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TOP

Holding the Line

The industry's leading construction firms soldiered on in the face of another challenging year

By Dan Schechner and Rebecca Robledo Since the Top 50 Builders list debuted nearly a decade ago, the industry has seen historic highs and lows.

A dearth of available financing and uncooperative weather made for a tough 2009 ... especially after a gangbusters stretch just a few years prior.

For instance, total revenue generated by *Pool & Spa News*' Top 50 Builders peaked at \$2.2 billion in 2006, while last year's \$882.6 million — a 60 percent drop — marked the group's lowest output since the list was started.

Similarly, the Top 50 accounted for an all-time high of 46,513 pools built in 2005, but dipped nearly 75 percent to 12,467 in 2009.

As a result, many pool professionals poured greater resources and found additional income in previously supplementary businesses like service, maintenance and repairs.

Renovation and remodeling activity among the Top 50, for example, tripled in significance over the past five years: In 2004, such work accounted for just 3.4 percent of the Top 50's combined revenue; last year, however, renovations were responsible for an impressive 10.3 percent of total revenue.

Continuing another trend from the previous year, commercial work also cast a larger shadow in 2009, when it accounted for 10.4 percent of the Top 50's combined revenue compared with 4.5 percent in 2004.

Through it all, the industry perseveres, with a number of builders across the country reporting modest growth in 2010. Could it be the start of a sustained turnaround?

Only time will tell.

T	OP BUILDERS	*	2009 RESID	DENTIAL CON	NSTRUC
	V	PREVIOUS	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL	NEW	
	COMPANY	YEARS RANKING	CONSTRUCTION	CONSTRUCTION REVENUE	RENO!
75000000000	Blue Haven Pools & Spas	1		\$93,003,606	\$6,72
2		2	\$65,000,000	\$58,000,000	\$7,000
3	Transcribers and Spas	6	\$35,000,000	\$33,000,000	\$2,000
4		3	\$31,602,241	\$30,067,167	\$1,535
5	. due of the other and Spas	5	\$27,700,000	\$20,700,000	\$7,000
6		4	\$23,721,000	\$19,414,000	\$4,307
7	per a sparme.	8	\$22,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$2,000
8		15	\$21,778,000	\$21,778,000	
9	The state of the s	-	\$21,269,575	\$3,190,000	\$18,079
10		11	\$20,900,000	\$20,300,000	\$600
11	Make a second and a	13	\$19,064,402	\$18,986,121	\$78
12		10	\$17,649,000	\$17,162,000	\$487.
13	Presidential Pools & Spas	9	\$15,800,000	\$14,850,000	\$950
14	Claffey Pools	14	\$15,491,000	\$13,214,000	\$2,277
15	Seasonal World	21	\$14,620,000	\$13,800,000	\$820,
16	Holland Pools and Spas Inc.	24	\$13,690,861	\$13,558,248	\$132
17	Swan Pools	7	\$13,451,448	\$10,497,789	\$2,953
18	Patio Pools & Spas	16	\$11,236,379	\$8,808,489	\$2,427
19	Riverbend Sandler Pools	12	\$10,955,000	\$10,005,000	\$950.
20	Maryland Pools Inc.	22	\$10,476,000	\$10,476,000	
21	Robertson Pools Inc.	23	\$10,366,253	\$8,643,354	\$1,722,
22	Pulliam Pools	18	\$9,166,748	\$8,384,147	\$782
23	Hobert Pools and Spas	17	\$8,938,413	\$8,566,759	\$371.
24	Mission Valley Pools & Spas Inc.	26	\$8,573,500	\$7,182,500	\$1,391,0
25	Van Kirk & Sons Inc.	32	\$8,406,998	\$6,237,913	\$2,169,0
26	Barrington Pools Inc.	19	\$8,368,000	\$7,518,000	\$850,0
27	Carlton Pools Inc.	25	\$7,200,000	\$6,000,000	\$1,200,0
28	Rosebrook Pools Inc.	33	\$6,585,045	\$5,545,943	\$1,039
29	Rondo Pools and Spas Inc.	39	\$6,500,000	\$6,000,000	\$500,0
30	Concord Pools & Spas	30	\$6,257,345	\$5,471,659	\$785,6
31	Gibbons Pools Inc.		\$5,916,000	The second second second	\$1,986,0
32	J. Tortorella Custom Gunite Pools	27	\$5,740,000		\$2,465,0
33	Armond Aquatech Pools	40	\$5,550,000	\$4,900,000	\$650,0
34	Aegean Pools Inc.	31	\$5,506,036	\$4,320,104	\$1,185,5
35	Essig Pools Inc.	34	\$4,930,757	Marie Control of the	\$1,185,5
36	Cameo Pools	42	\$4,841,000	\$3,227,000	CONCERNMENT
37	Geremia Pools Inc.	35	\$4,810,750	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF	\$1,614,0
T-38	Nejame & Sons		\$4,800,000	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	\$1,988,7 \$2,000,0
T-38	Ocean Quest Pools by Lew Akins	47	\$4,800,000	The second second	\$1,100,0
T-38	Backyard Amenities	44	\$4,800,000	\$4,800,000	31,100,0
11	Performance Pool & Spa	41	\$4,745,000		2,000,0
42	Tampa Bay Pools	38	\$4,530,051	\$4,079,405	\$450,6
43	Pacific Sun Aquatech		\$4,212,318	\$3,695,102	\$450,6
14	Pools of Fun	29	THE RESERVE OF THE RE	\$3,900,000	\$300,00
15	Lifetime Pools Inc.	45	\$4,137,000	\$3,250,000	TO STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA
16	Pool & Spa Depot		The second second second	\$3,650,000	\$887,0
7	Rising Sun Pools	1		\$2,900,000	\$219,00
8	Intercoastal Pool & Spa Builders Inc.	. 43	\$3,522,000	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	\$796,01
-49	A&G Concrete Pools Inc.	46		\$3,190,000	\$332,00
-49	Oasis Aquatech Pools Inc.	40			\$100.00
0	Richard's Total Backyard Solutions		CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	\$3,400,000	\$100,00
	ratharas rotat backyara solutions		\$3,475,000	\$3,250,000	\$225,00