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LATEST ISSUE OF *FORBES*: BEST SMALL COMPANIES
Plus: Why Falling Interest Rates are Bad News, Best Places to Retire Abroad,
and Spotting the Next Epidemic Before it Kills

New York, NY (October 14, 2009) — Small companies have taken a hit in the past year, however enough winners emerged to ease the sector's overall pain, according to Forbes' annual list of the 200 Best Small Companies in America (**200 Best Small Companies, p. 84**). Seventy-one companies dropped off from last year, and five of this year's top ten are newcomers to the ranking. For the full list, including extensive financial data and corporate governance ratings, visit www.forbes.com/200best. Feature stories in this package include:

Big Money in Muckraking (p. 80) – Orion Marine is protecting its profits in this recession by doing things that other companies cannot. Learn why this outfit, and subject of *Forbes*' cover story, is growing during a rough patch for engineering and construction firms.

Hold On! (p. 92) – Air Methods is a service that lifts critical patients to emergency rooms, and in the past 12 months, has netted \$26 million on \$506 million in revenue. Despite the danger of crashes, the company outperforms the industry in safety, and its CEO is focused on productivity.

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

Warning Sign (p. 30) – Treasury interest rates are falling, which is scary news for anyone counting on an economic recovery.

Swine Flu and Monkeypox (p. 24) – Meet virologist Nathan Wolfe, who wants to spot the next killer microbe while there is still time to do something about it. Good surveillance is the only way to find the new and unknown diseases, so what is being done to improve it?

The Road to Rio (p. 102) – Now that Rio has won the 2016 Summer Olympics, it has pledged \$11 billion to get the city ready for the games. Forbes makes the case for Olympics-motivated buying.

An American in Paris (p. 58) – The top ten foreign destinations to retire, selected for safety, convenience, health care and cost.

For these stories and more, visit www.forbes.com after 6pm ET on Wednesday, October 14.
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