

# Three area businesses make top 100 list

By Chris Putnam

This month, three companies from the region made it onto SaskBusiness Magazine's list of Saskatchewan's top 100 businesses for 2008. Based on gross sales, the ranking recognizes those businesses that set an example and make the most significant contributions to Saskatchewan's economy.

At number 93 on the list is Tisdale's Northern Steel Industries, a manufacturer of liquid storage tanks that employs 100 individuals in the province. Northern Steel is up three places from its number 96 ranking last year.

"We're pretty happy to be recognized for our efforts," said Doug Snider, Northern Steel's production manager. "That's kind of through the continued efforts of everybody in the company, from management right down to everybody that's working out in the shop. Everybody puts out their best efforts

and produces a good product, and puts Tisdale on the map."

Hodgins Auctioneers in Melfort came in at number 62. General Manager Grant Hodgins said, "We are very, very happy. And you know, we're not only happy, but we're also thankful and grateful to our customers, clients, and our own staff for putting us in this category."

Hodgins handles auctions across North America, and has gross annual sales in excess of \$53 million.

Walker Seeds Ltd. is highest of the local businesses on the list at number 34. Walker, which has its primary facilities at Runciman and Brooksby, is one of Canada's largest specialty crop processors and exporters, and employs 78 people in the province. Representatives from the company were unavailable for comment.

Number one on the list is once again the Saskatoon-based Federated Co-operatives, with \$5,816,414,000

in sales and more than 1,400 employees.