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...by entrepreneurs for entrepreneurs.

Message from the Board

Useful Links

Dear vtTA Members & Supporters,

The Vermont Technology Alliance is pleased to report that it has been awarded a \$50,000 USDA Rural Business Development Grant to develop a recruitment and marketing plan to promote tech job openings and opportunities in Vermont. One of the biggest concerns for Vermont tech companies is finding the employees they need to fill the jobs they have, especially experienced professionals. For many tech businesses that means attracting employees who want to relocate to Vermont; however many employers are finding a perception that Vermont is not a place with tech companies and opportunities.

The Vermont Technology Alliance will use the grant to develop a tech job recruitment plan to help expand the pool of potential applicants. We plan to work with businesses and organizations statewide to identify hiring needs, and to develop the messaging and actions to draw attention to the tech job opportunities in Vermont. As we develop this project over the next 12 months, we value the input and participation of the tech business community. You can contact Jeff Couture, jeffcouture-vtta@comcast.net about the project.

One of the ways the vtTA has promoted Vermont tech companies and tech jobs is the annual **Tech Jam**, which this year is October 23 and 24, 2015, at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center. More than 60 companies and organizations are exhibiting, and hundreds of attendees are expected, from job seekers to students. The vtTA will once again serve as a Tech Jam information and career resource for attendees, as well as provide overall information on Vermont's tech business sector.

And of course, we'll be presenting the **Tech Jam Awards** Friday evening, sponsored by Merchants Bank. Congratulations to the finalists for the two awards: *Ambassador Award* - John Burton, Girl Develop It, Michael Metz; *Innovation Award*: Green Mountain Power, Logic Supply, THINKmd.

We look forward to seeing you at the Jam.

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Jeff Couture

Executive Director, Vermont Technology Alliance

Upcoming Events

Burlington Startup Week

[October 19 to October 23, 2015 - Burlington]



Startup Week is a five-day celebration of the entrepreneurial community. This new type of conference is designed to build momentum and opportunity around entrepreneurship, led by entrepreneurs and featuring presentations and networking events hosted in various locations in Burlington.

For more information, click [here](#).

VT Women in Higher Education Dinner

[October 21, 2015 - Middlebury College]

The Vermont Women in Higher Education's hosts its Fall dinner, featuring keynote speaker Marguerite Dibble, CEO of Game Theory, speaking on "Power Up! Using Exploration & Play to Innovate."

For more, click [here](#)

Vermont Tech Jam

[Oct. 23 and 24, 2014 - Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center, Burlington]



The vtTA and Seven Days organizes this two-day job fair and tech expo that brings together Vermont's leading tech companies. It's an

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opportunity for job seekers, career changers, students and others to talk with recruiters, attend presentations, and discover Vermont's innovative tech businesses. This year's event also coincides with a technical conference on "the edges of innovation in smarter cities," hosted by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The vtTA will present the Vermont Tech Jam Awards, recognizing a Vermont technology innovation and ambassador.

For more, click [here](#).

Gov Pitch 2016

[October 26, 2015 - Flynn Space, Burlington]

This event will premiere Road Pitch 2015, a short film retrospective of this summer's Road Pitch event. In addition, the candidates for Vermont Governor in 2016 will each be given three minutes to "pitch" their plans to stimulate entrepreneurship in the state using the criteria and format used by entrepreneurs during the Road Pitch 2015 event.

For more, click [here](#).

Burlington's Tech Future - from Education to the Economy

[October 29, 2015 - Contois Auditorium, Burlington City Hall]



BTV Ignite is hosting a brown bag lunch and roundtable discussion on the future of emerging technologies and the technology ecosystem in Burlington. Learn about exciting projects undertaken in other U.S. Ignite communities and the possibilities for future growth as Burlington leverages its city wide fiber optic infrastructure.

For more, click [here](#).

Legithon

[November 13 to November 15, 2015 - Vermont Statehouse , Montpelier]

This first-of-its-kind event at the Vermont State House modeled on hackathons and startup events will bring together students, professionals and tech business people for a weekend of work and learning. The goal is to educate the public on legislative processes by developing proposals for policy and legislative action that will foster economic development, particularly development involving innovative technology.

For more, click [here](#).

Vermont Technology News

Vermont Technology Alliance Awarded \$50,000 USDA Grant to Develop Tech Job Recruiting Plan

[October , 2015 - Source: Press Release]



The Vermont Technology Alliance has received a \$50,000 grant from The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop a recruitment and marketing plan to promote tech job openings and opportunities in Vermont. The Vermont Technology Alliance will work with businesses and organizations statewide to identify hiring needs, and develop the messaging and targeted actions to make prospective employees aware of the tech job opportunities in Vermont, particularly with small and emerging businesses.

For more, click [here](#).

Makers of Notabli Raise \$1.6 million

[October 19, 2015 - Source: burlingtonfreepress.com]



Burlington's local investment community is heating up since the billion-dollar buyout of Dealer.com. The latest example comes at Parent Co. on College Street, where makers of the Notabli app received an additional \$1.6 million from current and former Dealer.com and IDX executives.

For more, click [here](#).

Vermont Tech Jam Features Jobs, Talks

[October 18, 2015 - Source: vermontbiz.com]

Former Reddit staffer Victoria Taylor is among the speakers at the ninth Vermont Tech Jam, a free job fair and tech expo which takes place Friday and Saturday, October 23 and 24, 2015, at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center. The tech jam featured more than 60 exhibitors, including dozens of local tech companies with jobs to fill.

For more, click [here](#).

Hundreds of High-School Girls Try on STEM Jobs at State Conference

[October 15, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]

Hundreds of girls from 50 high schools around the state gathered at Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center to be introduced to careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The fields hold high-paying jobs that for years women haven't been encouraged to pursue or given the opportunities to consider going into.

For more, click [here](#).

The Lightning Jar Co-Working Space Opens

[October 15, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]



Bennington's first co-working space celebrated its grand opening, bringing out community political, business and educational leaders. Dimitri Garder, the Lightning Jar's interim director, says the 1,200-square-foot space offers entrepreneurs a flexible office where they can share ideas with like-minded business people.

For more, click [here](#).

Vermont Legislative "Legithon" Conference to Focus on Economic Development

[October 16, 2015 - Source: Press Release]

House Speaker Shap Smith and Senate President Pro Tempore John Campbell announced the first ever "Legithon," an intensive policy collaboration conference that will bring together Vermont students, academic leaders, business people, legal professionals and lawmakers to develop technology and economic development



proposals.

For more, click [here](#).



Kauffman Foundation Partners With Burlington to Help Local Entrepreneurs Succeed

[October 12, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]

Mayor Miro Weinberger announced that the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation will partner with the City of Burlington on an 18-month engagement to improve conditions for entrepreneurs in Burlington and study the results of this effort. The Kauffman Foundation will bring a combination of up to \$500,000 in Burlington-specific grants, technical assistance, and research to strengthen the City's capacity to support entrepreneurs who are starting and growing employer companies in our community.

For more click, [here](#).

HackVT Winners Invent Way to Track Daily Carbon Footprint

[October 12, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]



Dozens of developers and students gathered at the fifth annual HackVT to crack open the state's voluminous environmental data to develop a software application that would help to abate the impact of climate change. The hackathon attracted 54 participants who slogged through a mostly sleepless 24 hours to compete for a total of \$20,000 in cash and prizes.

For more, click [here](#).

Chroma Technology Expands in Japan

[October 11, 2015 - Source: Press Release]

Chroma Technology Corp, based in Bellows Falls, named a new general manager of Chroma Technology Japan. This creates Chroma's third sales and technical support office outside the U.S., in addition to offices in Germany and China.

For more, click [here](#).

BTV Ignite Aims to Make City a Tech Hub

[October 8, 2015 - Source: burlingtonfreepress.com]

Burlington's tech economy is growing as the city and surrounding towns are establishing themselves as the place to be to create a tech startup. Mike Schirling, the new executive director for BTV Ignite, is trying to harness the energy from established players such as Dealer.com and MyWebGrocer to newcomers Designbook and Ello to grow the tech ecosystem in Vermont.

For more, click [here](#).

Vermont Afterschool Program Receives \$120,000 for Stem Development

[October 6, 2015 - Source: vtdigger.org]



A Vermont nonprofit that supports afterschool and summer enrichment classes in science, technology, engineering and math education (STEM) has been awarded a \$120,000 grant from the Noyce Foundation to increase the reach of the program around the state, and to provide professional development and improve the overall quality of the courses.

For more, click [here](#).

Landmark College Opens New STEM Center

[October 6, 2015 - Source: vpr.org]

Landmark College officially opened its new \$9.6 million science, technology and innovation center. The new STEM center, which is the first new academic building added to the campus since the school opened 30 years ago, includes four science labs, two computer classrooms and 12 faculty offices.

For more, click [here](#).

UVM Names Business School in Honor Of Steven Grossman After \$20 Million Gift

[October 2, 2015 - Source: Press Release]

After the largest individual gift in the history of the University of Vermont, the UVM school of business has been renamed in honor of the donor, Steven Grossman, a 1961 graduate and a long-time supporter of the school. The \$20 million gift from the Grossman Family Foundation funds three endowed academic positions: the Steven Grossman Chairs in Entrepreneurship, Finance, and Sustainable Business.

For more, click [here](#).

Featured Member

PAR Springer-Miller Systems



Founded in 1984 in Stowe, Vermont, PAR Springer-Miller Systems develops comprehensive property management systems that meet the technology needs of the world's finest hotels, resorts and spas.

With its ATRIO® Guest Experience Management, PAR Springer-Miller Systems has pioneered and delivered a new generation of technology for the hospitality industry - moving hospitality to the cloud, a new user experience, and to a new way of doing business. PAR Springer-Miller also offers the SMS|Host Hospitality Management System, the first guest-centric property management system, and SpaSoft®, a fully integrated, dynamic activities management/scheduling software solution.

To learn more, visit their website at: www.springermiller.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 several new members: [Creative Microsystems](#), [Downs Rachlin Martin](#), [Green Mountain Power](#), [Sovernet Communications](#) and [Quadric Software](#).

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

VEDA's Entrepreneurial Loan Program - Financing for Vermont's Seed, Start-up and Growth-Stage Businesses

Since its authorization during the 2014 Legislative Session, VEDA's Entrepreneurial Loan Program has become an important resource to help meet the financing needs of Vermont-based businesses in seed, start-up and growth stages. VEDA created the new program specifically to meet the working capital and capital-asset financing needs of businesses that may not have access to conventional means of financing. The program has provided funding for several established and startup tech businesses.

For more click [here](#).

Special Vermont IT Committee Seeks input

The Special Committee on the Utilization of Information Technology in Government, created by legislative action during the past session, has begun its work and is seeking input. The committee is soliciting feedback from the public, businesses, and vendors who have done IT business with the state, and others who have information, suggestions, or informative experiences with IT systems or IT contracts. The committee is comprised of John Burton, President of NPI; Tim Kenney, CTO of MyWebGrocer; and Mike Schirling, Executive Director of BTV Ignite.

For more, click [here](#).

SCORE Small Business Roundtable Series: 20 Questions for Your Accountant

Champlain Valley SCORE continues its small business roundtable series on the first Tuesday of each month with "20 Questions for Your Accountant" on Nov. 3. A team from Davis & Hodgdon Associates will help you understand the ins and outs of running your small business from a financial point of view, and answer questions about tax planning, accounting software and more. This and all SCORE sessions are held at the New England Federal Credit Union offices from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Find more information and the schedule [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:

- Software Support Engineer - Quadric Software
- Product Manager - Logic Supply
- Account Manager - Logic Supply
- Web Applications Developer - Community College of Vermont
- Coordinator of Academic Services, Technology - Community College of Vermont

For more, click [here](#).

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