

# PACESETTERS

## ATLANTA'S 50 FASTEST-GROWING PRIVATE COMPANIES



SPECIAL

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- 1 **SECURAMERICA LLC** – good customer service locked up a prosperous year
- 2 **ALLIANT PHARMACEUTICALS INC.** – new products were a prescription for success
- 3 **MORGAN & BARTOS CONSTRUCTION** – having great customers provided a solid foundation for growth
- 4 **CORK-HOWARD CONSTRUCTION SERVICES LLC** – expanded marketing helped build new business
- 5 **SOLID SOURCE REALTY INC.** – a Higher Power continues to guide company's growth



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JOANN VITELLI

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**The gospel truth:** Michele Shoda says no human being is capable of the success she's had without God.

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### SOLID SOURCE REALTY INC.

When Michele Shoda gave birth to her son seven years ago, she decided it was time to step back from her career in corporate America as a pharmaceutical sales represen-

tative and spend more time with her family.

That's when she relied on her 14-year experience as a real estate investor — along with her faith in God — to start Solid Source Realty.

Michele Shoda opened up shop in 2003, she did so with one office and 30 real estate agents.



She now employs more than 1,600 agents in 10 locations.

Revenue from 2004 to 2006 increased a dramatic 1,327 percent for Solid Source. In addition, Solid Source was the No. 1 selling office in the First Multiple Listing Service in 2006, meaning the company represented more buyers than any other office in the state of Georgia last year.

The company is the No. 1 inde-

pendent real estate company in the state, Shoda said.

Though she created the company, Shoda is quick to give credit to God, the "source" behind Solid Source.

"We're beside ourselves and we don't know what to say, except that it is totally God's blessing and favor. There's no other way," Shoda said. "There's not a human being that is capable of that much success. Certainly we have great brokers and they all strongly participate in all of the success but it's through God's blessing that our company is so strong."

This year, Solid Source is making headlines for being the first paperless real estate company in the country and will be featured on CNN Headline News in May.

Through the company's Transaction Management System, Solid Source agents are able to view online contract paperwork as far back as three years, including electronic faxes that are uploaded into the system.

— Janet Jones Kendall