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TWINCITIES CIO OF THE YEAR[®]
ORBIE[®]
AWARDS



The annual Twin Cities CIO of the Year Orbie Awards program honors chief information officers who have demonstrated excellence in technology leadership. Winners in the Global, Large Enterprise, Enterprise, Corporate, Health Care and Nonprofit categories will be announced April 26 at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

20 YEARS OF CIO SUCCESS

In 1998, when the first CIO of the Year Orbie Award was presented, it was the products, not the people, that were at the center of attention. Laptop of the Year, Printer of the Year and PC Magazine's Editor's Choice awards were common, but it was a startup called Intelinet that noticed the real heroes were chief information officers who implemented these products, developed solutions and created business value for their organizations.

Roll the clock ahead 20 years, and today, CIOs are at the center of business transformation for all organizations. Technology is the engine that drives innovation and growth in every industry and sector in our global economy. It is the leaders who facilitate change by tech-enabling their organizations; these are the rock stars of business today.

The first CIO of the Year Awards was not only a trailblazer for recognizing the people

leading transformation, but eventually led to creating the Georgia CIO Leadership Association – a local, member-centric, professional organization dedicated to helping CIOs foster meaningful relationships, share best practices, solve problems and achieve their leadership potential.

In 2015, we launched BostonCIO and formed the Inspire CIO Leadership Network, a national professional association for CIOs now with local chapters in Georgia, Boston, Dallas, Chicago, Alabama, Charlotte, Houston, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and soon to be New York and Bay Area. We are proud to serve CIOs in growing relationships, recognizing professional achievements and inspiring the next generation of technology leaders.

This year, nearly 140 nominations were received for the 2019 Twin Cities CIO Orbie Awards, which will honor CIOs across six cat-

egories for leadership effectiveness and business value created through innovative use of technology. Finalists and winners are selected through a rigorous, independent judging process led by prior Orbie winners.

The power of CIOs working together and collaborating – across public and private business, government, education, health care and non-profit organizations – is incredible. Together, we are making a difference transforming our organizations with technology and enriching Minneapolis/St. Paul and our world.

The CIOs honored this year are inspiring and challenge all of us to step up and lead well in our organizations. On behalf of TwinCitiesCIO, I congratulate all the finalists on their accomplishments and share our gratitude for the sponsors, underwriters and staff who make the 2019 Twin Cities CIO Orbie Awards possible.

CONGRATULATIONS 2019 TWIN CITIES CIO ORBIE® NOMINEES

ALAN ABRAMSON <i>HealthPartners</i>	TOM BUTTERFIELD <i>TCF Financial Services</i>	GARY HANSEN <i>BI Worldwide</i>	RACHEL LOCKETT <i>Pohlad Companies</i>	JOHN PELANT <i>Carlson Wagonlit Travel</i>
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ANIL ARCALGUD <i>Ecolab, Inc.</i>	EDMUND CLARK <i>University of St. Thomas</i>	MICHAEL HEDGES <i>Medtronic, Inc.</i>	MARK LOSEE <i>MTS Systems Corporation</i>	MARY LYNNE PERUSHEK <i>M.A. Mortenson Company</i>
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JOHN BANDY <i>Data Recognition</i>	OTTO DOLL <i>City of Minneapolis</i>	STEVEN JOHN <i>AmeriPride Services Inc.</i>	COREY MAUL <i>Mediacom Health</i>	JOHN SANTELLI <i>UnitedHealth Group, Optum Technology</i>
JIM BARNES <i>Vivial</i>	ROBERT DUBOIS <i>Briggs & Morgan, P.A.</i>	TAMMYLYNNE JONAS <i>Holiday Companies</i>	KEVIN MCCLOUGHAN <i>Ryan Companies US, Inc.</i>	RJ SINGH <i>Life Time</i>
DEBRA BAULER <i>Cargill Global IT</i>	ROB DUCHSCHER <i>SunOpta Inc</i>	JIM JONES <i>Great River Energy</i>	MICHAEL MCCULLOUGH <i>National Marrow Donor Program- Be The Match</i>	TIFFANY SNYDER <i>Cargill</i>
DEBRA BAUMAN <i>Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation</i>	MATTHEW EMMERICH <i>Polaris Industries Inc.</i>	MARC KERMISCH <i>Red Wing Shoe Company</i>	PHILIP MCKOY <i>UnitedHealthcare</i>	NICOLE STRETAR <i>Further</i>
TEDDY BEKELE <i>Land O'Lakes</i>	ROBERT ERICKSON <i>USBank</i>	JUSTIN KERSHAW <i>Cargill Incorporated</i>	GEORGE MCNULTY <i>UnitedHealth Group/TeamMD</i>	TIM THULL <i>Medica</i>
TOM BENUSA <i>Transport America</i>	MARI FELLRATH <i>Great Clips Inc</i>	RICHARD KING <i>Thomson Reuters Corporation</i>	CHAD MILLER <i>University of Northwestern - St. Paul</i>	TAREK TOMES <i>City of Saint Paul</i>
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2019 KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JAMES WHITEHURST, CEO AND PRESIDENT, RED HAT

STORY BY MOLLEE FRANCISCO | CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry,” wrote Scottish poet Robert Burns. It is a notion that has been taken to heart at Red Hat, a tech company that provides open source enterprise products and services.

“You have to recognize you can’t always plan or know what the future is,” Red Hat CEO and President James Whitehurst told a crowd of 7,500 at the 2018 Red Hat Summit last May. He’ll speak to a local crowd at next Friday’s Twin Cities CIO of the Year Orbie Awards, to be held at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis.

In the fast-paced world of technology, Red Hat makes plans, naturally, but executives also “configure for constant change.” And, so far, it seems to be working.

Since Whitehurst took the reins in 2008, Red Hat’s revenue has quadrupled. The company was added to Standard and Poor’s 500 stock index in 2009 and has been named to Forbes’ list of The World’s Most Innovative Companies four times – in 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

The 26-year-old company also has been named one of the best places to work by Glassdoor. Last year, Barron’s recognized Whitehurst as one of the World’s Best CEOs.

“I’ve learned it’s better to give context, not orders. Leaders today need to act more like catalysts

than dictators,” Whitehurst said. “A leader’s job is not about conjuring up brilliant strategies and making people work harder. What they need to do is create the context for their people to do their best work. Everyone wants a sense that their work is making a difference. People thirst for context – we want to know the ‘whats’ and the ‘whys’ of our company’s direction – and we want to be part of making it successful. A leader’s goal is to get people to believe in their organization’s mission and create the right structures that empower their people to achieve what someone used to think was impossible.”

Arlen Shenkman, who serves as chief financial officer of SAP, a multinational software corporation, is an industry colleague of Whitehurst’s. “Jim is a great leader, who brings a high level of professionalism, insight and creativity to his role. I have always found him to be incredibly responsive and dedicated to helping us achieve our business goals.

“Jim is a great leader, who brings a high level of professionalism, insight and creativity to his role,” said industry colleague Arlen Shenkman, who serves as chief financial officer of SAP, a multinational software corporation. “I have always found him to be incredibly responsive and dedicated to help-

ing us achieve our business goals.”

“Jim has endorsed and encouraged a unique culture at Red Hat, and it shows,” Shenkman added. “From their business success to the caliber of their employees, you can tell it is a different kind of company.”

Whitehurst, a graduate of Rice University who went on to get his MBA at Harvard Business School, landed at Red Hat after spending six years as chief operating officer at Delta Air Lines Inc.. He previously worked for 12 years in corporate development leadership roles at The Boston Consulting Group, working out of Chicago, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Atlanta.

In 2015, Whitehurst published “The Open Organization: Igniting Passion and Performance” with Harvard Business Review Press. The book details “how open principles of management – based on transparency, participation and community – can help organizations navigate and succeed in a fast-paced connected era.” It was named one of the top 10 creative leadership books of 2015 by Forbes.

“Jim’s broad experience makes him stand out,” Shenkman said. “His experience in consulting, the airline industry and technology have given him a unique perspective. I think his broad experience helped develop the foresight he had

JAMES WHITEHURST

President and CEO, Red Hat

Tenure: 11 years

Age: 51

Education: Rice University, London School of Economics, Harvard Business School

Board memberships: United Airlines, Duke University Health System, SecureWorks, The Conservation Fund

Twitter: @jwhitehurst

in championing a company whose foundation is open source.”

Last year, IBM announced its intention to acquire Red Hat in a deal valued at \$34 billion. “Joining forces with IBM will provide us with a greater level of scale, resources and capabilities to accelerate the impact of open source as the basis for digital transformation and bring Red Hat to an even wider audience – all while preserving our unique culture and unwavering commitment to open source innovation,” said Whitehurst in an October press release.

“What Jim has done at Red Hat is impressive,” Shenkman said. “Becoming the first \$1 billion revenue open source software company and delivering continued revenue growth are remarkable, as is the recently announced agreement with IBM – one of the largest software deals in history.”

CONGRATULATIONS!

From one IT leader to another.

Concord is a proud sponsor and underwriter of the Twin Cities CIO of the Year ORBIE Awards and would like to extend our congratulations to all the nominees.

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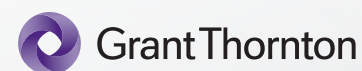


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Anil Arcalgud, EVP and CIO, Ecolab Inc.



Anil Arcalgud is executive vice president and chief information officer for Ecolab Inc. Previously, Arcalgud established and led Ecolab's global business services function, responsible for its strategy formulation, roadmap planning and execution globally across all divisions of Ecolab. Arcalgud joined Ecolab in 2009 after a 13-year career with Motorola, where he served in several leadership roles. Prior to Motorola, he worked in finance and business advisory for more than eight years with Price Waterhouse-Coopers and ANC Co. He holds a bachelor's degree in electronics from St. Joseph's College in Bangalore, India. He is a chartered accountant from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, and a certified Six Sigma Green Belt.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

Ecolab helps solve the world's most fundamental problems providing solutions for clean water, safe food, abundant energy and healthy environments. By transforming information technology to focus on customer business outcomes and accelerating growth, we collaborate with business partners to build solutions that further this impact. Pioneering strategic partnerships, intelligent data architecture, and digitally integrating our 3 million-plus IoT sensors help unlock exponentially better solutions for our customers and enable a smarter, faster Ecolab. This transformation also drives new career opportunities that incorporate business and technology. I am delighted for the IT team's accomplishments. This is their recognition.

Debra Bauler, CIO, protein and salt, Cargill Inc.



For 25 years, Debra Bauler has held positions ranging from highly technical roles to critical leadership positions. She is now chief information officer for one of Cargill Inc.'s largest enterprises, Protein and Salt, and a member of its executive leadership team. She also is a member of the CIO leadership team, which is responsible for leading the technology function that supports all of Cargill. She has spent more than two decades at Cargill, and her leadership responsibilities have spanned global transformations, as well as business intelligence, application and infrastructure teams. Before joining Cargill, she spent time at Target Corp. as an IT professional. She has a bachelor's degree from St. Cloud State University.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

In my current role, deploying new solutions to improve food transparency, delivering bottom line value through strengthening the digital core and investing in next-generation leaders are among my most significant accomplishments. One example of how I am working to improve food transparency is the successful launch of our turkey blockchain solution, Honeysuckle White Turkey Traceability. We combined the power of blockchain with the insight that consumers want greater transparency in the food system. Cargill became the first U.S. food company to use blockchain to allow consumers to trace their food all the way back to the farm.

Julius Chepey, CIO, APi Group Inc.



Julius Chepey is chief information officer of APi Group Inc., a parent company to 40 independently managed life safety, energy, specialty construction and infrastructure companies located in over 200 sites worldwide. He is responsible for the strategic leadership and value generation of the information technology function at APi. He earned an MBA from the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. He was vice president of IT at J.D. Irving Ltd. in New Brunswick, Canada, and CIO and vice president of IT at M.A. Mortenson Co. In 2006, he was honored at the InformationWeek 500 annual awards by InformationWeek magazine for the most innovative use of IT to increase a company's profitability.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

Starting the transformation of the IT capability, and to be confident it will continue with the next generation of IT leaders. APi Group's purpose is building great leaders. We are a multibillion-dollar parent company to more than 40 independently managed life safety, energy, specialty construction and infrastructure companies in over 200 locations worldwide. Our hybrid IT organization (half reporting to APi Group, half to the companies) is essentially an IT leadership community, developing people individually and performing as one team. I am certain they will succeed innovating with construction technology throughout the next decade.

Matt Emmerich, VP and CIO, Polaris Industries Inc.



For the past 14 years, Matt Emmerich has supported, cultivated and now leads Polaris Industries Inc.'s strategic investment in digital and information services. In 2014, he was appointed chief information officer and is responsible for worldwide digital and IS across the enterprise. He also leads Polaris' customer and dealer services and its internal business accelerator, LaunchPad. He also founded and leads the Polaris Bangalore Global Insource Center that provides business services and technology for multiple organizations within the company. Prior to Polaris, Emmerich was at Ernst & Young and Jostens. He earned his MBA at St. Cloud State University and his bachelor's degree in management from Saint John's University.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

In the digital era, choice is infinite, change is constant and technology enables everything. More than ever, CIOs will sustain success through people and culture. My greatest accomplishment is a highly talented global team that anticipates, adapts and enables the needs of customers, partners and employees. The team understands business and technology. We have leaders who are indistinguishably embedded into value streams. Our product teams are fast and nimble using agile methods and tools. The team innovates to push boundaries of what's possible for Polaris. Perhaps most importantly, we are committed to each other and the success of Polaris.

Michael Mathews, SVP and CIO, Deluxe Corp.



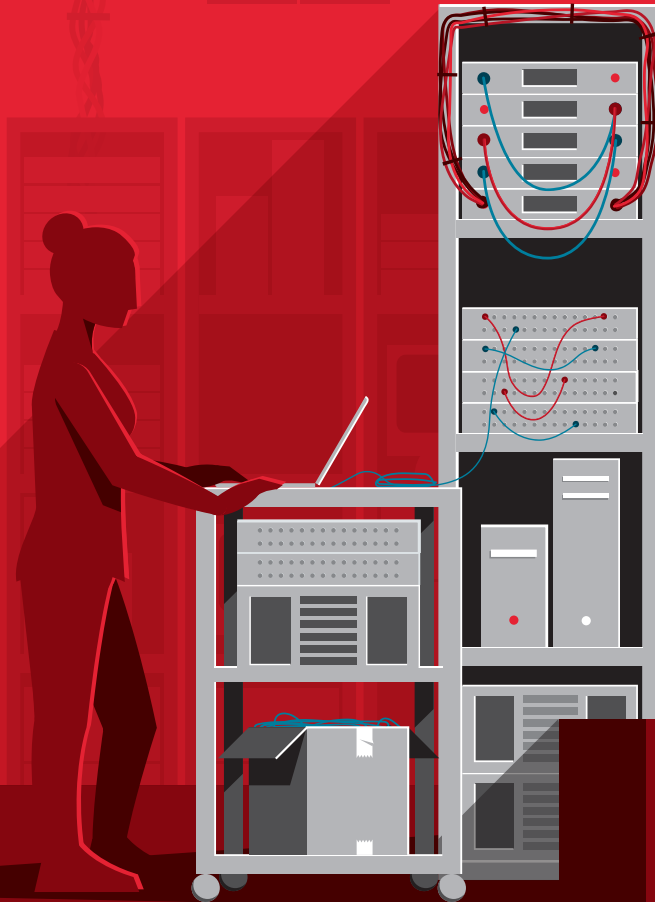
Michael Mathews joined Deluxe Corp. in May 2013 as vice president, chief information officer. He was promoted to senior vice president in 2017 and retains the position as the company's CIO. In November, he was elected to the board of Alerus Financial Corp. Before joining Deluxe, he was senior vice president of strategy and enterprise programs at UnitedHealth Group Inc. His prior experience includes Merrill Lynch, where he was global head of strategy and delivery for operations services and technology in the private wealth business unit. He also served as the global head of Six Sigma. He holds a degree in business administration, marketing and decision sciences from Miami University in Ohio.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

Candidly, my now greatest success is being a second-year finalist for this award. This award is a summation and recognition of my greatest achievements, via my peers. This year, highlights include continuing to lead the incredible Deluxe IT team, winning a global Hitachi Transformation award, being elected to the board of directors of Alerus Financial Corp., being asked to chair the TwinCities CIO Leadership Association, being recognized as a leader who supports nonprofits like Genesys Works, being invited to speak to numerous groups — all because I am valued as a visionary, trusted technology leader, a CIO.



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Tom Butterfield, EVP and CIO, TCF Financial Services



Tom Butterfield is chief information officer at TCF Financial Corp. He oversees the enterprise information technology function, including infrastructure, service delivery and application development. He joined TCF in March 2015, with more than two decades of leadership experience. Most recently, he served as senior vice president, technology strategy and business solutions at Target Corp. Prior to Target, he held senior technology positions at UnitedHealth Group Inc., Deluxe Corp., First Bank Corporate Payment Systems, Norwest Bank Card Services, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa. He has an MBA from Drake University and a computer science degree from University of Iowa.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

We have transformed the TCF technology organization over the past four years to drive improved customer experience, efficiency and differentiation. We've introduced leading edge digital banking capabilities, including biometric authentication; industry leading payment functionality, including industry first tap-pay capability on debit cards; and highly impactful customer relationship management tools inside branches. TCF understands that to leverage technology for competitive differentiation in an industry with very large national competitors, we must focus on investments that are most impactful to our customers and we must execute with pace. We have built the technology organization that can deliver on that goal.

Tammylynne Jonas, CIO, Holiday Cos.



Tammylynne Jonas is a digital and technology executive with almost 20 years of experience. She is now chief information officer for Holiday Cos., which was acquired by Couche-Tard in December 2017. In addition to her role as CIO for Holiday, Jonas is a senior director on the global IT team. Prior to Holiday, Jonas spent 15 years at Kohl's Department Stores and was a technology consultant for Accenture. She serves on the boards for Northrop Auditorium at the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Better Business Bureau. Jonas holds an Executive MBA in international business from Marquette University and has undergraduate degrees in math, English and Spanish.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest accomplishment isn't technology, it is the people who build, support and drive that technology. I have a veteran staff that has amassed a lifetime of knowledge on our custom-built applications. This incredible team has gone through an acquisition by a much larger parent company. Our ability to retain technology talent has been incredible. Further, our ability to build partnerships with our parent company and share our knowledge has been equally impressive. We have been able to share best practices from our \$4 billion company, to improve our \$65 billion global parent company. We have the best team in our industry!

Kathy Persian, SVP IS and CIO, Schwan's Co.



Kathy Persian joined Schwan's Co. in 2016 as its senior vice president and chief information officer. She is responsible for the strategic direction and execution of the company's information services department. She has more than 25 years of experience in information delivery. Prior to Schwan's, she served as senior vice president of business transformation and CIO for Sports Authority, and she has served in several finance and IT leadership roles at Supervalu Inc. and Best Buy Co. Inc. She received a bachelor's degree in business management from the College of Saint Benedict. She also serves on the boards of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and CaringBridge.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest success here has been leading my teams through the development and execution of a new IT strategy for Schwan's. When I began, the IS team hadn't truly participated in the overall company cultural transformation, and the strategic technology direction for enabling the overall business transformation was undeveloped. The strategy executed over these past three years has three components, including capability road mapping, simplification and operational excellence. Executing this strategy flawlessly drives significant operating efficiencies in all areas, delivers differentiated capabilities to the organization, and builds a stronger, more collaborative culture.

Hunter Saklad, CIO, Sleep Number Corp.



Hunter Saklad is senior vice president and chief information officer at Sleep Number Corp. From June 2011 to December 2012, he served as vice president, consumer insight and strategy at the company. From March 2006 to June 2011, he was vice president of finance and held a variety of positions across finance serving business partners in marketing, sales, supply chain, investor relations and treasury. He joined the company in October 2004 as senior director of finance. He also has held finance leadership roles at Ford Motor Co. and Visteon.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest success in my current role has been transforming the role of IT within Sleep Number from mere service provider to thought leader for business solutions that provide superior customer experience. While this journey is not complete, we have developed our talent and worked with our business partners to dramatically change the role of technology in unifying and advancing the customer experience. The most rewarding part of my role now is the frequent opportunity to see efforts that we began years ago burst into full flower providing customer, employee and shareholder benefit simultaneously. Onward!

RJ Singh, CIO, Life Time Inc.



RJ Singh joined Life Time Inc. in 2017 as chief information officer. He served as vice president of IT at Lifetouch from 2013 to 2017. From 2007 to 2013, he served as vice president, IT strategy and planning, and chief architect, director of enterprise architecture at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. He has held various positions at UnitedHealth Group Inc. and Allianz Life Insurance Co. of North America, as well as other companies. He holds an MMI certification, executive leadership, from the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota and a Bachelor of Arts in computer science and business management from Hamline University.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest success at Life Time is changing the culture of IT to be performance-based, strategically driven and innovative. This has resulted in an evolution of how IT is viewed within the organization — not as an evil necessity, but rather an incredibly powerful tool that can be leveraged as a competitive differentiator to enable our member's healthy, happy lives. Technology is allowing us to connect our members to their health goals, clubs, coaches and services in new and exciting ways. We are on a comprehensive transformational journey to deliver an extraordinary digital experience to our members.

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John Bandy, CIO, Data Recognition Corp.



John Bandy is chief information officer at Data Recognition Corp. He runs an IS department of 275 people that has been transformed multiple times. He has the proven ability to keep pace with the growing and rapidly changing landscape of technology innovations needed in business to gain competitive advantage. He works directly with DRC customers, representing the company and technology solutions to ensure their needs and objectives are fully met. Bandy also has a track record of working in the community with organizations including Genesis Works, supporting high-potential, underprivileged youth; Think IT Link 2 Leadership, high-performing IT professionals; and the Neighborhood Development Center, minority business startups.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

DRC delivers high-volume, high-performance systems to deliver statewide testing programs across the United States. We reach processing volumes of over 70,000 transactions per second with 400,000 concurrent users. My greatest accomplishment is that we are one of the most stable environments in our industry. My IT department is a critical part of the business of DRC, delivering the most complex software component products to our customers, with over 10 million users each year. As CIO, my responsibility for the integrity of this environment is critical, and keeping it current with the most up to date technology is a must.

Michael Braun, SVP IT, Western National Insurance Group



Michael Braun is senior vice president of information technology with Western National Insurance Group. Over the past 10 years, he provided technical leadership in several merger and acquisitions, developing distinct processes that suited each opportunity. He leads long-term strategic planning for the company and helps build alignment of purpose across the organization. Under Braun's leadership, the IT group has more than doubled in size. Braun also chairs the employee retirement committee. He is a member of the Society for Information Management and the Life Office Management Association. He obtained a bachelor's degree in economics from Gustavus Adolphus College in and an MBA in finance from University of St. Thomas in St. Paul.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

Steering our IT group through rapid growth — in terms of geography, business size and acquisitions — has been the greatest success in my current role at Western National. The organization has more than doubled in size and complexity in my 13 years here. This rapid growth has often meant that business-as-usual wouldn't fly: IT policies, technologies and capabilities have had to continuously evolve to keep up with the rising demands coming from the business. I am proud that IT continues to support the increasing needs of the business and is able to embrace all opportunities, expected and unexpected.

Marc Kermisch, CIO and VP, The Garage, Red Wing Shoe Co.



Marc Kermisch is chief information officer and vice president, The Garage at Red Wing Shoe Co. He is responsible for all aspects of technology from the retail experience to manufacturing. (The Garage is Red Wing Shoe's Innovation Center, focused on developing products, manufacturing capabilities, consumer experiences and business models.) Prior to joining Red Wing Shoes in 2014, Kermisch had over 20 years of experience building technology products and services across retail, public utilities, financial services, manufacturing, professional services, and high-tech startups. He has held roles for support and IT operations to application development and program management. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in English from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My team at Red Wing is my greatest success story. Everything that they do is what has enabled Red Wing's IT function to help our company achieve its strategy to date. From embracing new methodologies like Scaled Agile Framework to driving our shift to APIs or modernized infrastructure, they remain nimble, open to new ideas, and demonstrate agility on a daily basis. Everyday they come to work energized and engaged. They bring a sense of fun and lightness to their work, while never sacrificing quality. They inspire me to be my best every day for them.

Michael Larson, SVP and CIO, Agiliti Health Inc.



Michael Larson is chief information officer and senior vice president at Agiliti Health Inc. and is responsible for all aspects of IT strategy, service and solution delivery. Prior to Agiliti, Larson served in several roles at Corelogic Inc., a transaction processing and data and analytics company serving the real estate and property and casualty insurance markets. Prior to Corelogic, Larson was vice president and CIO for Caribou Coffee Co. Inc. Before Caribou, Larson led the global IT function for Zomax Inc., a global provider of outsourced supply chain services. He also spent 10 years in IT and business consulting operating his own firm and leading multiple delivery organizations for a national firm. Larson graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's in accounting from the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

Assembling a small, but mighty, team of leaders and technologists that possess strong technical and business acumen that is second-to-none. Together, we have been able to deliver on a business-enabling transformation strategy that is rare given its breadth, velocity and impact. We've closed three data centers (moving 100 percent to the cloud), replaced the entire network, implemented a cloud-based phone/collaboration platform, implemented SAP, replaced our financial reporting/planning platform, completed multiple acquisitions, rebranded the company, enhanced the security of the company — just to name a few. Needless to say, I am very proud of my team.

Rachel Lockett, CIO, Pohlads Cos.



Rachel Lockett is chief information officer at Pohlads Cos., working with businesses to transform their IT function into a strategic asset. She believes motivated, empowered people can leverage technology to solve almost any problem. Lockett has over 20 years of experience in IT management across a range of industries. She is known for driving innovative solutions from major software implementations to custom application development to infrastructure overhauls and cloud migrations. She achieves aggressive goals by building high-performing teams and a collaborative culture. She is a certified information systems security professional and a certified ITIL practitioner. She has a bachelor's degree in computer information systems from Illinois State University.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest achievement as the CIO of the Pohlads Cos. has been developing a collaborative community of IT professionals across our diverse group of businesses, and helping each of them to fundamentally transform the role of information technology into being a trusted business partner and strategic function for the organization with a seat at the executive table and a role in achieving the business objectives.

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Robert DuBois, CIO, Briggs and Morgan



Robert DuBois is chief information officer at Briggs and Morgan, a 160-attorney firm with two offices. As CIO, he is responsible for aligning technology with the business of law. He is serving in his second term on the firm's board of directors. In his current role as president, he chairs board meetings and facilitates strategic dialog. He previously was treasurer, where he provided oversight to ensure the financial standing and sustainability of the association. Previously, he served five years as a peer group vice president, leading the server operations and security peer group. DuBois has been in the technology profession for over 20 years. He also has a military background, which includes eight years in the New Hampshire National Guard, five years as enlisted and three years as a field artillery officer, leaving with a rank of first lieutenant.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

I am proud to say my greatest accomplishment is not one tangible thing, but many over time. It's my ability to create change in an organization that is resistant to change, to be strategic in one meeting and tactical in another, to work with an operations team that is reshaping our firm from a culture of resistance to change to one that embraces change, to see that being good lawyers is just part of the equation. We need them to be both good lawyers and good business people. To be a part of this change through technology is extremely rewarding.

Dixon Gould, SVP, CIO and CISO, Ability Network Inc.



Dixon Gould is senior vice president, chief information officer and chief information security officer at Ability Network Inc. He has 30 years of experience leading and delivering technology solutions. Dixon specializes in serving as a change agent, helping organizations reduce their IT spend while exceeding customer expectations. He possesses broad knowledge in all areas of IT, including application portfolio management, complex global networks, multisite large data centers, global voice networks, large data sets, and disaster recovery and business continuity planning, plus is well-versed in information security and compliance, including regulated environments. Dixon earned a Bachelor of Science and an MBA from California Coast University.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest success in my current role has been to transform IT's role in the organization from a technology delivery department to a strategic organization that partners with every aspect of the business beginning with marketing through the full inquiry to cash paradigm to the customer facing platforms which support the lion's share of all claims and eligibility for the U.S. health care market. What once was a department focused on answering calls and help desk tickets has been transformed into a strategic partner to the organization delivering critical solutions ensuring growth, velocity, compliance, security and shareholder value.

Jeffrey Loeb, SVP and CIO, Edina Realty Home Services



Jeffrey Loeb is senior vice president and chief information officer at Edina Realty Home Services. He has 20-plus years of corporate leadership experience, primarily with national and multinational retail entities. Previously, he served as CIO for Famous Dave's of America Inc., where he installed a real-time business intelligence solution, deployed CRM technology, and enhanced the web presence and added online ordering capability to improve the customer experience, all the while reducing operating costs. He also was CIO with Wilson's Leather, where he orchestrated a series of strategic initiatives.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest success has been in growing and mentoring the IT team. Moving them from old development processes to Agile, introducing them to new technologies and continuously challenging them to improve the products and support we provide our real estate agents. Finally, being able to get to know each one on an individual basis and being a part of their career growth and achievement.

Jim Nonn, CIO, Egan Co.



As Egan Co.'s chief information officer, Jim Nonn is responsible for the strategic direction of the company's information technology systems. Since joining Egan in 1998, Nonn has led the IT team in transforming it into a cutting-edge construction company, using the latest in technology for the field and office. After studying computer science at the University of Minnesota, he received extensive training at the National Guard Professional Education Center, a federal training facility in Little Rock, Ark., for his job at the Department of Military Affairs. He also has brought his innovative leadership to community involvement projects, including designing solar LED lighting systems for homes in Haiti. Nonn and his wife, Nicole, are proud parents of a young daughter.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

I'm proud to be a part of an IT team that cares deeply about their co-workers and the business that brings us all together. This passion for Egan and serving our fellow employees has helped us permeate every line of business and every department as a strategic and valued partner. The hard work and dedication of my team has propelled me to the board of directors at Egan, which has been a humbling experience and a tremendous opportunity to help drive differentiating change within our company.

William Tran, VP and CIO, Berkley Risk Administrators Co.



William Tran is a transformational leader who leverages technology to drive business success. He has over 20 years of experience in the information technology sector, and is now chief information officer of Berkley Risk Administrators Co. He also has worked or consulted for many companies including: U.S. Bancorp, RBC Financial, ArcherGrey, Ditech, Wells Fargo, Abbott, UnitedHealth Group Inc., Ameriprise Financial Inc., GMAC/RFC, Boeing, Deluxe Corp., Boston Scientific, CNO Financial Group, Travelers and Accenture.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest success is my ability to build an IT organization that not only keeps the lights on, but is the light for the company. When I started, over 80 percent of my time was spent on keeping the lights on. Now the team has literally taken over my support job, thus allowing me to change focus from operational to transformational and strategic. My goals are to transform the team beyond their current support role by eliminating inefficiencies through automation and process improvements. Ultimately, IT not only supports the business, but is a strategic partner that grows the business.

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Western National Insurance is proud to congratulate **Mike Braun** on being named a 2019 Twin Cities CIO of the Year Finalist. Mike's technology leadership over the past 14 years has provided the systems, strategy, and vision to help deliver consistently outstanding service to our customers in their time of need.



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Vi Bergquist, CIO and VP IT, St. Cloud Technical & Community College



Vi Bergquist has been working in the technology field for over 18 years. She joined St. Cloud Technical & Community College as chief information officer in 2005 and is responsible for leading technology strategy and the IT team. Bergquist is passionate about improving education through the use of technology. She is active in social media and views it as a means of sharing best practices in educational technology around the globe. She was featured in the list of 20 Influential CIOs in CXOTalk in 2016 and also was recognized in a list of the Top 50 Most Social CIOs in Higher Ed by Huffington Post. Bergquist is the author of several articles on the use of technology in higher education. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Dakota and a master's degree in information media from St. Cloud State University.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

My greatest success is being part of an organization that operates as a team to help students achieve their dreams. I have used my role as CIO to leverage technology to improve education from providing tools for digital simulation to more effective learning assessments to enabling global learning from a classroom in Minnesota. The IT team at the college has demonstrated its talent many times and been recognized as the sixth-most-digital small community college in the U.S. by the Center for Digital Education. There is no bigger success as a higher education CIO than helping students succeed.

Edmund Clark, VP IT, CIO and CDO, University of St. Thomas



Ed Clark is vice president for technology, chief information officer and chief digital officer at the University of St. Thomas. Prior to that, he was vice president and CIO at Minnesota State University, Mankato for four years. He also was director of information technology at the University of Minnesota's College of Liberal Arts for four years, and then served as the division's CIO for 10 years. He has been awarded for his work on strategic initiatives at the U of M and Minnesota State Mankato, along with recognition for his efforts in diversity and inclusion. Clark believes that outstanding educational leadership is key to creating a successful future for institutions and their students, faculty and staff. He focuses on using technology in innovative ways to advance research, teaching and learning, while also improving administrative efficiency and business processes.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

I believe that technology leadership is mostly about the people, not the technology. For that reason, I would say the most important accomplishment during my time at the University of St. Thomas has been the formation of an incredible leadership team that has the knowledge, ability and relationship skills to promote a technology-driven transformation of the entire campus. From our dramatic growth in online learning to our swift transition to the cloud, my IT services team is involved with nearly every aspect of our student customer experience, including recruitment, registration, course design and delivery, retention, and everything in between.

Tiffni Deeb, CIO, Minneapolis College



Since Tiffni Deeb began serving as Minneapolis Community & Technical College's chief information officer in 2013, her focus has been on developing a team of information technology experts who provide effective solutions, excellent customer service and proactive support for students and employees. Her guidance drives efficiencies in computer networking, wireless coverage, mobile applications and website development. She also oversees the management of technology projects and the College's portfolio of technology solutions. Deeb earned her Bachelor of Arts in technology and management from Metropolitan State University and an associate's degree in business management from Minnesota West Community and Technical College. Deeb co-sponsors Minnesota State's Gender Equity in Technology initiative.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

The greatest success in my current role is establishing the Gender Equity in Technology initiative for the Minnesota State system. As executive sponsor, I have introduced this initiative and obtained leadership support throughout the enterprise. I have two partners who lead and champion the initiative with me. We have hosted regional meetings, presented at national conferences and host monthly webinars. My initial goal was to educate others about gender equity and increase the number of females employed in technology in the system. I have gained more than I have taught. My voice will continue to carry on for the cause.

Douglas Hegley, CDO, Minneapolis Institute of Art



Douglas Hegley is chief digital officer at the Minneapolis Institute of Art. He's focused on leadership, strategy and organizational transformation. He began his career teaching and doing research within the higher-education sector before moving on to pediatrics research, which led to a role working on conflict resolution at the organizational level. He also worked at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, with a focus on reducing institutional conflict over the adoption of desktop and web technologies. In 2011, he joined MIA as its first C-level digital technology leader. He has worked with the museum's media and technology teams to build a fully-integrated and productive digital technology operation aligned with the organization's mission. He has served on the board of the Minnesota Association of Museums since 2013 and the board of the Museum Computer Network.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

All of my accomplishments are truly team accomplishments, and I feel both pride and humility when I acknowledge that teamwork and collaboration have led to success. I've worked with my team to achieve a complete digital transformation of the museum, which is our greatest success together. In just a few years, we have become a trusted and strategic business partner, driving innovation with a diverse and energized staff. When we delight our customers with layered digital experiences using modern technology, we develop a loyalty and repeat participation, which enables the museum to thrive.

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David Albright, VP and CIO, UCare



David Albright is vice president and chief information officer at UCare. During a career spanning more than 20 years, he held senior-level data analytics and IT roles at Optum, Moneygram International Inc., Minnegasco, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. At UCare, he provides strategic direction for the organization's technology staff and systems to enable the health plan to efficiently and effectively serve members and business partners. He oversees all areas of IT operations including architecture, applications, security and quality assurance. Albright is a Senn Delaney certified trainer. He also has served on several health care technology advisory councils, as well as the CIO Executive Council for CIO Magazine. Albright is a graduate of Arkla Executive Management and Officer School, and has a degree in computer science from LaSalle University.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

UCare has undertaken a significant effort to revitalize and transform its core operating, digital experience, care management and data systems. Over the next three years, the majority of its technology platforms are either being upgraded or replaced with new technologies. Successfully partnering with key business executives to deliver this large agenda has been my most significant accomplishment throughout the past year. With these partnerships, the company has been able to successfully complete the first year of this journey on time, within approved budgets with a high degree of quality. The IT team has performed at an exemplary level.

Debra Bauman, VP and CIO, Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation



Debra Bauman joined the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation in 2015 as executive director of technology services and chief information officer. She has over 30 years of experience in the technology services industry. Prior to joining the Foundation, she served as group president for Bremer Bank in charge of bank operations and technology; vice president for Target Technology Services, where she was in charge of financial services technology and Target.com; CIO for Deluxe Corp.; and CIO for Sun Country Airlines. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin. She has been a member of the strategic advisory board for FIS Global Solutions; a board member for several startups; and a member of the advisory board for Sophia Fund, an angel investment firm. She also has served as a board member of the nonprofit Bridge for Youth for the past seven years, the past three as chairwoman.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

I am very proud of the progress my team has made in going from an order taker to a strategic technology partner that is enabling the business to achieve its objectives. I have a small team that accomplishes an amazing amount of work and a large part of that is because they are so dedicated to our mission and helping save lives.

Tim Thull, SVP and CIO, Medica



Tim Thull is senior vice president and chief information officer at Medica. He is responsible for developing and directing the strategy and delivery of information technology to support Medica's business goals and objectives. He joined the organization in 2001 and has served in various leadership roles within information technology. He has over 20 years of IT and health care industry experience in technology consulting and with McKesson Corp. and Fiserv Inc. He is the executive representative to Medica's technology committee of the board of directors. He is a board member for Genesys Works Twin Cities and serves in various roles for industry-related organizations, including the Healthcare Executive Group, ThinkIT, Minnesota High Tech Association, Evanta CIO Summit and the MN IT Symposium. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Carleton College.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

While there are many outstanding team accomplishments over the past several years, there is not any one that can stand alone. I am as equally proud of the key strategic and business enabling activities that have allowed us to offer new products and grow into new markets as well as the day-to-day consistent delivery of a quality end user experience. I find the greatest success in our people and feel very fortunate to be a part of an organization that values our information technology team and allowed us to continuously deliver and improve along the way.

Matthew Werder, CTO, Hennepin Healthcare



Matthew Werder brings over 20 years of health care experience to his position as chief technology officer at Hennepin Healthcare. He studied biology and chemistry at Concordia University and proceeded to work within the health care provider and medical-device industries with companies such as Medtronic and Fairview Health Services. He is a certified Master Lean instructor and learned the value of lean operating principles as a consultant with OpEx Service Group. He has taken these skills, leadership, and a master's degree in health and human services administration to drive sustainable results. He has presented and been published on several topics focusing on operational excellence, cost management strategies, cybersecurity in the health care supply chain, and the role of health care technology in the patient experience.

What is your greatest success in your current role?

"One fails, we all fail," is a quote one of our veteran IT managers sings on a regular basis. As our team transformed, we have become more dynamic and relentless and evolved from an IT-centric to a user-centric approach in the delivery of health care technology. This cannot be accomplished without a great deal of teamwork that champions innovation, collaboration and change. I am amazed each day by our team of mission-driven IT professionals who bring their skills, experiences and knowledge to work with clinicians to tackle some of the greatest challenges facing health care.

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