

## Former local resident finds company on the rise

A company established by former Listowel resident James Hutton has made a national top-50 list recognizing growth among emerging companies.

Hutton Forest Products, a Kitchener-based premier supplier of wood products, placed 30th on the ninth annual Profit Hot 50 ranking. The Profit Hot 50 is considered the definitive ranking of Canada's emerging growth companies.

Published in the October issue of *Profit* magazine and online at [www.Profitguide.com](http://www.Profitguide.com), the list ranks young firms by two-year revenue growth. Hutton Forest Products hit its true stride this year, increasing profits from last year by 174.02 per cent. Over the past three years, the company's profits have increased by 386.13 per cent. This is no small feat for a company run solely by president James Hutton, his wife Sharon Hutton, product manager Carolynn Ogilvie, finance manager Krista Carroll, and head of marketing Amy Jackson.

James Hutton, is formerly from Listowel. After 15 years as vice-president for Goodfellow Inc., he decided to encapsulate his entrepreneurial spirit by starting his own distribution company. He likens his business to a "stock broker" of particle board, MDF, and other wood products, as his success is due to buying and selling while following market trends.

Hutton Forest Products Inc. has warehousing across Canada, yet distributes internationally. Mr. Hutton is very proud of his small-town roots. He has the support of his wife and four children, his parents Albert and Mona Hutton, and in-laws Andy and Doris Weishar. He was raised where a deal is sold on a handshake, and feels that "true to your word" ethics have been the cornerstone of his business.

"The Profit Hot 50 companies illustrate the ingenuity and vitality of Canada's entrepreneurial sector," says *Profit* editor Ian Portsmouth. "Anyone who wants to start or grow a business can draw much inspiration and many lessons from the Hot 50."