

TULSA WORLD

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FYI: BUSINESS

Git-n-Go purchase puts Kum & Go on Forbes list

Convenience store chain Kum & Go has cracked the Forbes magazine list of America's largest privately held companies, thanks to the 2004 purchase of Tulsa-based Git-n-Go, Inc.

Meanwhile, Tulsa-based energy giant SemGroup made the top 10, coming in at No. 9 based on its \$12.57 billion in revenue last year.

Tulsa-based QuikTrip Corp., a convenience store rival of Kum & Go, ranked No. 32 on the list. It had 2004 revenue of \$5.86 billion, according to Forbes.

Two other Oklahoma companies make the list: Love's Travel Stops, No. 125, with \$2.21 billion in sales; and Hobby Lobby Stores, No. 230, with \$1.35 billion in revenue.

Based in West Des Moines, Iowa, Kum & Go ranks No. 277 in its first appearance on the list.

The company, which is owned by Krause Gentle Corp., bought Git-n-Go for \$13 million at a June 2004 bankruptcy auction. It operates 68 stores in the Tulsa area and Missouri acquired in the sale.

Founded in 1959, Kum & Go has grown to become the nation's 20th largest convenient store chain, with 430 stores in 13 states. It reported 2004 sales of \$1.14 billion.

The acquisition increased the size of Kum & Go by 22 percent. Its corporate headquarters has doubled in size to accommodate the purchase and future growth, Kum & Go said in a news release, adding that "the company is well on its way to meeting its goal to double in size by the end of 2008."

"We're pleased to be a part of such a prestigious list," Kum & Go CEO Kyle Krause stated in the news release.

The rankings appear in the November issue of Forbes.