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Forbes 50 list features only 2 Asian pharma firms

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Singapore: India's Sun Pharmaceuticals and Australia's CSL are the only two drugmakers that have been featured in the Forbes' Asia's Fab 50 2012. The two publicly listed pharma companies in Asia Pacific (APAC) region managed to get featured in the prestigious list despite the slow economy.

Forbes identified the 50 top performing companies in the region after analyzing the financial metrics such as sales, profits, and market value. The companies are chosen from a pool of 1,295 firms that have a revenue of at least $3 billion.

CSL, which sells vaccines including influenza shot Fluvax and HPV vaccine Gardasil, reported $4.8 billion in sales last year. It has a market capitalization of $21.6 billion and has recorded an annual growth rate of 7.7 percent over the past five years.

Sun Pharmaceuticals, which has recorded a 30.9 percent average annual sales growth over the last five years, saw an 38.1 percent and an 18 percent increase in operating income and earnings per share respectively. The total sales for the recent fiscal year of the firm touched $1.6 billion.