



...by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs.

## Message from the Board

Dear vtTA Members & Supporters,

Membership in the Vermont Technology Alliance has expanded over the past year, reflecting a growing interest in the vtTA and its mission. We continue to work to promote and advocate for Vermont's technology sector, offer networking and collaboration opportunities, and provide outreach, information and support to government, business and education leaders to strengthen Vermont's technology-based economy. To continue our efforts and plan for the future, we'll be launching a more formal effort soon to solicit sponsors for the organization. We hope you'll consider supporting vtTA and its programs, and becoming a member if you're not already.

If you're a business owner who's been through the hiring process, you know how difficult it can be. Join us May 15th for our next [Lunch & Learn](#) with HR specialist Beth Gilpin, who will discuss "Hiring Done Well."

**Jeff Couture**

Executive Director, Vermont Technology Alliance

## Useful Links

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## Upcoming Events

### Lunch & Learn: Hiring Done Well

[May 15th, 2013 - PCC's Maple Conference Room]

All businesses know that attracting and retaining the right talent is key to success, and many of us have learned that hiring the wrong talent can be costly in many ways. Getting to that right hire, however, can be a challenge - it requires execution, and a sense of urgency. Our next Lunch and Learn will feature Beth Gilpin, who will discuss the hiring process and how to do it well. Whether you are managing your own hiring or working with a hiring professional, there are ways you can improve your hiring, your retention, and your success.

To RSVP, click [here](#)

### Vermont EPSCoR Annual State Meeting

[May 16th, 2013 - Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center]

**LUNCH & LEARN**

### May Lunch & Learn: Hiring Done Well

Wednesday, May. 15th, 2013  
12:00pm - 2:00pm

PCC Maple Conference Room  
20 Cascade Way  
2nd Floor Champlain Mill  
Winooski, Vermont 05404  
[Directions](#)

VT EPSCoR will hold its Annual State Meeting May 16 at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in Burlington, Vermont. Presenters will share progress and provide updates on the second year of the Adaptation to Climate Change in the Lake Champlain Basin: New Understanding through Complex Systems (RACC) project.

[RSVP](#)

For more information, click [here](#)

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## TEDx event in Manchester Village

[Jun. 22nd, 2013 - Burr and Burton Academy]

A TEDx event is scheduled for June 22 in Manchester Village at the Riley Center for the Arts at Burr and Burton Academy. The topic of the event is The Future of Creativity. Organizers have invited ten speakers from diverse disciplines and fields to provide a unique perspective on the theme, including Matt Dodds from vtTA member Brandthropology. This TEDx event will challenge you to have an open mind and ponder the future of creativity.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Summer IT Institute for HS Students

[Jun. 22-30, 2013 - Champlain College]

Do you know a high school student ready to explore the world of tech and IT? Then they should check out the Governor's Institute on Information Technology at Champlain College scheduled for June 22-30. Even better, scholarships are available for girls to attend. The event will focus on all this IT, including electronic game design, cybersecurity, coding, digital video, web entrepreneurship, and object-oriented.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Vermont Tech In the News

## Have News?

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### Burlington Telecom Negotiations End in Failure

[May 11th, 2013 - Source: Seven Days]

Negotiations aimed at settling CitiCapital's \$33.5 million lawsuit against Burlington Telecom have collapsed, Mayor Miro Weinberger said on Saturday. The two sides proved unable to reach an out-of-court agreement in talks that got underway in January. BT and Citi met for only a single two-day negotiating session. They did not hold a second round of talks in March, as had earlier been scheduled, the mayor disclosed in an interview in Battery Park during Kids' Day celebrations.

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](#)

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## General Electric/Rutland Gains \$5.4 Million Navy Contract

[May 8th, 2013 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) Wednesday announced that General Electric Aviation of Rutland has been awarded a US Navy contract for about \$5.4 million for the development and production of fighter engines for the F/A-18 Super Hornet and EA-18G Growler aircraft.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Vermont Looks to Get in Front on Drone Privacy

[May 6th, 2013 - Source: VTdigger.org]

Anticipating the spread of drones to Vermont, a group of lawmakers spanning the political spectrum introduced a bill last week that would place controls on how Vermont law enforcement officials use the surveillance machines.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## \$5 Million VTel Cell Service Grant Cut in Half

[May. 5th, 2013 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

A state agency has cut a \$5 million telecommunications grant to Vermont Telephone Company in half.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Fulfilling Broadband Goal Close, But Difficult

[May 3rd, 2013 - Source: VPR.net]

"We have promised to have high speed internet access to every last mile by the end of 2013," declared Governor Peter Shumlin at a December, 2012 news conference. It's a statement he's made numerous times. Today, state officials are still promising that by the end of the year all Vermonters will have access to broadband internet.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Vermont Tech Breaks Ground to Mark the Next Step for the Innovative Renewable Energy Project

[May 2nd, 2013 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

Cybersecurity majors from Norwich aren't the only highly desirable grads in the job market. Jonathan Rajewski is an assistant professor of digital forensics and director of Champlain College's Leahy Center for Digital Investigation. The students he teaches are now so highly sought after that many are being recruited while still in their junior year, and sometimes even earlier.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## NSK to Add Jobs on Strength of Advanced Electronic Power Steering System Contracts

[May 1st, 2013 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

The hiring is specifically for two new product lines that begin production in 2013 - an existing product line that is shifting from manual steering to electric power steering technology, and a new product line for electric power steering technology.

For more information, click [here](#)

[May 1st, 2013 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

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As a kid, Catherine Stamm was always interested in police work and criminal forensics, until she realized she couldn't stomach "the whole blood thing." But as a high school student in North Babylon, N.Y., she also loved messing around with computers. So she decided to attend Champlain College and pursue a degree in computer and digital forensics, which doesn't involve messy crime scenes.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Champlain College Gaming Students Take Top Honors at GameFest

[Apr. 29th, 2013 - Source: TechJamVT.com]

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Vermont's burgeoning video game development scene got another boost over the weekend - students from the Champlain College Game Studio in Burlington won top honors at GameFest, a regional game development competition hosted by Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## MyWebGrocer Adds 870 Stores to Network, Including Shaw's

[Apr. 29th, 2013 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

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MyWebGrocer, a leading provider of digital grocery solutions based in Winooski, is expanding its US presence, launching new online grocery tools for more than 870 newly acquired Acme, Albertsons, Jewel-Osco, Shaw's and Star Market stores. All of the banners will implement MWG's innovative digital marketing solutions that provide access to planning tools, digital circulars, online advertising, social media, digital marketing and mobile apps.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Look Out Google Fiber, \$35-a-Month Gigabit Internet Comes to Vermonts

[Apr. 26th, 2013 - Source: WSJ.com]

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VTel is offering 17,500 Vermont homes super-fast gigabit Internet service for just \$35 per month. The rural telecom is funding the high-tech upgrades with federal stimulus money.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## FairPoint Vermont President Mike Smith to Step Down in August, Beth Fastiggi is Promoted

[Apr. 23rd, 2013 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

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FairPoint Communications, Inc. (NasdaqCM: FRP), a leading communications provider in northern New England, announced Monday that Vermont State President Mike Smith will leave the company in August and will be succeeded by Beth Fastiggi, FairPoint's vice president of government relations for Vermont.

For more information, click [here](#)

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## Featured Member

### Empower Mobility



Empower Mobility is a talented resource for developing custom software solutions for a variety of mobile platforms including Apple iOS. Backed by over 20 years of experience in Mobility, our apps are designed around proven methods only that kind of experience can dictate. We tailor everything, from the user interface to how users communicate with remote data resources, to ensure the app significantly improves daily workflow. The end result is an effective mobile solution that enables users to do more in less time.

For more information, visit [www.empowermobility.com](http://www.empowermobility.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](mailto:newsletter@vtta.org)

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## Useful Information & Links

### Vermont Election Software Development Opportunity

Sometime in the third quarter of this year, the [Vermont Secretary of State's office](#) will issue a request for proposal to replace the agency's family of election-related software applications. Qualified and interested entities (from inside and outside the state) will be given an opportunity to bid. The state will be open to evaluating bid responses that are based upon existing vendor products and to new development. The development option also contains the possibility of creative licensing arrangements between the state and the state's selected development partner.

The contact for this project is Steve Mattera, [steve.mattera@sec.state.vt.us](mailto:steve.mattera@sec.state.vt.us)

Know of any resources that would be helpful to vtTA members? Send us an email at [newsletter@vtta.org](mailto:newsletter@vtta.org)

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