Dear vtTA Members & Supporters,

As 2015 comes to a close, we want to take this time to thank our members and our many friends and supporters. We are pleased and honored to represent the individuals, businesses and organizations that make-up Vermont's vibrant and growing technology sector.

We welcomed many new members this year, including more than 20 businesses, and we thank the ongoing participation of our current members. Not a member? Please consider joining the vtTA in 2016. We particularly want to thank those businesses and individuals who supported the vtTA by sponsoring our events and advertising. We would not be able to continue to do what we do without our members and sponsors.

It's been an exciting and productive year for the vtTA, including working with the Vermont Legislature and others on tech-friendly policies and programs. Our work last legislative session led to repeal of the cloud computing tax, and to new initiatives such as funding for economic development marketing, a first-time homebuyer's credit, a job recruitment incentive study, and business financing enhancements.

We were awarded a USDA Rural Business Development Grant to support the creation of a recruitment and marketing plan to identify and promote tech job openings and careers in Vermont. Look for your chance to participate in a tech job recruitment survey next month. We also initiated an economic study, in conjunction with the Vermont Department of Labor, to quantify the impact of Vermont's tech business sector and employment. We will announce the results early next year.

We continued to present and participate in events and...
programs that help the tech community connect, network and collaborate, including the annual Tech Jam and Tech Jam awards, tech CEO dinners, annual dinner cruise and social gatherings, and our Lunch & Learn events. And we collaborated with other organizations and shared news and information about Vermont's tech ecosystem.

Thank you for your interest in and support of the vtTA and we look forward to a successful 2016.

Jeff Couture
Executive Director, Vermont Technology Alliance

Upcoming Events

Vermont Climate Economy Summit
[February 22, 2016 - Vermont Technical College, Randolph Center]

The Vermont Council on Rural Development will host the second Summit on Vermont's Climate Economy at Vermont Technical College in Randolph on February 22, 2016. The focus will be to identify key steps that will reduce carbon emissions while stimulating economic development opportunities in Vermont. Registration will open after January 1

For more, click here.

Vermont Technology News

Vermont Technology Alliance Announces New Board Leadership and Members
The Vermont Technology Alliance, the business association supporting Vermont's tech business sector, announced new leadership for its board of directors and new board members.

For more, click here.

NextCapital to open Vermont Office
[December 18, 2015 - Source: press release/vermontbiz.com]

NextCapital, a Chicago-based enterprise digital advice firm, is planning to expand in Vermont by establishing an office in Burlington, which will be led by Vermont native Rob Foregger, co-founder of the firm. In addition, the company has completed its Series B Preferred Stock financing and
raised $16 million. Vermont is home to a robust technology community and NextCapital's expanded presence signals the firm's intent to attract software engineers in the region.

For more, click [here](#).

**Precyse Partners with Vermont HITEC**

[December 17, 2015 - Source: press release/vtdigger.org]

Precyse, a leader in health information management technology, services and education, and Vermont HITEC, a not-for-profit education center, announced that they are now recruiting candidates to train as at-home medical coders for Precyse. This is the second class for Precyse, with applications due Jan. 21, 2016.

For more, click [here](#).

**GlobalFoundries Rumored to Be for Sale**

[December 16, 2015 - Source: vpr.net]

An article published in Bloomberg Business has sparked talk that GlobalFoundries, which purchased the former IBM plan in Essex this year, might be sold. One industry analyst believes the rumors are credible, while another doubts a sale is on the horizon.

For more, click [here](#).

**South Burlington School Wins Tech Grant to Teach Code**

[December 14, 2015 - Source: wcax.com]

Approximately 230 students at Chamberlin Elementary School in South Burlington joined what's been called the largest education event in history -- the Hour of Code. Coding initiatives took place in December in schools around the world and in Vermont. Chamberlin officials say they are the sole Vermont school to receive a $10,000 grant from [Code.org](#) for their computer programming curriculum.

For more, click [here](#).

**Delays Plague State IT Upgrades**

[December 14, 2015 - Source: vpr.net]

Vermont's state government is contemplating at least $1 billion of information technology projects in
the coming years. The wish list is long, and some projects - even important ones - are likely to stay on it for a long time.

For more, click here.

**As Vermont Medical Records Go Digital, Providers Build Shared Repository**
[December 14, 2015 - Source: vpr.net]

Vermont Information Technology Leaders, or VITL, is at the center of the state's efforts to build a central, shared repository of medical records that can be retrieved by any provider in Vermont who needs to see them to deliver care.

For more, click here.

**Why GMP is Selling Tesla Batteries**
[December 10, 2015 - Source: fortune.com]

Vermont utility Green Mountain Power recently became the first U.S. utility to sell batteries from electric car company Tesla to its customers. With the batteries, homeowners can tap into back-up power if the grid goes down or pair the batteries with solar panels so they can use solar energy at night. While a handful of utilities plan to buy energy from large battery banks manufactured by Tesla, the Vermont utility is unique in its decision to sell small home batteries to regular homeowners.

For more, click here.

**Dynapower's Success Driven by Tesla Agreement**
[December 10, 2015 - Source: press release/vermontbiz.com]

Dynapower Company, the maker of energy storage inverters based in South Burlington, is closing out 2015 with a 75-megawatt (MW) backlog of orders for its energy storage inverter family, having completed 250MW of total installed systems. The backlog is due in part to the company's agreement with Tesla to supply 250 kW Tesla inverters.

For more, click here.
Residents Weigh in on Burlington Telecom Ownership
[December 10, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]

Public input for selling the Burlington Telecom fiber-optic network has fallen largely into two camps: those who want to retain city or public ownership and those who want it sold to the highest bidder.

For more, click here.

Logic Supply Launches Industrial Computer Selection Tool
[December 10, 2015 - Source: press release]

In an effort to simplify the industrial computer buying process, Logic Supply has unveiled the latest addition to their web experience, an advanced industrial computer system finder tool that allows users to select their desired features and specifications from an easy to navigate drop down menu.

For more, click here.

Featured Member

Green Mountain Software Corporation

Founded in 1993, Green Mountain Software develops leading-edge mobile data collection solutions. With a strong R&D emphasis, the company collaborates with its clients to deliver custom-built applications that solve tough engineering problems - particularly in the energy and medical fields. On the energy side, the company has experience in power quality management and the smart grid, electric transportation, one-second data collection and analysis, remote monitoring systems, and utility workforce management.

The company is also proficient in developing medical intake forms and mobile electronic health record applications and integrating with enterprise-level EHR systems.

In addition to considerable expertise in mobile software engineering, the Green Mountain Software team has a strong knowledge base in
developing big data applications for remote monitoring, analysis and reporting.

To learn more, visit their website at:
www.greenmountainsoftware.com

Would you like to see your company highlighted? Know of a company the vtTA should be talking about? Send us an email at newsletter@vtta.org

New Member Update

The Vermont Technology Alliance welcomes Global Maritime Transportation Services, Paul Frank + Collins, and RG Translator as new members.

We welcome individuals and businesses as vtTA members. Members benefit from vtTA's advocacy, programs and services, including discounts on our sponsored events, job postings in our Career Center, and networking and business opportunities. Sign up to be a new member here.

Useful Information & Links

**SCORE Small Business Roundtable Series: Am I Attractive - Big Presence for Small Businesses**

Champlain Valley SCORE continues its small business roundtable series on the first Tuesday of each month with "Am I Attractive - Big Presence for Small Businesses," Tuesday, January 5.

Small businesses can get customers through their doors with a solid marketing strategy and plan, and a unique and exciting brand. A panel of experts from SCORE and the marketing community will discuss the ins and outs of marketing and branding.

To register, click here.

For more information and to post questions ahead of time, visit the SCORE website here.

**ExporTech 2016**

ExporTech provides companies with a systematic process for entering or expanding in global markets and connects them with the best international business experts in the region.
The program assists participants in developing a peer-reviewed export growth plan in approximately 12 weeks, quickly moving them from planning to closing export sales.

Space is limited to six to eight companies, and the program includes three day-long sessions and two individual coaching sessions. The sessions are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 21, March 3 and April 14 at The Essex Resort and Spa in Essex Junction.
For more, click here.

vtTA's Career Center

Visit the Career Center tab on the Vermont Technology Alliance website. Member companies can post open positions, while job seekers can search positions and sign up for new posting notifications.

Current positions listed include:

- Web Front-end Developer - Technical Connection, Inc.
- Electrical Engineer - Technical Connection, Inc.
- Director of Information Technology - The Howard Center
- Database Administrator/Analyst - Vermont Information Technology Leaders
- CRC Pro Technology - Workforce Education Instructor - CCV

For more, click here.

Resources

Are you looking for business services, meet-up groups, government information or funding sources? Find this and more at vtTA's resources page posted on the Vermont Technology Alliance website. And be sure to let us know if there's something we should add.

Find the resources page here.