



NEWS RELEASE

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The Protomold Company Ranks in Top 50 Fastest-Growing Technology Companies in North America on 2004 Deloitte Technology Fast 500

MINNEAPOLIS — Nov. 1, 2004 — The Protomold Company today announced it ranks number 48 on the 2004 Deloitte Technology Fast 500, a ranking of the fastest-growing technology companies in North America. Rankings are based on percentage revenue growth over five years, from 1999 through 2003. The Protomold Company grew 5,358 percent during this period.

“This is the first year we’ve been included on the list, and the first year we were eligible for consideration, so it’s great to be honored for our strong performance,” said Bradley Cleveland, president and CEO, The Protomold Company. “We will continue to expand our capacity in anticipation of additional growth by enlarging our manufacturing space, adding equipment and increasing our workforce. Using rapid injection molding services, our customers are realizing tremendous value in reducing their time to market, thereby saving weeks of product development time.”

Protomold, the pioneer of rapid injection molding technology, uses proprietary software that combines 3-D computer-aided design with high-speed CNC machining equipment to quickly manufacture prototype and low-volume production parts, dramatically reducing the time and cost associated with traditional plastic injection molding. Cleveland credits the company’s innovative technology and dedicated employees with the company’s impressive growth over the past five years.

“Achieving sustained revenue growth of more than 5,000 percent over five years is a tremendous accomplishment during a difficult period for the technology sector,” said Mark A. Evans, national managing partner of Deloitte’s Technology, Media & Telecommunications Group. “The Protomold Company’s phenomenal growth puts it in select company.”

(more)

In addition to ranking on the Deloitte Technology Fast 500, The Protomold Company was previously listed on the Minnesota Technology Fast 50, a ranking of the 50 fastest-growing technology firms in Minnesota. The Protomold Company also was featured on Deloitte's Rising Stars list for 2003, a special designation for 25 companies that have been in business less than five years, but at least three years.

Overall, companies ranked on the 2004 Technology Fast 500 had growth rates ranging from 329 to 437,115 percent over five years, with an average growth rate of 4,109 percent.

About The Protomold Company

The Protomold Company has radically changed the economics and lead times associated with prototype and low-volume production of injection molded parts. Its defined market segment, rapid injection molding, is positioned between rapid prototyping and conventional high-volume injection molding. Protomold®, a privately held company headquartered in Maple Plain, Minn., operates 43,000-square feet of leased warehouse and office space and employs more than 75 full-time personnel. Further information can be found online at www.protomold.com.

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