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Revenue up 36 percent for Melbourne's Symetrics

BY WAYNET. PRICE
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Melbourne-based defense contractor Symetrics Industries LLC reported Wednesday that 2007 revenues topped \$43 million, a company record, and a 36 percent increase over 2006.

The company also secured orders worth more than \$55 million, another record for the

46-year-old company.

Symetrics employs about 140 people. It is considering increasing its work force by at least 10 people in the months ahead to help boost production.

Symetrics, a private company, develops countermeasure systems that recognize incoming rocket threats, like shoulder-fired Stinger missiles, and then

directs them safely away. Another product is "improved data modems" or IDMs, small devices that wirelessly transmit digital data over traditional UHF and VHF radios.

While revenues shot up last year, Symetrics also received a 2007 Best Business Award from the Melbourne-Palm Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

"It was certainly a rewarding

and exciting year for our company," Symetrics President and Chief Executive Officer Mitch Garner said in a statement announcing the earnings. "We have been told numerous times by our government customers that we are a highly responsive and dedicated supplier, who continually delivers early with an outstanding quality product."

Chris Watt, vice president of

development at Symetrics, said the company is looking at adding employees in manufacturing, production and testing.

The latter area "is kind of where our bottleneck is," Watt said, adding that company executives currently are discussing specific employment growth plans. ■

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