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...by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs.

Message from the Board

Dear vtTA Members & Supporters,

The Vermont Legislature passed economic development legislation with provisions that support Vermont's tech business sector, including an entrepreneurial lending program. Representatives Paul Ralston and Heidi Scheuermann spearheaded an economic development bill in the House Commerce Committee that covered the key recommendations from last year's Enhancing Vermont's IT Industry Committee, which included vtTA representatives. The vtTA also provided testimony in support of the legislation to the committee. While all of the recommendations did not make it into the combined House and Senate economic development bill that passed, it does include programs and policies that can benefit tech business. You can read more [here](#).

The vtTA often hears from its members that it is difficult to find software developers to fill openings. The Vermont Department of Labor in partnership with Vermont HITEC is reaching out to vtTA members and other tech businesses to discuss the creation of a software development training and apprenticeship program for Vermont employers. The goal is to fund the program with a federal DOL grant. Interested employers are invited to an information session on June 3 at the Department of Labor. Find more information [here](#).

For growing tech businesses, it can be a challenge to not only find the right people, but to successfully develop them, keep them and integrate them into a successful company culture. Plan to attend our [May 28 Lunch & Learn event](#) to hear representatives from Cope & Associates discuss managing the "soft side" of your business.

Jeff Couture

Executive Director, Vermont Technology Alliance

Useful Links

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Upcoming Events

Lunch & Learn: How to Find, Develop and Retain Employee Talent

[May 28, 2014 - Community College of Vermont, Winooski]

Managing the "soft" side of your tech (or other) small business is the focus of the vtTA's May Lunch and Learn event. Representatives from Cope & Associates will discuss the tools and resources to remain competitive, including recruiting new talent, retaining and engaging employees, and integrating new and tenured employees.

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](#)

For more information and to register, click [here](#)

National Day of Civic Hacking

[May 31 & June 1, 2014 - Generator, Burlington]

Burlington's participation in the National Day of Civic Hacking will be held at Generator, organized by Code for BTV. The event will bring together software developers, technology integrators, designers, makers and civic hackers to improve Vermont communities through technology.

For more information, click [here](#)

Employer Information Session on IT Workforce Training Program

[June 3, 2014 - Vermont Department of Labor, Burlington]

The Vermont Department of Labor and Vermont HITEC, a non-profit workforce development organization, are holding an employer information session to discuss a proposed federal grant application to create a software development training and apprenticeship program for Vermont employers. The information session will be held on June 3, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Vermont HITEC classroom on the lower level of the Vermont Department of Labor Career Resource Center, 69 Pearl Street, Burlington.

For more information, click [here](#)

vtTA's Annual Cruise - Save the Date

[Aug, 21 2014 - Spirit of Ethan Allen, Burlington]

Plan now to attend the event of the summer: vtTA's annual sunset dinner cruise, 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 will be available soon, but mark your calendar. If you'd like to be a cruise and vtTA sponsor, please contact Jeff Couture at jeffcouturevttta@comcast.net.

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Vermont Tech In the News

Dealer.com Receives Outstanding Business of the Year Award

[May 22, 2014 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

Vermont Business Magazine and the Vermont Chamber of Commerce announced Dealer.com as the winner of the Deane C. Davis Outstanding Business of the Year Award. This annual award, named for the former

Have News?

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

Vermont governor, honors a Vermont business that shows an outstanding history of sustained growth while displaying an acute awareness of what makes Vermont unique.

For more information, click [here](#)

below to submit your news or event item.

[SUBMIT NEWS](#)

FairPoint, VCET Create New Technology Hub for Entrepreneurs

[May 20, 2014 - Source: Press Release]

FairPoint Communications and the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies (VCET) announced the creation of a new collaborative called VCET @ BTV, a co-working space coupled with business mentoring and networking opportunities for promising startup companies in the FairPoint Technology Hub in downtown Burlington.

For more information, click [here](#)

Comcast Business Extends Fiber Network to Bring Ethernet Services to Rutland County

[May 16, 2014 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

Comcast business announced that its full portfolio of Ethernet services is now available across 17 communities in Rutland County. This builds on the company's 2013 expansion of these services across Chittenden County and marks the next step in its focus on bringing access to a fiber network that provides speeds up to 10 Gigabits-per second (Gbps).

For more information, click [here](#)

Route 802 Selected to Produce the "Official Vermont State App" and Travel Planner

[May 13, 2014 - Source: Mobilenomix]

Route 802 has been chosen to develop Vermont's official tourism mobile app, VisitVT, for the Vermont Chamber of Commerce and Vermont Department of Tourism and Marketing. VisitVT will be promoted as the official tourism app for Vermont with assistance from VDTM's annual marketing effort and its primary tourism website, www.vermontvacation.com.

For more information, click [here](#)

Dealer.com Renovates Old General Dynamics Building

[May 9, 2014 - Source: Burlington Free Press]

Dealer.com recently opened 40,000 square feet of newly renovated space on Lakeside Avenue in Burlington, which was once occupied by General Dynamics. Dealer.com software engineers began moving into the building in early April.

For more information, click [here](#)

IrisVR Wins LaunchVT Competition

[May 8, 2014 - Source: Burlington Free Press]

IrisVR, a company that uses virtual reality to bring architectural models to life, was the winner of the LaunchVT competition, culminating weeks of planning and presentations.

For more information, click [here](#)

Brandthropology Launches "The Benefactory" with Laboratory B and the vtTA as First Tenants

[May 6, 2014 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

Brandthropology announced the creation of a tech and arts hive called "The Benefactory." The space will host various groups that benefit the community within the firm's offices in the Soda Plant on Pine Street. Initial tenants include Laboratory B and the Vermont Technology Alliance.

For more information, click [here](#)

Vermont Internet Speed Ranking Slips Again

[May 6, 2014 - Source: Vermont Public Radio]

A report that measures the speed of broadband Internet service says Vermont finished just about in the middle of the 50 states and the District of Columbia in 2014.

For more information, click [here](#)

Silver Oak Services Partners Leads Acquisition of iSystems

[May 2, 2014 - Source: Press Release]

Silver Oak Services Partners, a private equity firm focused exclusively on service businesses, announced that it has made an investment in iSystems, a leading national Software as a Service (SaaS) provider of payroll, tax and HR management software and headquartered in Colchester, VT.

For more information, click [here](#)

Ai Squared Gains Partner in GW Micro

[May 1, 2014 - Source: VermontBiz.com]

Ai Squared of Manchester, VT and GW Micro of Indiana have merged into one company. With the merger, the companies will combine their talents to better assist computer users who are blind or visually impaired.

For more information, click [here](#)

Survey Says People Stay in VT for Landscape, Leave for Jobs

[April 29, 2014 - Source: mychamplainvalley.com]

A survey by UVM and Norwich researchers that attempts to shed some light on why young people leave Vermont found that Vermonters stay for the scenery, but leave for better jobs.

For more information, click [here](#)

Featured Member

Technical Connection



Technology is changing the world at an alarming rate and as a result is changing the way companies conduct business. The Technical Connection understands the complex human capital needs of Vermont businesses and has been specializing in professional placement services for over 20 years. They have the experience and resources to help companies find a permanent employee or contract employee to get a project done. In addition to serving their clients, the Technical Connection has been helping career-driven technical candidates secure employment with the best companies in Northern New England. They've helped thousands of job seekers unlock their potential, and take their careers to the next level.

For more information, visit <http://www.vttechjobs.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. Among recent members are [Transcend Engineering](#), developer of advanced technologies for sensing and monitoring the natural and manmade environment; [Akonis](#), a specialized consulting firm; and the [Barre Open Systems Institute](#).

Useful Information & Links

Ask an Angel - North Country Angels

North Country Angels has announced "Ask an Angel," a program to match entrepreneurs with experienced angel investors. Participating angels will provide advice about financing strategies and will serve as mentors to entrepreneurs. Contact Ken Merritt, Managing Director, at (802) 658-7830 if you are an entrepreneur and would like to participate and be matched with an angel.

FreshTracks offering a "Road Pitch"

FreshTracks is sponsoring a "Road Pitch" that will send "business bikers" on a four day motorcycle trip around Vermont where they will hold "office hours" in select towns stopping by appointment to listen to business pitches from start-up or early stage companies. The 2014 event is scheduled for August 4 - 7.

For more information, click [here](#)

Join the OCE for Xconomy's Boston 2034

The Vermont Office of the Creative Economy has partnered with Xconomy to make a limited number of half-price tickets and a van ride available to its Boston 2034 event on June 10.

To read the report, click [here](#)

"Watershed Moments" Videos from Vermont EPSCoR

VT EPSCoR is offering short videos highlighting researchers and stakeholders. This set of "Watershed Moments Short Videos" provides vignettes of research, outreach and workforce development efforts through the VT EPSCoR Center for Workforce Development and Diversity (CWDD).

For more information, click [here](#)

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

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