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...by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs.

Message from the Board

Useful Links

Dear vtTA Members & Supporters,

We recently traveled to southern Vermont to discuss needs and opportunities for tech economic development and the vtTA's grant to develop a tech job recruitment plan. Thanks to the help and participation of the regional economic development offices we met with business and community leaders in Bennington, Brattleboro and Springfield.

In each, we found dynamic and dedicated entrepreneurs and businesses interested in expanding the tech ecosystem in their communities, and heard about tech economic development and job opportunities.

In Bennington, it included the area's proximity to the Berkshires and New York's capital district, the [Lightning Jar](#) co-working space, and businesses such as database technology company [Global-Z](#) and digital marketing firm [Eight Oh Two](#).

The Brattleboro area features a vibrant downtown with plans for a new co-working space, proximity to Massachusetts, the energy of the [Brattleboro Area Techies](#) group, and businesses such as [Green River Software](#), [Sovernet Communications](#), and [Marlboro College](#)

The Springfield area boasts one of the nation's fastest gigabit fiber networks, easy Interstate highway access and proximity to New Hampshire markets, industrial space ripe for redevelopment, and businesses such as [NewsBank](#), [Precision Valley Communications](#) and [V-Tel](#).

Many of these and other businesses have job recruiting needs, and these discussions reinforced our view that there are opportunities for tech jobs, entrepreneurs and businesses statewide.

We plan to visit other Vermont communities - our next stop is Rutland in December.

Jeff Couture

Executive Director, Vermont Technology Alliance

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Upcoming Events

vtTA Lunch & Learn: BTV Ignite - Organizing the Energy of Burlington's Tech Ecosystem

[November 18, 2015 - CCV, Winooski]



BTV Ignite Executive Director Michael Schirling will discuss the BTV Ignite initiative, which is based on using Burlington's gigabit fiber network to create and support tech economic development in Burlington. Mike will discuss the goals and opportunities for how the project can attract new start-ups and benefit established tech-centric businesses.

For more, click [here](#).

Straw into Gold-Waste Innovation Night

[November 19, 2015 - Generator, Burlington]

Generator's "Straw into Gold" will focus on transforming waste into new materials, products and services. Share skills and ideas and help drive new products forward.

For more, click [here](#).

Pitch It, Fab It Competition

[November 120, 2015 - Generator, Burlington]

Participants will pitch a killer product idea for the opportunity to work with the UVM Instrumentation and Model Facility team to design and build it. Judges will award up to \$5,000 in materials and expert mentoring.

For more, click [here](#).

Aiken K-12 Maker Faire

[November 21, 2015 - UVM Davis Center, Burlington]

UVM is hosting the Aiken K-12 Maker Faire, Vermont's first statewide

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

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K-12 Maker Faire. Schools, students and educators are invited to show what they've made at this event that is similar to a science fair.

For more, click [here](#).

Mastering Q&A for Your Pitch

[November 22, 2015 - Main Street Landing, Burlington]



The Kauffman Foundation is hosting a workshop/coaching session by internationally known pitch coach Nathan Gold. Nathan will present a workshop to help participants perfect their Q&A preparation for their business pitch and will offer 1:1 coaching

in a group setting.

To sign up, click [here](#). To learn more about Nathan, click [here](#).

InnovateHER Pitch Competition

[November 22, 2015 - Mercy Connections, Burlington]

InnovateHer is a pitch competition aimed at unearthing products and services that impact and empower the lives of women and families. InnovateHER is co-sponsored by the Small Business Administration and culminates in a national prize completion in Washington DC. Register with Gwen Pokalo, gpokalo@mercyconnections.org, (802) 846-7338.

For more on InnovateHER, click [here](#).

UVM Computer Science Fair

[December 9, 2015 - Davis Center, UVM]



The UVM CS Fair provides Computer Science students the opportunity to display web, app, and other computer related projects for the chance to win up to \$300 in cash.

For more, click [here](#).

New England Venture Summit

[December 9, 2015 - Hilton, Dedham Mass]

Meet, interact and network with more than 500 VCs, Corporate VCs, angel investors, investment bankers and CEOs of early stage and emerging growth companies at the New England Venture Summit. The VTTA has made an arrangement to receive a 10% discount off the existing "early bird" rates - enter discount code "VTTAvip".

For more, click [here](#).

Vermont Technology News

State IT projects could reach \$1.3 billion

[November 11, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]

Vermont has 132 projects worth more than \$1.3 billion under way across Vermont state government, according to public documents from the department that provides oversight. The numbers from the Department of Information and Innovation outline the cost to implement, maintain, and operate each project over its first five years.

For more, click [here](#).

GlobalFoundries Completes \$55 million Investment

[November 4, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]



The former IBM semiconductor plant, which now belongs to GlobalFoundries, has completed \$55 million in upgrades that will increase chip production by 15 percent, company officials announced. The upgrades, which took place over the past nine months, will allow the company to make 50 "long-term temporary" manufacturing jobs permanent, they said.

For more, click [here](#).

Logic Supply Unveils PCs from Perfectron

[November 3, 2015 - Source: press release]

Logic Supply has launched a new line of rugged computers from military specification computer hardware specialists Perfectron. Intended for use in the most extreme environments, the SR100, SR200 and SR700 feature advanced passive cooling technology and fully fanless and ventless enclosures.



For more, click [here](#).

GW Plastics Announces Expansion

[November 2, 2015 - Source: press release]

GW Plastics announced a 21,000 square foot expansion of its facility in Royalton, Vermont to accommodate the additional growth of its medical device business. The expansion will also allow for improved workforce training and development facilities, where GW Plastics conducts scientific injection molding training and manufacturing classes for its employees, customers, and local area high schools.

For more, click [here](#).

Vermont Precision Tools Teams with Vermont HITEC

[November 1, 2015 - Source: Press Release]



Vermont Precision Tools, a manufacturer for the OEM medical industry, and Vermont HITEC, Inc., have announced an education and apprenticeship program that will bring machine operator jobs to Vermont over the next several months. A machine operator is responsible for the operation of various cylindrical grinding machines as well as the operation of multiple computer controlled (CNC) equipment.

For more, click [here](#).

Forum: Fiber-optic Key to a Healthy Economy

[October 30, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]

The Queen City is well-positioned for technology industry growth, thanks to its high-speed, fiber-optic network and a community of software development professionals, said participants in a tech forum in Oct hosted by BTV ignite.

For more, click [here](#).

UVM Startup Wins \$1 Million Technology Transfer Grant

[October 29, 2015 - Source: Press Release]

University of Vermont start-up company E.A.S.Y. LLC has received a \$1 million Phase II Small Business Technology Transfer grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop a commercial prototype for a digital printer that will translate conventional graphics to raised-line versions readable by the blind.

For more, click [here](#).



'Rosie' Enlisted to Steer High School Girls Into STEM Careers

[October 26, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]

Rosie the Riveter, the World War II recruitment icon with the red bandana, strong right arm and piercing eyes, is enlisting a new generation of young women into the fields of science, technology, engineering and math. Building off of a model from Vermont Works for Women known as Rosie's Girls, Vermont Technical College offered a summer camp for ninth- and 10th-grade girls and is continuing to further their exposure by connecting participants with mentors.

For more, click [here](#).

Tech Jam Award Winners Announced

[October 24, 2015 - Source: Press Release]



The Vermont Technology Alliance recognized the winners of the 2015 Tech Jam Awards, sponsored by Merchants Bank at the 9th Vermont Tech Jam. Logic Supply was the winner of the Innovation Award, and Michael Metz, of Burlington's Generator, was the recipient of this year's ambassador award.

For more, click [here](#).

Tech Jam Interview on "The: 30"

[October 23, 2015 - Source: Press Release]

Jeff Couture with the Vermont Technology Alliance and Cathy Resmer of Seven Days discussed the Tech Jam and Vermont's tech economy on WCAX TV's interview program "The :30", which was broadcast live from the Tech Jam last month.

You can find the interview [here](#).

Featured Member

Renaissance Information Systems

The logo for Renaissance Information Systems features the company name in white text on a dark blue background. The background image shows a close-up of computer keyboard keys.

Renaissance Information Systems helps businesses derive value from their data through the development of custom databases, applications, and reports. They specialize in capturing, managing, and reporting data for key business metrics so that clients can make informed decisions about their business.

Founded in 1994, RIS serves the Vermont business and non-profit community through the development of customized software solutions. By combining experience with proven technologies Renaissance creates database applications that meet their clients' current and future needs.

Their professional staff is chosen for their ability to work closely with clients to understand their needs and to use current technology to create superior solutions that provide value for years.

As a founding member of the VTTA, Renaissance Information Systems is a proud supporter of Vermont's technology companies. To learn more, visit their website at www.reninfosys.com, or contact them at info@reninfosys.com or (802) 899-3240.

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

New Member Update

The Vermont Technology Alliance welcomes [BTV Ignite](#) and [Burlington Bytes](#) 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: Legal Pitfalls for Small Businesses

Champlain Valley SCORE continues its small business roundtable series on the first Tuesday of each month with "What Don't I Know - Legal Pitfalls for Small Businesses" on Dec. 2. Attorneys from Ward & Babb will be on hand to explore a range of legal issues and answer questions. This and all SCORE sessions are held at the New England Federal Credit Union offices from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more and to register, 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:

- Database Administrator/Analyst - Vermont Information Technology Leaders
- Support Developer Intern - Union Street Media Interactive
- Senior Developer - Brandthropology
- CRC Pro Technology - Workforce Education Instructor - CCV
- SQL Developer - Technical Connection, Inc
- Ruby Developer, part-time - Technical Connection, Inc
- Software Support Engineer - Quadric Software
- Product Manager - Logic Supply
- Account Manager - Logic Supply

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](#).

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