

# Local female biz owners predict 2015 will be a growth year

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Central Florida's 25 top women-owned businesses saw mixed results last year. Half grew their revenue and workforce, with the rest seeing financial and labor declines or the status quo. However, many of those firms already are seeing better results this year, with high expectations for 2015.

Take Orlando-based engineering firm Design Interactive Inc. It had a 30 percent increase in revenue in 2013, pulling in \$6.7 million. It also is adding 20 high-wage jobs and investing \$800,000 into its larger new facility in Orlando.

"We are growing our commercial business, starting up a D.C. office, expanding our federal market reach beyond the defense sector and extending our technical competencies to new technologies and services through in-house training and acquisition of new personnel with expanded abilities," said Design Interactive President and CEO Kay Stanney.

**And Window Interiors, an Altamonte Springs-based subcontractor that specializes in window installation, solar shading systems and drapery and has 20 employees, saw a 12 percent increase in revenue, earning \$5.4 million. "There has been a general uptick in commercial construction," said owner Sandra Saft, who recently hired a project manager in Tampa. "We see tremendous opportunity in all our key sectors, including commercial window treatment solutions for multifamily, hospitality, corporate spaces and health care."**

**Saft added that her firm's hospitality division has secured new contracts with a number of the top brand restaurants in the U.S. "Our most exciting development is the turnaround of multifamily."**

In addition, Orange Legal grew in 2013, hitting \$7.5 million in revenue. "We added a client relations team to help create brand awareness and brand loyalty," said Christa Walton, CEO. "We wanted to put the focus on new and existing clients. We opened new offices throughout Florida, including a new corporate headquarters in Orlando. And we hired new management for departments such as process service and digital reporting."

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Meanwhile, Lawton Printers Inc. saw its revenue decline 4.4 percent last year, but CEO Kimberly Lawton Koon said revenue is up 45 percent this year from the same period in 2013. "This is an exciting time for Lawton Printers. We have added new equipment and services to further benefit our clients. And we have made key personnel additions and employee promotions that have made this growth manageable."



Sandra Saft, founder and owner,  
Window Interiors