

Executive bookmark

What does it take to be big? To learn more about the top five companies, check out these books and websites.

August 2 2006: 2:13 PM EDT

(Fortune Magazine) -- 1. Exxon Mobil

Book: *The End of Oil: On the Edge of a Perilous World*, by Paul Roberts. Are Exxon's days numbered?

Web: exxonmobil.com; topix.net/forum/com/xom

2. Wal-Mart

Book: *The Wal-Mart Effect: How the World's Most Powerful Company Really Works--and How It's Transforming the American Economy*, by Charles Fishman. It's not just a business anymore.

Web: walmartfacts.com; walmartwatch.com

3. Royal Dutch Shell

Book: *A Century in Oil: The Shell Transport and Trading Company 1897--1997*, by Stephen Howarth. An authorized history of the Anglo-Dutch giant.

Web: shell.com; royaldutchshellplc.com

4. BP

Book: *Oil Titans*, by Valerie Marcel. With contributions by former BP advisor John V. Mitchell.

Web: bp.com

5. General Motors

Book: *Billy, Alfred, and General Motors: The Story of Two Unique Men, a Legendary Company, and a Remarkable Time in American History*, by William Pelfrey. A biography of the company's two giants.

Web: gm.com; fastlane.gmblogs.com ■

From the July 24, 2006 issue