

Rising Stars Establish High Standards in Defense Electronics Market

Companies continue to advance technology and find financial success by adapting to changes in traditional military markets.

With the decline in defense spending, many companies have seen a significant slowdown in technology advances, as well as financial growth. This year's Rising Stars have shown the ability to adapt to the changes in the defense electronics market. Many have evolved their products or technologies into the civilian sector, or are still finding growth in the military arena. In some cases, companies are doing both.

The Rising Stars companies were nominated by *Defense Electronics* readers. The companies are discussed in alphabetical order and cover a wide range of technologies. The criteria

for selection as a Rising Star included excellence in technology advancement, economic and physical growth. Some Rising Stars companies were selected because of their exceptional technological advances, while others for their ability to adapt to the evolving defense electronics marketplace.

As you read through this year's Rising Stars you will note a thread between all of them — flexibility, adaptability and creativeness. These traits can be found in most successful companies. However, the Rising Stars have established high-water marks in their niche that separates them from others.

dB Control Develops New SATCOM Amplifiers

dB Control (Fremont, Calif.) is a manufacturer and designer of a variety of high-voltage power supplies, traveling wave tube (TWT) amplifiers and specialized high-voltage components for the communications and ECM industries. The company has recently made advancements in the area of switch mode high-voltage power supplies by combining light-weight and high-efficiency for use with medium-power traveling wave tubes in airborne environments. The company is also developing a new family of satellite communications amplifiers based on existing technology that applies their expertise in high-voltage design and environmentalized packaging for military and commercial markets.

dB Control has shown significant growth over the company's five-year life, both financially and physically. Sales have shown a dramatic increase from \$40,000 in 1990 to \$1.6 million in 1994. The company has also recently moved into a new, larger corporate facility. The modern 16,000 square foot building houses the

company's expanded high-voltage component and assembly processing, and environmental testing facilities, as well as provides room for anticipated future expansion. And, in the last six months, dB Control has experienced 25 percent growth in its workforce.



Pictured is dB Control's new 16,000 sq. ft. facility (Photo courtesy of dB Control)

dB Control attributes much of its success to the company's strategy of providing lower-cost alternatives which meet traditional mil-spec requirements. With the concept of "ruggedized" commercial design and quality, dB Control's products have won acceptance in both military systems and hostile-environment commercial applications. Some of their recent contract awards

include 200 Watt I-J Band TWT Amplifiers for airborne ECM simulator systems, 2 kW fast-pulsed TWTAs for ECM testing and 300 Watt hub-mount amplifiers for ground-based threat emitters.

For more information contact Larry Newbold at (510) 656-2325.