

Special Report

The Midas List

Erika Brown and Claire Cain Miller 01.25.07, 6:00 PM ET

Forbes' annual Midas List ranks the top 100 dealmakers in technology and life sciences based on the exit valuations of the companies they have taken public or sold in the past five years. Last year, 460 venture-backed firms were sold or taken public for a total of \$35 billion, the best year for cash-outs since 2000.

A word on our methodology: The Forbes Midas List seeks to identify individuals who deploy venture capital to create wealth for their investors and build valuable, long-lasting companies. Only tech and life sciences companies that have gone public or been acquired within the past five years are considered. Our ranking formula ignores the original amount invested in a deal (as it is often undisclosed), instead weighing most heavily the market capitalization of a venture-backed company on the close of the first day of trading or the final closing price of an acquisition. A lesser weight is given to the change in value of each investment since going public or being sold. Ranking also depends on a candidate's length of involvement in and depth of influence on a company.

Our results are based on extensive reporting and surveys sent to thousands of professionals, including angel investors, bankers, lawyers and venture capitalists. Please note that the bios for this year's Midas List may include references to deals that are not counted in the Midas ranking.

Additional reporting by David Whelan.

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VC* at Institutional Venture Partners

Joined IVP in early 2006, from 3i, a global venture firm with roots in London. Late-stage investor in Internet phone company Vonage and Web conference enabler Placeware (Microsoft).

Claim to Fame: **Vonage**



Courtesy Institutional Venture Partners