Having trouble viewing this email?Click here

Message from the Board

Dear vtTA Members & Supporters,

Last month vtTA members were asked to provide input to Vermont U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy on net neutrality and the proposed rule changes from the FCC. The senator has introduced legislation to ban the creation of internet "fast lanes" for certain companies. The senator held a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on open Internet rules July 1 at the Davis Center at UVM to get Vermonter's perspective. He took testimony from a panel of four Vermont witnesses, including Lisa Groeneveld, co-owner and chief operating officer of vtTA member company Logic Supply. The speakers warned against creating a two-tiered system of internet traffic.

The summer signature event for the Vermont tech community is less than a month away. Be sure to sign up now for the vtTA's annual Sunset Dinner Cruise on August 21.We'll board the Spirit of Ethan Allen for an informal, fun evening featuring an opportunity to enjoy refreshments and dinner amid the spectacular setting of Lake Champlain. And it's a great way to support the vtTA as we celebrate our 10th anniversary. Get your tickets now for this popular social event.

Jeff Couture
Executive Director, Vermont Technology Alliance

Useful Links

PAY MEMBERSHIP

UPDATE MY INFO

NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

TAPPING TECH

vtTA facebook.

vtTA Linked in

Upcoming Events

Burlington Ruby Conference
[August 2-3, 2014 - Main Street Landing, Burlington]

The Burlington Ruby Conference is the event of the summer for Ruby enthusiasts to network, learn and relax in the beautiful state of Vermont. Burlington Ruby is a single-track conference with a focus on networking and community. The size of the conference is limited to 150. For more information, click

For more information and to register, click **here**

VT EPSCoR Annual State meeting
[August 5, 2014 - Hilton Hotel, Burlington]

Become a Sponsor

We have sponsorship opportunities in our newsletter, for our Lunch & Learn events, on our website, and much more.

Click the link below to contact us.

SPONSOR US

The VT EPSCoR Annual State Meeting is Tuesday, Aug 5 at the Hilton Hotel in Burlington. The draft agenda for this event is now available and registration is now open. The meeting will feature updates on the Lake Champlain Basin: New Understanding through Complex Systems (RACC) project.

To download the draft agenda, click **here**

August Code and Coffee
[August 12, 2014 - The Skinny Pancake, Burlington]

Girl Develop It is sponsoring a "Code & Coffee" meeting on Tuesday, August 12, 7 p.m. at the Skinny Pancake restaurant in Burlington. Code & Coffee is a monthly opportunity to practice programming skills, meet new friends, and get help if you need it.

For more information, click **here**

VtTA's Annual Cruise
[Aug, 21 2014 - Spirit of Ethan Allen, Burlington]

Join the vtTA for its annual sunset dinner cruise on Thursday, August 21 on the Spirit of Ethan Allen. The cruise is an informal, fun event and a great time for socializing, networking and celebrating the vtTA and tech in VT.

Details and registration are available **here**

VITL Summit
[Sept. 8,9 - Sheraton Burlington]

Vermont Information Technology Leaders (VITL) will host its 2014 "Informing Health Care Decisions" Summit on September 8 and 9 at the Sheraton Hotel & Conference Center in Burlington. The summit is open to health care providers, industry professionals, and those interested in health information technology.

For more information, click **here**

Envisioning the Future of Vermont's Digital Economy
[September 23 - State House, Montpelier]

"Vermont Connected: Envisioning the Future of Vermont's Digital Economy," will feature four tracks: Educating for a Digital World, Building Effective Organizations, Creating Resilient Communities, and Steering Vermont's Digital Future.

For more information, click **here**

Champlain Mini Maker Faire
[Oct. 4 and 5, 2014- Shelburne Farms Coach Barn]

The Champlain Mini Maker Faire has issued a call for makers for this annual event to be held on Oct. 4 and 5. The organizers welcome creative, innovative projects to be part of this year's event.

Find more information on the Faire **here**
Register for the Faire **here**

Vermont Tech In the News

Have News?

Girl Zone App Puts Emphasis on Health and Confidence

[July 24, 2014 - Source: burlingtonfreepress.com]

Local company Girl Zone hopes to capture the attention of teen girls and young women with a new mobile phone app designed to build confidence and a healthy body image. The journey of vtTA member MJ Reale, president and founder of the Girl Zone Challenge app, helps illustrate how to navigate new opportunities for business in the digital realm.

For more information, click **here**

We're interested in keeping members up to date with all technology related news in Vermont. Have a story or event you would like to share? Have a link you believe would be helpful to members? Click the button below to submit your news or event item.

SUBMIT NEWS

Burlington Makes Case for Selling Burlington Telecom

[July 22, 2014 - Source: vtdigger.org]

Burlington officials made their case to the state for selling Burlington Telecom in the course of two transactions that would get the city out of the telecom business and settle a pending $33 million lawsuit for about $10.5 million.

For more information, click **here**

At UVM, a Big Investment to Grow STEM

[July 15, 2014 - Source: burlingtonfreepress.com]

The University of Vermont is planning a $104 million capital investment to improve its facilities and capabilities for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The investment includes a new science building and a renovated Votey Hall.

For more information, click **here**

Bennington Launches Largest WiFi Zone in State

[July 14, 2014 - Source: vermontbiz.com]

Bennington officially launched its public downtown Wi-Fi zone, which is free for residents and visitors. The zone was funded, developed, and implemented by the Vermont Digital Economy Project and the Vermont Telecommunications Authority.

For more information, click **here**

FreshTracks Capital Raises Its Third Fund, $11.5 Million
[July 10, 2014 - Source: vermontbiz.com]

FreshTracks Capital announced the closing of FreshTracks III, its third venture capital fund raised since the vtTA-member firm was founded in 2000. This most recent Fund raised $11.5 million from 48 Limited Partners, and intends to invest in 10-15 companies over its 10 year life.

For more information, click **here**

Grant to Provide UVM Computer Science Scholarships
[July 9, 2014 - Source: vermontbiz.com]

The University of Vermont was awarded a competitive $650,000, 5-year grant from the National Science Foundation, as part of its S-STEM program (Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). The project will provide scholarships, averaging more than $8,000 per year to 16 UVM CS majors.

For more information, click **here**

Eastman Benz Achieves Manufacturing Certification
[July 9, 2014 - Source: vermontbiz.com]

The manufacturing team of vtTA member company Eastman Benz achieved the Acceptability of Electronics Assemblies Certification (IPC-A-610) after successfully completing a 3-day intensive hands-on practicum and testing workshop. IPC - The Association Connecting Electronics Industries - is recognized as a global leader in industry and certification standards.

For more information, click **here**

New Rules Make it Easier to Invest Locally
[July 8, 2014 - Source: vtdigger.org]

New state rules make it easier for Vermonters to invest in local businesses. Individuals can invest up to $10,000 in a registered Vermont business offering, and companies can raise up to $2 million in stock equity. Keeping the transactions in state allows Vermont companies and residents to bypass complex federal securities laws associated with public offerings and stock exchanges.

For more information, click **here**

Patent Troll Fight Ends in Retreat
[July 7, 2014 - Source: Burlingtonfreepress.com]

Vermont tech companies and VT U.S. senator Patrick Leahy failed in their fight against patent trolls this spring. The Burlington Free Press explores what happened.

For more information, click **here**

Vermont Venture Capitalists Taking to Motorcycles to Find Investments
[July 3, 2014 - Source: Wall Street Journal (blog)]

FreshTracks capital is organizing a unique venture capital pitch offering in Vermont this summer. Co-founder Cairn Cross will join with other VCs for a four-day motorcycle road trip in August to hear business pitches in eight Vermont towns.

For more information, click **here**

Vermonters Try to 'Save the Internet' at Hearing
[July 2, 2014 - Source: Seven Days]

Vermont entrepreneurs - and a former FCC commissioner - testified at the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing at the University of Vermont July 1. The speakers asked for regulations that would prevent a two-tiered system of internet traffic.

For more information, click **here**

State Seeks Bids for Phase 2 of Massive Technology Overhaul
[July1, 2014 - Source: vtdigger.org]

Vermont's planned overhaul of IT systems picked up momentum with the release of a request for proposals to build the second stage of its Medicaid system. The Medicaid Managed Information System (MMIS) is split into three parts and the estimated cost is more than $100 million.

For more information, click **here**

Paper Tigers
[July 2014 - Source: Business People Vermont]

Since launching in 2000, vtTA member SecureShred has grown into a leader in the confidential destruction of documents and evolved into providing information management services for customers throughout Vermont and surrounding states.

For more information, click **here**

Public Libraries Transform into Maker Spaces for Kids
[June 30, 2014 - Source: vpr.net]

Fourteen libraries around the state are partnering with Vermont Makers, the University of Vermont, the Vermont Community Foundation and others to transform the libraries into maker spaces this summer.

For more information, click **here**

Governor Signs Economic Development Bill

[June 24, 2014 - Source: vermontbiz.com]

Governor Peter Shumlin signed multifaceted legislation providing support for start-up, expansion and retention to high tech companies. The law creates the Vermont Strong Scholars Program, adds $500,000 to VEDA's Vermont Entrepreneurial Lending Program, and creates a loan-loss reserve to reduce the risk of lending to start-up tech and other companies in Vermont.

For more information, click **here**

GBIC Proposes State Action Plan to Save IBM Jobs

[June 24, 2014 - Source: vermontbiz.com]

The Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation announced steps the state should take to support IBM's Vermont plant, against a backdrop of rumors that the chip making facility could be for sale.

For more information, click **here**

Featured Member

Pwnie Express

Pwnie Express is a leading provider of innovative products that assess network security risks in remote and hard to reach locations. Pwnie Express is spearheading easy-to-use and quick-to-deploy products comprised of sensors that deliver vulnerability intelligence and penetration testing on demand from any remote site or office in both wired and wireless networks. Its products include network penetration testing devices the Pwn Phone, the Pwn Pad and the Pwn Plug R2.

Founded in 2010 to leverage and build upon the power of open source tools, Pwnie Express sensors are providing previously unattainable intelligence to more than 1,500 companies globally. The list ranges from Fortune 500 companies to government agencies and security service providers.

For more information, visit https://www.pwnieexpress.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 continues to welcome new members to the organization. New members joining the vtTA include Arocordis Designs, Computer Care, Tech Vaults and the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center, as well as a number of individual tech professionals.

Useful Information & Links

SBA Burlington Business Fair

The Vermont Small Business Administration is hosting a Burlington Business Fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Aug. 6 at Burlington City Hall. This is a free event connecting people interested in starting or growing a business with local, state and federal resources.

For more information, click here

Fletcher Free Library Offers Digital Training

Vermonters can now learn email and digital literacy skills for free through Microsoft's IT Academy. The Fletcher Free Library and all 12 Community College of Vermont locations now offer free access to these programs.

For more information, click here

CCV Offering Free Courses

The Community College of Vermont is offering 3-credit, undergraduate courses at select center locations this summer and fall, open to businesses and the public at no-cost. Funding for these courses is provided through the US Department of Labor's Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) Grant Program. Contact your local CCV academic center for eligibility requirements.

For more information, click here

Know of any resources that would be helpful to vtTA members? Send us an email at newsletter@vtta.org

Update Profile/Email Address | Rapid removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy.

Vermont Technology Alliance | 70 South Winooski Ave. #270 | Burlington | VT | 05401