

## THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY 100

compile the Information Technology 100, BUSINESS WEEK began with financial data from Standard & Poor's Compustat, The McGraw-Hill Companies that has computerized information on 10,000 publicly traded corporations. We trimmed this universe to information technology companies and then added non-U.S. tech companies recom-mended by our network of foreign bureaus. To qualify, companies had to have revenues of at least \$300 with million one exception. Internet companies with \$5 million or more in sales were included because their impact is often more

significant than their revenues. We divided this collection of about 450 companies into eight industry categories, such as software and networking. Companies that did not increase revenues as fast as their industry were eliminated from contention. The remaining group of companies was ranked on four criteria that were given equal weight: shareholder return, return on equity, revenue growth, and total revenues. Companies with sharp declines in current financial results were excluded as were companies where other developments raised questions

about future performance. Finally,

the top 200 companies were reranked as a group.

**REVENUES** Latest available revenues for the 12-month period ended Feb. 28, March 31, or April 30. For companies that do not report quarterly, the most recent annual data were used. Includes all sales and other operating revenues.

**REVENUE GROWTH** Percentage change in revenues compared to the previous 12-month period.

**RETURN ON EQUITY** Net income available for shareholders divided by common equity.

TOTAL RETURN The total return to shareholders including reinvested

dividends for the 12 months ended May 14, 1999.

PROFITS Latest available profits for the 12-month period ending Feb. 28, March 31, or April 30. Net income from continuing operations before extraordinary items.

Note: Data compiled by Standard & Poor's Compustat from sources such as statistical services, registration statements, and company reports that SPC believes to be reliable but are not guaranteed by SPC or BUSINESS WEEK as to correctness or completeness. This material is not an offer to buy or sell any security. Additional data: BUSINESS WEEK.

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