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JAMIE TRAITEUR

Controller, Ascent Corp.
Assistant business manager,
Traiteurville Stables and Farms

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Being Jamie Traiteur can't be easy.

At the age of 24, she's got dual careers. She's controller for Ascent Corp., one of the fastest-growing technology companies in the St. Louis region. She's also a horse breeder and assistant business manager at Traiteurville Stables and Farms, a 300-acre ranch outside Waterloo.

"My main thing was to go out and have a career and be successful myself. The other thing is the horses," Traiteur said.

Traiteur earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from Saint Louis University in three years and immediately went to work for Ascent, a fledgling technology company founded by Phil Horstmann in 1998 as Pillar Inc.

After four months running the company's administrative operations, Traiteur took on additional responsibilities as assistant project manager. Her first assignment in that role was for Ascent's largest client, Savvis Communications Corp. Six months later, she assumed the company's bookkeeping duties.

As controller, Traiteur heads a three-person department that handles all payroll, tax and general administrative functions for Ascent, which is expected to post more than \$5 million in revenue this year. Traiteur's department plays an instrumental role in sustaining Ascent's growth, Horstmann said. After a three-year growth rate of 133 percent, with revenue of more than \$4.6 million in 2002, Ascent ranked 14th on the St. Louis Business Journal's 2003 list of Fastest-Growing Private Companies.

"From the day she arrived, Jamie has



Jamie Traiteur

been instrumental in helping manage our rapid growth," Horstmann said. "She has an incredible work ethic and a down-to-earth attitude."

Traiteur's department helps orchestrate one of the firm's core competencies — the staffing, monitoring

and management of high-tech data hosting centers and technology campuses. Ascent oversees 13 such facilities in eight cities across the United States for clients such as Savvis and Reuters. Traiteur's staff develops annual operating budgets for each facility and validates and processes \$8 million in contracted services.

But it's the horses — she calls them "my babies" — that are her passion.

"I used to ride cutting horses, but when I got out and started working, I didn't have time to show any more," Traiteur said. "So, I turned my horse into a brood mare."

Traiteur owns six horses, including three American Quarter Horse Association Cutting Horse brood mares. She trains the foals and sells them as yearlings for between \$5,000 and \$20,000 each.

"I'm always trying to breed the best of the best," she said. "What I'm hoping is to have babies out there that I see in magazines. Every breeder's goal is to see their babies doing great."

Traiteur, who is in the process of reorganizing Ascent's accounting system, intends to pursue a master's degree in accounting from SLU next spring.

In addition to her dual careers, Traiteur is active in the American Quarter Horse Association and the National Cutting Horse Association. She also is a founding member of a new civic group that is working to create Waterloo's Heritage Museum.