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The 15th Annual GrowFL Florida Companies to Watch Honors 50 High-Growth Businesses Fueling Florida's Economy

GAINESVILLE, FL – October 15, 2025 – Xgenex Labs LLC is grateful in announcing that it has been selected as one of the top 50 exceptional companies as an Honoree for the 15th Annual GrowFL Florida Companies to Watch Awards. This prestigious statewide program recognizes dynamic second-stage businesses—those with 6 to 150 employees and between and \$750,000 and \$100 million in annual revenue—that demonstrate high performance, innovative strategies, and a significant impact on Florida's economy.

The 50 Honorees were chosen after a rigorous judging process from a competitive pool of 500 nominations and 92 finalists. The combined economic performance of these companies is impressive: from 2021 to 2024, they generated a collective revenue increase from \$378 million to \$741 million, representing 96% growth, and grew employment from 1,259 to 2,238, a 78% increase. This equates to an average annual growth rate of approximately 26% in both revenue and employment. They also project growth for this year, expanding to more than 2,500 jobs and revenue of close to \$900 million.

Jim Byron, Xgenex CEO stated, "We are humbled and grateful that Xgenex is growing and is now becoming recognized for inventing technology that prevents salmonella and other deadly bacteria in food. In addition to creating economic opportunity for our local communities, it is especially gratifying that our work is protecting food companies and consumers from bacteria related illnesses and death."

Jeff Holder, Chairman of the GrowFL Florida Companies to Watch Committee, added, "The selection process this year was incredibly challenging, which speaks volumes about the quality and resilience of Florida's second-stage businesses. These Honorees represent a diverse array of industries, each demonstrating the innovative strategies and exceptional leadership necessary to thrive in a dynamic global marketplace. We are honored to shine a spotlight on these companies that are truly worth watching."

The 15th Annual GrowFL Florida Companies to Watch Honorees are: Abyde, Advanced Hurricane Technology, Anuvision Technologies, Apellix, Arise Autism Center, AVI, Bambiz, BDA Systems Co, Bluewater Telecommunications, Inc., CLG Transportation, Climate First Bank, Coldest, Competitive Edge Partners & Consulting, LLC, DCE Productions, Dredging & Marine Consultants, LLC, EOLA Power, Face It Botox Bar, Florida PPE Services, Fox Equipment LLC, H&H Products, Ingenious Culinary Concepts, Insight Assurance, International College Counselors, Intrepid Networks, ITD Food Safety, JCQ Services, Jeff's Bagel Run, Jimerson Birr, Just for Kids Network, KCarlton International, LABTECH Environments by SDVOSB, LT Plumbing, MEDIGI, One Firefly, Providence Healthcare Services, PVS Studios, Remnant Construction, Rossen Law Firm, Sanibel Captiva Community Bank, Sentry Technology Solutions, Skyline Analytics, Solutions Group Accounting Firm, Source 1 Solutions, Inc., Touching Hearts at Home - Florida, Urban SDK, Veterans Metal, Vets2PM, LLC, Workscapes, Xgenex, and Zulay Kitchen.



Robert Newland, Chairman of GrowFL, praised the new class of honorees, stating, "These 50 outstanding companies are the very essence of Florida's economic engine. Their commitment to innovation and growth is not only accelerating their own success but also setting a new standard for entrepreneurial excellence across the Sunshine State. Their achievements inspire us all, and GrowFL is proud to be their partner in growth."

Collectively, these companies are driving significant economic growth, representing 17 different counties across the state. Regionally, the Honorees include 16 from Central Florida, 10 from the Tampa Bay region, 9 from the Jacksonville area, 9 from South Florida, 5 from Southwest Florida, and 1 from the Gainesville area.

Attend the Awards Gala in February 2026

The 50 Honorees will be officially celebrated at the 15th Annual GrowFL Florida Companies to Watch Awards Gala taking place on Thursday, February 26, 2026, at Hard Rock Live, Universal CityWalk in Orlando.

Tickets for this signature event are on sale now at growfl-com/about-growfl-flctw/registration/.

Get involved in GrowFL

GrowFL is Florida's only organization exclusively dedicated to supporting the growth of second-stage companies. CEOs, Presidents, and business owners of qualifying second-stage companies can gain access to exclusive peer-to-peer forums, expert-led sessions, and a powerful network by becoming a GrowFL CEO Member. To learn more, visit growfl.com/services/ceo-member/.

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About GrowFL: GrowFL is Florida's premier organization dedicated to accelerating the success of second-stage companies. We equip these high-growth businesses (with at least 6 employees and \$750,000 in revenue) with the tools and connections they need to overcome unique challenges and achieve their full potential. Through our diverse programs and proven methods, GrowFL empowers Florida's second-stage companies to drive economic prosperity throughout the state.

Website: https://www.growfl.com

About Xgenex Labs, LLC: Xgenex is a technology company solving the problem of bacteria in food. Working with food manufacturers, Xgenex technology assures food safety and prevents human illnesses, using Artificial Intelligence and automation to replace outdated and unreliable production methods. As Xgenex technology replaces unreliable food production methods developed in the 1900's, US food supply is becoming safer and consumers health protected.

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