.
27	↑7	VICTORIA Plc	Kidderminster	55,426	2,762	701	31/03/2007	Manufacture of carpets and carpet yarns, making tufted carpets in the UK and Australia, together with Axminster and Wilton woven products in the UK.
28	↓24	MITCHELLS & BUTLERS Plc	Birmingham	1,894,000	-48,000	42,741	29/09/2007	Group is engaged as a UK operator of managed pubs, and pub restaurants.
29	↓4	WAGON Plc	Birmingham	710,000	-99,400	6,649	31/03/2007	Automotive group, specialising in the design, engineering & manufacture of automotive body structures & door systems, and engineering consultancy.

Information sourced from FAME as at April 2008 and from Hemscott as at May 30, 2008

N/A = not available

Engineering, software and pub mix survives crunch

From page 15

The company said a major weakening in the North American construction market hit its undercarriage business where revenues fell by nearly £20 million. That was offset by all the other geographical markets, which recorded increases.

It achieved sales of £385.8 million and profits of £21.5 million during the year.

Now talks are under way over a possible £190 million buyout of Titan Europe by its former US parent, Titan International.

Titan overtook Birmingham-based computer hardware and software distributor **Fayewood** as the largest Aim company.

Fayewood slipped to fourth place with sales of £129.5 million, and profits of £936,000 during 2007.

Acertec, a Stratford-based manufacturer of steel wire, pressings and assemblies was the second largest Aim company with sales of £322.9 million and profits of £8.8 million.

It was followed by **GSH Group**, from Stoke, which was third largest with sales of £157.4 million.

There were two new entries in the top ten, headed by investment company **Castle Support Services**.

The firm, the successor company to the

Birmingham industrial maintenance group Dowding & Mills, is now planning to go global — beyond its existing presence in Europe, Australasia and North America.

This will probably involve a series of joint ventures like a £1.6 million deal struck in January to buy 50 per cent of Interseal, a Dubai company servicing generators and motors in the energy industries.

Castle was previously a shell company with a large pension surplus, which has now been used to offset Dowding's pension deficit. When the two schemes were merged last August they had a combined surplus of £14.4 million.

In 2007, the company had sales of £87.2 million and profits of £21.9 million.

The other new entrant was **Network Group Holdings** from Coventry.

Sales of £51.6 million put the labour recruitment and personnel company in eighth place among the Aim companies.

Sir Peter Rigby's **Specialist Computer Holdings** (SCH) kept its top spot among the private companies, with sales of £2.04 billion.

This was almost twice as large as the next biggest private concern in the Midlands — packaging company **Linpac**, which retained second place with sales of



Sir Peter Rigby's Specialist Computer Holdings (SCH) kept its top spot among the private companies, with sales of £2.04 billion

£1.15 billion. Sir Peter, who is chairman and chief executive of SCH is the eighth richest person in the Midlands, with a private fortune estimated at £510 million.

SCH has grown from a £2,000 investment made 30 years ago into a £2.4 billion turnover group today and is the largest privately-owned IT group in Europe.

Headquartered in the UK, the international group employs more than 6,000 skilled people operating from a pan-European network of 85 offices.

Holding leading positions in eight key European markets, the group also manages its own global network of business partners in an additional 60 countries.

But while Sir Peter's reign at the top of the privately-owned companies is unlikely to change soon, there are plenty of newcomers.

Abbot Group, an international drilling and well engineering firm was the highest newcomer with sales of £594.1 million during 2007 placing it fourth overall.

There are eight other new entrants into the top 20 of privately-owned businesses in the Midlands, underlining the strength in depth of the regional economy even in these uncertain times.

TOP QUOTED COMPANIES BY MARKET CAP

Rank	Change from 2007	Company Name	Location	Turnover £000s	Profit £000s	Employees	A/c Made Up	Activity	Mkt Cap £000 as at 30/05/08
1	↑1	SEVERN TRENT Plc	Birmingham	1,480,200	325,500	12,461	31/03/2007	Supply of water and the treatment and disposal of sewage.	3,397,211
2	↓1	ENTERPRISE INNS Plc	Solihull	921,000	337,000	510	30/09/2007	Group principal activities are that of a leased and tenanted pub operator in the UK.	2,375,562
3	↑2	GKN Plc	Redditch	3,634,000	182,000	36,117	31/12/2006	Group is engaged in engineering, manufacturing and supplying products to the automotive industry.	2,060,959
4	↑2	IMI Plc	Birmingham	1,504,900	158,200	14,738	31/12/2006	Operates in supply of fluid controls (pneumatics, severe service valves & indoor climate) & retail dispense (beverage dispense & merchandising systems).	1,638,999
5	↑4	CARILLION Plc	Wolverhampton	3,064,900	67,600	31,576	31/12/2006	Provides expertise in commercial and industrial building, refurbishment, civil engineering, road and rail construction and maintenance, mechanical and electrical services, facilities management and PFI solutions	1,370,289
6	↓3	MITCHELLS & BUTLERS Plc	Birmingham	1,894,000	-48,000	42,741	29/09/2007	Group is engaged as a UK operator of managed pubs, and pub restaurants.	1,312,025
7	↑3	HOMESERVE Plc	Walsall	477,362	61,078	4,318	31/03/2007	Provider of insured repair solutions and emergency services to the home.	1,186,891
8	↔	MISYS Plc	Evesham	562,800	22,100	5,464	31/05/2007	Development, management & licensing of a variety of software products & solutions to customers in financial services sectors & healthcare industries.	816,929
9	↓2	MARSTON'S Plc	Wolverhampton	652,800	94,700	12,870	29/09/2007	Group is engaged pub management the production of beer and the distribution of beer, wine and spirits.	601,299
10	↑1	HALFORDS GROUP Plc	Redditch	744,000	80,990	10,325	31/03/2007	Holding company, retailing of auto, leisure and cycling products.	591,757
11	↑7	DIGNITY Plc	Sutton Coldfield	149,800	27,200	2,271	29/12/2006	Engaged in provision of funeral services including funeral directing, crematoria operation & marketing & administration of pre-arranged funeral plans.	462,481
12	↔	ST MODWEN PROPERTIES Plc	Birmingham	127,500	100,100	241	30/11/2006	Specialises in partnership, regeneration, development and active property management.	439,617
13	↑2	HEADLAM GROUP Plc	Birmingham	509,899	43,558	2,062	31/12/2006	Group is engaged in the wholesale distribution of floor coverings and flooring accessories to independent retailers and contractors in the UK and continental Europe.	322,335
14	↑10	DECHRA PHARMACEUTICALS Plc	Stoke-On-Trent	253,803	12,619	747	30/06/2007	The group manufactures and sells pharmaceuticals and also markets and sells veterinary equipment and related goods and services, predominantly to the UK veterinary market, but also to overseas markets.	290,215
15	↓2	THE PARAGON GROUP OF COMPANIES Plc	Solihull	N/A	91,000	763	30/09/2007	Holding company, group are involved in the operation of its consumer finance and first mortgage businesses. Consumer finance includes personal finance, retail finance, car finance and home improvement and caravan loans.	288,044
16	↑5	HILL & SMITH HOLDINGS Plc	Solihull	306,042	17,316	2,507	31/12/2006	Manufacture of building, construction and industrial products include galvanising, barrier and multiplate, flooring, infrastructure, fencing, roofing, pipes and pipe support, lintels and residential doors, steel & pressings.	276,795
17	↑6	UMECO Plc	Leamington Spa	333,900	19,100	1,646	31/03/2007	Distribution, supply chain management and repair & overhaul services to the aerospace & defence industries, harnessing new methods for enhancing its customers' performance and profitability.	273,621
18	↓1	MELROSE Plc	Alcester	507,000	37,000	5,369	31/12/2006	An engineering group involved in design, development and manufacture components for a wide range of markets, including aerospace and IT.	216,871
19	↓3	AGA RANGEMASTER GROUP Plc	Solihull	528,900	46,000	6,012	31/12/2006	Engaged in manufacture, retail, installation & maintenance of kitchen equipment & domestic heating appliances for commercial and domestic markets.	201,138
20	↑2	A & J MUCKLOW GROUP Plc	Halesowen	24,965	33,369	17	30/06/2007	Industrial and commercial property investment and development.	196,474
21	↑6	HAMPSON INDUSTRIES Plc	Brierley Hill	146,297	6,295	1,701	31/03/2007	International group serving global aerospace, automotive and speciality engineering markets.	143,317
22	↑6	CASTINGS Plc	Walsall	86,230	13,057	990	31/03/2007	Foundry and machining group engaged in the worldwide supply of spherical graphite and ductile, malleable & grey iron castings, offering raw, coated or finished machined parts in high and low volumes.	131,114
23	↑2	MANGANESE BRONZE HOLDINGS Plc	Coventry	83,824	3,756	479	31/07/2006	UK based engineering group who are engaged in the manufacture and sale of London taxis, the introduction of a taxi mobile phone hailing system, and other engineering services.	130,801
24	↑10	GOODWIN Plc	Stoke-on-Trent	65,314	7,042	687	30/04/2007	The group is engaged in mechanical and refractory engineering.	91,080
25	↑5	ACCIDENT EXCHANGE GROUP Plc	Birmingham	116,909	13,605	514	30/04/2007	Group is a vehicle replacement specialist that provides support services to the retail motor industry and ABI(Association of British Insurers) approved car hire on credit to motorists involved in non-fault accidents.	56,911
26	↑7	S & U Plc	Solihull	42,795	8,930	366			