



2023

# BAY AREA ORBIE® AWARDS

SAN FRANCISCO  
BUSINESS TIMES

SILICON VALLEY  
BUSINESS JOURNAL



**BAYAREACIO**



#### LEADERSHIP RECIPIENT

Rajat Taneja: Keeping  
the future in view

**B4**



#### FROM THE CHAIR

Adhir Mattu: Leadership  
makes the impossible possible

**B3**

The annual Bay Area ORBIE® Awards program honors chief information officers and, for the first-time ever, chief information security officers who have demonstrated excellence in technology leadership. Winners in the Super Global, Global, Large Enterprise, Enterprise, Large Corporate & CISO categories will be announced October 6 at Signia by Hilton San Jose.

# CONGRATULATIONS 2023 BAY AREA ORBIE NOMINEES

**JOHN ABEL**  
Extreme Networks

**YASSIR ABOUSSELHAM**  
UiPath

**SELIM AISSI**  
Blackhawk Network

**COLIN ANDERSON**  
Ceridian

**ALVINA ANTAR**  
Okta

**SUNNY AZADEH**  
GlobalLogic, A Hitachi Group  
Company

**NONI AZHAR**  
Podium

**ASHWIN BALLAL**  
Medallia

**TOM BALTIS**  
Delta Dental Insurance

**ATISH BANERJEA**  
Facebook (Meta)

**ROBERT BARRIOS**  
E&J Gallo Winery

**OPINDER BAWA**  
University of San Francisco

**CHRIS BEDI**  
ServiceNow

**SCOTT BEHM**  
Keysight Technologies

**BRAD BELL**  
Infoblox

**EDDIE BORRERO**  
Blue Shield of California

**BRUCE BURROUGHS**  
AAA Northern California, Nevada &  
Utah

**MICHAEL BURROUGHS**  
Shockwave Medical

**JASON CALLAHAN**  
Lam Research

**TIMOTHY CAMPOS**  
Apple

**COLIN CARMICHAEL**  
8X8 Inc

**DANA CARTER**  
Sutter Health

**JOHN CASELLA**  
Cooper Companies

**SANJAY CHANDRA**  
Lucid Motors

**KRISHNAN CHELLAKARAI**  
Gilead Sciences

**PAUL CHISAKI**  
California Casualty

**BETH CLARK**  
Lockheed Martin

**CHRIS CONRAD**  
Levi Strauss & Co.

**TOM CULLEN**  
Corsair

**KEN CUSHMAN**  
Pinterest

**NEIL DASWANI**  
QuantumScape

**ALAN DAVIDSON**  
Broadcom

**STEPHEN DEASY**  
Benchling

**TODD DEKKINGA**  
Zluri

**ARCHANA “ARCHIE” DESKUS**  
PayPal

**ANUJ DHANDA**  
Albertsons Safeway

**LUCIUS DIPHILLIPS**  
Airbnb

**RUSSELL FINDLEY**  
Sephora USA

**STEPHEN FRANCHETTI**  
Samsara

**BRIAN FULMER**  
Golden State Warriors

**STEVE GALLAGHER**  
Stanford University

**DARYL GANAS**  
Hewlett Packard Enterprise

**RICH GAY**  
PowerSchool

**SEBASTIAN GOODWIN**  
Nutanix

**RICHARD GOOLD**  
Lyell Immunopharma

**JYOTHI GORTI**  
Analog Devices

**KATHY GRANT**  
The William and Flora Hewlett Foun-  
dation

**MARK GRIMSE**  
Robert Half International

**ROGER HALE**  
Agora

**JEFF HASLEM**  
Talkdesk

**ROB HAWTHORNE**  
Lam Research

**CAL HENDERSON**  
Slack

**GREG HIGHAM**  
Malwarebytes

**JIM HUGHES**  
First Republic Bank

**SHANTHI IYER**  
DocuSign

**STEVE JANUARIO**  
Bill.com

**SUMIT JOHAR**  
Automation Anywhere Inc

**BRIAN JOHNSON**  
Armorblox

**MIKE JOHNSON**  
Fastly

**ERIC JOHNSON**  
Momentive.ai

**DATTA JUNNARKAR**  
Boeing

**SREEVENI KANCHARLA**  
Coalfire

**MIKE KELLY**  
Andreessen Horowitz

**JOHN KOHL**  
Agilent Technologies

**GORAN KUKIC**  
Reckitt

**MUKUL KUMAR**  
Marvell Technology Inc.

**SURESH KUMAR**  
Walmart

**PRANITI LAKHWARA**  
Zscaler

**LINH LAM**  
Jamf

**IAN LAW**  
Los Angeles World Airports

**TOM LE**  
Mattel, Inc.

**BO LI**  
TD SYNnex

**CHARLES LIANG**  
SuperMicro

**GRACE LIU**  
Seagate Technology

**JASON LOOMIS**  
Freshworks

**MARIA MACGUNIGAL**  
City of Sacramento

**MICHAEL MACHADO**  
Shippo

**ROBERT MACLAY**  
Stanford Children's Health

**CHETNA MAHAJAN**  
Amplitude

**KAL MAJMUNDER**  
Patelco Credit Union

**SEAN MALONE**  
DemandBase

**CHET MANDAIR**  
Guidewire

**SHARON MANDELL**  
Juniper Networks

**JAKE MCCLEAN**  
Tanium

**STEVE MCMAHON**  
CrowdStrike

**MUKESH MEHTA**  
AssetMark

**JARED MENDENHALL**  
Impossible Foods

**SHANIF MERCHANT**  
Numurus

**HEATHER MICKMAN**  
Gap Inc.

**ANTHONY MOISANT**  
Indeed

**ERIK MOLITOR**  
Bio-Rad

**KARL MOSGOFIAN**  
Gainsight

**MIKE MUCHA**  
Stanford Health Care

**WAGNER NASCIMENTO**  
Synopsis

**SONU NAYYAR**  
NVIDIA

**TIM O'NEILL**  
Hitachi Vantara

**LAMONT ORANGE**  
Netskope

**KEVIN PAIGE**  
Flexport

**MICHAEL PFEFFER**  
Stanford Health Care and Stanford  
School of Medicine

**STEVE PHILLPOTT**  
Solidigm

**ZACH POWERS**  
Benchling

**AVON PURI**  
Sequoia Capital

**VENKY RANGACHARI**  
Hewlett Packard Enterprise

**HASMUKH RANJAN**  
AMD

**ARCHANA RAO**  
Unity

**CARRIE RASMUSSEN**  
Ceridian

**NICK RECCHIA**  
University of San Francisco

**MIKE RIEP**  
Milestone Technologies

**JUAN E. RIOJAS**  
Twilio

**MICHAEL ROBINSON**  
Shutterfly

**AJAY SABHLOK**  
Rubrik

**NAGESH SALDI**  
Tesla

**NIK SATHE**  
Blackhawk Network

**BALA SATHIAMURTHY**  
Atlassian

**BILL SCHLOUGH**  
San Francisco Giants

**TREVOR SCHULZE**  
Alteryx

**DAVID SCHWARTZ**  
Ripple

**SUNIL SESHADRI**  
Wells Fargo

**MIHIR SHAH**  
Netgear

**PRANAV SHAHI**  
Atlassian

**GUS SHAHIN**  
Flextronics International Ltd.

**NARESH SHANKER**  
Xerox Corporation

**MARIA SHAW**  
Varian/Siemens Healthineers

**BRIAN SHEW**  
Iovance Biotherapeutics, Inc.

**BASIL SHIKIN**  
AppLovin

**GURMEET SINGH**  
GAP Inc.

**PRANAB SINHA**  
Matterport

**ALLAN SMITH**  
Peet's Coffee

**AVI SOKOL**  
KLA

**JESSICA SOTO**  
San Francisco International Airport

**SAKET SRIVASTAVA**  
Asana

**CYNTHIA STODDARD**  
Adobe

**JIM STRATTON**  
Workday

**JASON STRLE**  
Wells Fargo Technology

**HEMANTA SWAIN**  
Lucid Motors

**ERIC TAN**  
Coupa Software Inc

**RAJAT TANEJA**  
Visa

**MARIANNA TESSEL**  
Intuit

**SRIRAM THIAGARAJAN**  
Ancestry

**GRAEME THOMPSON**  
Informatica

**DOMINIC TITCOMBE**  
Delta Dental of California

**NAMO TIWARI**  
BrightDrop

**PANKAJ TIWARI**  
Penumbra Inc

**JEFF TRUDEAU**  
Chime

**TO TSANG**  
Silicon Valley Community Foundation

**DAVID TUGWELL**  
Agilent Technologies

**ANISHA VASWANI**  
Toast Inc.

**SANDY VENUGOPAL**  
Uber

**CHRISTINE VONDERACH**  
Recology

**AJAY WAGHRAY**  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company

**EVAN WAYNE**  
World Market

**FRIEDRICH WETSCHNIG**  
Flex

**LOUISE WILLARD**  
Federal Reserve Bank of San  
Francisco

**BRYAN WISE**  
6sense

**ELWIN WONG**  
Ross Stores

**MICHAEL XIE**  
Fortinet Inc

**JONATHAN YANAK**  
Intuitive Surgical

**ANTHONY “TONY” YOUNG**  
Sophos

**JEFF YU**  
Northrop Grumman Corporation

**NAVEEN ZUTSHI**  
Databricks Inc





FROM THE CHAIR

## Leadership makes the impossible possible

Technology is everywhere in our lives, and when it doesn't work, we notice.

For nearly twenty-five years, the Inspire Leadership Network has helped CIOs succeed in today's most challenging C-suite executive role. BayAreaCIO members grow their leadership through year-round, member-led programs and interaction. Working together, CIOs across public and private business, government, education, healthcare and nonprofit organizations collaborate, share ideas and best practices, and create enormous leadership value.

The ORBIE Awards bring together leaders facing similar challenges – and this year – the Inspire Leadership Network will grow to 30 chapters, including the first international chapter in Toronto, and 3 chapters exclusively for Chief Information Security Officers.

Security is top of mind for every leader and organization, and the same principles that have served CIOs can be applied to CISOs as well.

There is no textbook for how to be a great CIO or CISO. But relationships with other leaders facing similar challenges sharpen leadership acumen. Every leader's perspective is valuable and contributes to the conversation – and everyone wins by joining a peer leadership network.

Member-led, non-commercial programs build meaningful professional relationships with colleagues facing similar challenges, solving problems and avoiding pitfalls. Successful leaders understand the 'superpower' of trusted relationships. In any gathering of technology leaders, the answer is in the room.

Together, we are transforming our economy using technology & security, and enriching our region and our world. On behalf of BayAreaCIO, congratulations to the nominees and finalists on their accomplishments and thank you to the sponsors, underwriters, and staff who make the ORBIE Awards possible.



Sincerely

**Adhir Mattu**

2023 Chair, BayAreaCIO  
SVP & Chief Information Officer, NXP Corp.

# FURTHERING HUMAN PROGRESS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Lumen congratulates the Bay Area CIO of the Year ORBIE Award winners

Learn more at [lumen.com](https://lumen.com)

Services not available everywhere. ©2023 Lumen Technologies. All Rights Reserved.

**Networking • Edge Cloud • Security • Collaboration**

2023 KEYNOTE

# Ralph Loura

SVP & CIO,  
Lumentum (ret)



## How CIOs can shape sustainable technology and cultivate the next generation of leaders

*The Business Journals Content Studio*

Ralph Loura has always enjoyed a challenge. In fact, his career as an IT executive charted its course when he solved a departmental problem while working at Bell Labs as a programmer. Fresh out of college in the mid-1980s and frustrated over long queues and batch processing, he kept pestering the boss about getting those “new computers called workstations” into the department.

“I think he bought us three workstations just to shut me up,” Loura said. “He told me, ‘If you think you can make it better, go make it better.’ And we did.” Within six to eight months, the department was humming along with an easier and more user-centric experience thanks to Loura.

That experience cemented his path of fixing IT problems and creating solutions. “I really enjoyed delivering something that people used,” Loura said. “I stumbled into it accidentally and never turned back.”

Now semiretired from a long career in IT leadership at iconic brands such as Hewlett-Packard, Clorox and most recently as senior vice president and chief information officer of San Jose-based Lumentum (NASDAQ: LITE), Loura serves on several advisory boards and is chairman of SustainableIT.org, a nonprofit working to advance global sustainability through technology leadership. Recently, he was asked to share some of the lessons he learned during his career as a keynote speaker at the Bay Area ORBIE Awards event.

One of those lessons, Loura said, is the value of planning for, and celebrating, failure. It is a lesson he said can be taken from IT architectures that include network or server software redundancies. “We plan for some of those components to fail,” he said. “And if you’re pushing the envelope and trying new things, you’re not always going to have an on-budget success rate. So, we plan for that.”

Failing well isn’t easy, Loura said, especially for capable people who are successful and thoughtful. But it will happen, so “plan for it. Find ways to celebrate in an appropriate way.”

When looking to the future of the technology industry, especially at the executive leadership level, Loura is concerned about the talent pipeline and what he sees as an unexpected outcome from a prior solution. “A couple of decades ago,” he said, “we started outsourcing a lot of lower-level tasks and jobs to offshore vendors. This was fine and addressed a number of problems.”

But now, Loura stressed, the industry is lacking seasoned and experienced people for executive-level roles because the people with 15 years of experience running networks were outsourced. “We narrowed our talent pipeline dramatically,” he said. “We need to be thoughtful about where our next set of experienced leaders come from. It might take a generation to get those leaders back here. You can bring the building back, you can even hire operators to run the factory floor, but it’s really hard to bring back a generation of knowledge to run a very complex silicon reactor, for example.”

In his role as chairman of SustainableIT.org, Loura leads 25 CIOs active in the environmental, social and business governance (ESG) arena. Many companies are handed ESG initiatives from their CEO or investors, but Loura wants to broaden the role CIOs play within the space beyond “creating a quarterly dashboard that keeps track of carbon credits.”


“The CIOs bring to us what their companies are doing,” he said, “how they’re leaning in, how they’re trying to be different and innovative.” The group has just published a cohesive set of standards for sustainability, from an IT standpoint, that encourage broader thinking about sustainability that includes looking at the rates of laptop and phone re-purchases and other technology issues.

The organization will also be conducting training and possibly offering certification for sustainable IT practitioners. “We really want to up the dialogue in order to move us down that maturity curve faster than we’ve done in other transitions, like the digital transformation,” Loura said.

In addition to the advisory boards and his chairman role at SustainableIT.org, Loura also finds time for one-on-one mentoring, providing guidance to that next generation of leaders.

His advice is straightforward. “If you want a seat at the table, pull up a chair,” he said. “Have a point of view and add value. Spend time with your business partners, understand their pain points. Think about how to use technology to help them and pretty soon they won’t let you leave the room.”





Is it possible to  
drive my business  
forward—securely?

It's not just possible. It's happening with global secure networking from Comcast Business. If your business is pushing for more, choose the network that can keep up.

Visit [ComcastBusiness.com/Enterprise](https://ComcastBusiness.com/Enterprise) to learn more.

COMCAST  
BUSINESS

©2023 Comcast. All rights reserved.



## Congratulations **TO TSANG** and this year's CIO nominees.

**TO TSANG** is a visionary technology leader who helps our team do what we do best – connect our community to create an equitable, vibrant Silicon Valley.

# SUPER GLOBAL FINALISTS



2023  
ORBIE  
AWARDS

OVER \$10 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE & MULTI-NATIONAL OPERATIONS



## Archana "Archie" Deskus

EVP & CIO,  
PayPal



Archana (Archie) Deskus is the EVP and CIO at PayPal where she oversees PayPal's global information technology operations and is responsible for PayPal's Employee Technology and Experiences, Enterprise Data, Business Transformation Office, Infrastructure and Cloud Engineering teams. Previously, Archie served as SVP and CIO at Intel and Hewlett Packard Enterprise and held CIO roles at Baker Hughes, Ingersoll Rand, Timex, and United Technologies.

### SUCCESS STORY

My team's greatest accomplishment has been improving customer experience, while modernizing our capabilities and leveraging our scale to grow efficiently. Delivering on our company's vision to be the most trusted payment processor requires our platforms and solutions to be highly reliable, scalable and responsive. We delivered record results last year, approaching 99.999% reliability while processing more than 22 billion transactions and \$1.36 trillion in total payment volume. The tenacity of our teams and commitment to putting our customers first made this possible and I couldn't be prouder of the tremendous progress we have made as one PayPal.



## Jyothi Gorti

VP & CIO,  
Analog Devices



Jyothi Gorti is Vice President and Chief Information Officer (CIO) at Analog Devices. Jyothi leads a global organization directing strategic IT initiatives to accelerate the company's growth strategy across all functions of the enterprise. She is a seasoned IT leader with over 30+ years of experience, spending most of her career in the semiconductor industry. She is a passionate sponsor of women in technology and an advocate for diversity and inclusion.

### SUCCESS STORY

My journey to success can be traced back to the exceptional teams I have had the honor of leading. Additionally, I feel incredibly fortunate to have worked with some remarkable leaders who have inspired and influenced my own path. At ADI, instilling a customer-centric culture has been my top priority, and I take immense pride in the IT team's achievements. Consolidation of our Financial ERP systems into S4Hana and cloud computing for engineering design have been particularly impactful. These projects have not only added tremendous value to ADI but have also established the IT team as mission-critical to ADI's success.



## Venky Rangachari

VP Global IT,  
Hewlett Packard Enterprise



Venky Rangachari is a senior technology executive with deep experience in Digital Transformations, AI, Cyber security, Enterprise Risk & Compliance. Venky is currently the VP IT at Hewlett Packard Enterprise, a Fortune 100 company. At HPE, Venky is co-leading transformation to "As a Service" and a public cloud AI platform. Venky holds a bachelor's degree in Mathematics & Computer Science. Venky serves on the advisory board of several cyber companies including Armorblox (Cisco) and Transmit Security.

### SUCCESS STORY

In 2019 HPE announced the transformation to an Edge to Cloud company delivered on a "as a service" platform. One of the critical priority was having a Unified, Secure and Modern platform for IAM (identity & Access Management). Each Product for example Compute, Storage, Networking, AI had their own IAM framework for Authentication & Authorization. One of the critical success factors for the transformation is to have a Unified, secure and modern platform for IAM across all products that provides superior customer experience. Venky led this critical Initiative that resulted in over \$1.5 Billion in annual recurring revenues over 2 years.



## Cynthia Stoddard

CIO & SVP,  
Adobe



As senior vice president and chief information officer of Adobe, Cynthia Stoddard oversees Adobe's global Technology Services teams. In her leadership role, Cynthia spearheads a global strategy for delivering services and operations that form the mission-critical backbone for the company. She has 25-plus years of business experience and IT expertise leading large global organizations including Netapp, Safeway, and APL Limited in supply chain, retail, and technology development.

### SUCCESS STORY

Cynthia's team developed the "Workspace Store," an online portal where employees can license approved software titles. Using automation technology, they analyzed disparate data sets to understand employee purchasing behaviors, developed end-to-end purchasing journeys and reclaimed +20,000 unused licenses to date. Since 2021, the Store has become widely adopted by employees, unlocked \$75M+ in savings, and has a 4.5/5.0 ESAT rating. The Store has improved control of Adobe's software ecosystem - mitigating risk through active monitoring, centralizing approvals, promoting licensing and agreement optimization, and enabling engineering innovation. This transformed how employees consume software by standardizing the procurement process and stopping sprawl.





ANNUAL MEMBER CONFERENCE

# CONVERGE

DALLAS, TX | AUGUST 13-15, 2024

SCAN &  
REGISTER



Converge24 registration is exclusive to Inspire Leadership Network members

## Cloudflare Zero Trust

Stop data loss, malware and phishing with the most performant Zero Trust application access and Internet browsing platform.

**Our network now spans 275 cities**



# GLOBAL FINALISTS



2023  
ORBIE  
AWARDS

OVER \$1.5 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE & MULTI-NATIONAL OPERATIONS



## Alvina Antar

CIO,  
Okta



As Okta's CIO, Alvina is focused on scaling Okta for durable growth and enabling a seamless customer and employee experience. Prior to Okta, Alvina spent six years as Zuora's first-ever CIO, driving business growth and taking Zuora through a successful IPO. She serves on several boards — Couchbase, Girls in Tech, and the Advisory Boards of BUILD and BayAreaCIO — and co-founded the Silicon Valley CIO Women's Network. Alvina and her family live in Menlo Park, California.

### SUCCESS STORY

I'm proud to lead an incredibly talented BT team shaping the evolution of the IT industry! Together, we're evolving our role from technology experts to strategic leaders accelerating Okta's business transformation. A great success has been our "Okta on Okta" initiative, advising customers on the importance of being Identity-first. This program has helped us win new customers and has had a significant impact on our bottom line. We've also embarked on our own passwordless journey and are on track to reach 100% this year. I believe in a passwordless future and I'm proud to share our story with the world.



## Chris Conrad

SVP & CIO,  
Levi Strauss & Co.



As an experienced strategist with a forward-thinking approach, I have been at the forefront of spearheading groundbreaking innovations in IT solution design and architecture for large global enterprises. My expertise lies in harnessing cutting-edge technologies to drive profitability and foster long-term business growth through disruptive digital transformations.

### SUCCESS STORY

We have deployed global standard operating and streamline business processes within a single ERP platform to reduce the need for manual data entry and reconciliation across these legacy platforms. This is increasing efficiency and productivity by eliminating redundant tasks and reducing the time required to perform routine tasks. Also, improving decision-making. This Digital Core will provide a more complete and accurate view of the business, making it easier for decision-makers to access real-time information and make informed decisions based on accurate data providing a more flexible and scalable platform for growth.



## Ken Cushman

CIO,  
Pinterest



Ken Cushman is the Chief Information Officer at Pinterest where he focuses on leading the IT technologists who help enable Pinployees to build, deliver, sell and support the Pinterest product. Prior to Pinterest, Ken was Chief Information Officer at Yahoo and Verizon Media. He acts as an advisor to the San Francisco CIO Governing Body and graduated from San Jose State University with a BS in MIS. Ken resides in the San Francisco Bay Area.

### SUCCESS STORY

Leading Pinterest IT through a transformation to a product-lead proactive partner is a multi-year journey. In the last year I've reset our strategy, reorganized the team, built strong cross-functional partnerships across the organization, and re-established credibility with key stakeholders all while moving the business forward without disruption. The teams are on an excellence journey and in year one we've evolved our planning discipline and have dramatically improved our execution while improving the team's accountability. Despite the amount of change in our service delivery, customer satisfaction scores and the IT team's engagement scores are at an all time high.



## Sharon Mandell

CIO,  
Juniper Networks



Sharon Mandell is Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at Juniper, where she heads up the global information technology team responsible for the company's IT infrastructure and applications. Previously, Mandell was Chief Information Officer for TIBCO, having developed her leadership strategy at Harmonic, Black Arrow (now Cadent), Knight Ridder and the Tribune Company. Mandell is a fervent supporter of women in STEM and currently teaches in the MSIS program at University of San Francisco.

### SUCCESS STORY

Since arriving at Juniper, I have shifted our team's focus to better recognize and drive the company's desired strategic outcomes. I have encouraged them to look beyond the 'what' of the work we are asked to do, to deeply understand the 'why,' and to ensure that we are always prioritizing the experience of the customer or end user first and foremost. They have taken the challenge on headfirst and have become much more engaged employees. The result? IT is no longer viewed as a cost of doing business, but as a true partner in propelling Juniper's success.



## Pranav Shahi

Head of IT,  
Atlassian



Pranav Shahi is the Head of IT at Atlassian, a leading software company. He has built and scaled the IT organization to support a \$3B business with 30%+ YoY growth. Pranav's leadership drove digital transformations, executed 10+ acquisitions. With 25 years of industry experience, he has excelled at Veritas, Pacific Biosciences, and Cisco, demonstrating expertise in enterprise architecture and IT strategic roles. Pranav holds bachelor's & master's degrees in Computer Science and Software from Indian Universities.

### SUCCESS STORY

Atlassian IT serves as a modern IT showcase for teams, practices, and technology. We used 5 strategic areas to achieve organizational goals:

1. Being a strategic advisor to the business, accelerating and modernizing technology usage.
2. Building platforms for economies of scale, accelerated impact, and connected insights.
3. Adopting a product-based operating model for continuous improvement and innovation.
4. Enhancing user experience with data-driven insights.
5. Acting as the "First and Best" IT customer for Atlassian products, sharing our story with customers.

These strategies enabled us to grow our revenue, scale our back-office financials, or supercharge our Enterprise sales motion.



## Naveen Zutshi

CIO,  
Databricks Inc



Naveen is CIO at Databricks responsible for global IT, prior to Databricks Naveen was CIO at Palo Alto Networks and before that held leadership roles at Gap and Cisco. In between, Naveen also spent three years leading R&D at a software SaaS company. Naveen is also on board of advisors for many early stage technology companies and has been previously board of director for Propelo, and board of advisors at Zoom and Rubrik.

### SUCCESS STORY

I am builder at heart and I have been privileged to work at amazing companies like Palo Alto Networks, Databricks, Cisco, Gap, and startups where I had the opportunity to build an amazing team to achieve amazing results together.



# LARGE ENTERPRISE FINALISTS



2023  
ORBIE  
AWARDS

OVER \$1.4 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE



## Sunny Azadeh

CIO,  
GlobalLogic, A Hitachi  
Group Company



For over 30 years, Sunny has engaged with leaders through international growth, acquisitions, turnaround, LBO, and IPO. She has a successful track record as an Information Technology leader at GlobalLogic, a Hitachi Group Company, Guidewire, Agile Software, Align Technology, and ZiLOG, helping o scale and diversify their businesses through technology. Sunny has an entrepreneurial spirit and founded several Technology Advisory and IT Management Consulting. She is passionate about STEM, advancing women in technology and leadership.

### SUCCESS STORY

On February 24, 2022, the Russian invasion of Ukraine started with a significant disruptive impact on companies across the globe. Many GlobalLogic custom business applications and global projects ran from Ukraine data centers. Due to severe risks to GlobalLogic operations, business continuity, and information security, customers were raising concerns and planning the movement of projects to other locations/ countries as remediation. My team did a superb job under stressful conditions, at times working from bomb shelters with a smile! All internal critical services are migrated to GCP in 7 days and more—the highlight of my career.



## Datta Junnarkar

Division CIO -  
Autonomous Maritime,  
Boeing



Datta Junnarkar is the Chief Information Officer, Autonomous Maritime at Boeing. This division makes Autonomous Unmanned vehicles that are used by Environmental, Oil and Gas, Scientific and Defense customers. Datta has more than 23 years of experience with companies from startups to Fortune 50 from different verticals. In his current role, he is responsible Infrastructure, Business Applications, Cybersecurity, Global Privacy and Compliance, Digital Transformation, Data Analytics, Customer Experience, and M&A Integration.

### SUCCESS STORY

Datta came to Boeing through the acquisition of Autonomous Ocean Robot company Liquid Robotics in 2017. Prior to that he held IT Leadership positions in several Large Enterprises and Startups. He also co-founded three startups in Security, HealthTech and Education space. Datta is a Technologist, Innovator, Strategist, with strong business acumen and was recognized for his accomplishments in IT, AI, Business Transformation and Leadership.



## Michael Pfeffer

CIO and Associate Dean,  
Clinical Professor of  
Medicine,  
Stanford Health Care and  
Stanford School of Medicine



Michael A. Pfeffer, MD, serves as the Chief Information Officer and Associate Dean for Stanford Health Care and the Stanford University School of Medicine. Michael is a clinical professor and a hospitalist physician, remaining active in patient care, medical education, and research related to health information technology and clinical informatics. Prior to joining Stanford, Michael served as the Chief Information Officer and Assistant Vice Chancellor at UCLA Health Sciences.

### SUCCESS STORY

I am incredibly proud of my team for their dedication to our mission: improving health through leadership, diversity, collaborative discoveries, and innovation in health care, education, and research. Despite working tirelessly to support our patients, providers, faculty, staff, and learners through the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to have a passion for transforming health through information technology. My team has had many successes, including hosting over 600,000 video visits through our patient portal, completing a multi-year data center consolidation focused on sustainability for >1,500 applications, and developing a first-of-its-kind applied health data science team with our inaugural Chief Data Scientist.



## Archana Rao

CIO,  
Unity



Archana Rao is responsible for building and scaling all the systems and processes used by employees and business functions. She has +20 years of experience setting systems strategy and partnering with business leaders to build and scale corporate systems. Before Unity, Archana served as the CIO of Atlassian where she led all aspects of Global IT during a time of tremendous growth. She has also held various senior leadership roles at Veritas, Symantec and Cisco.

### SUCCESS STORY

Under my guidance, IT transformed into a strategic ally, fostering trust with the business and driving Unity's exponential growth. As CIO, I orchestrated a seamless reorganization that empowered our team to adapt swiftly, aligning IT with business objectives. This synergy led to enhanced innovation, optimized processes, and streamlined operations, bolstering overall efficiency. Through effective collaboration, we harnessed technology's potential, propelling the organization to unprecedented heights, solidifying the indispensable role of a CIO in catalyzing success within modern enterprise.



## Michael Robinson

CIO,  
Shutterfly



Michael Robinson is passionate about accelerating business results through better use of technology - transforming how organizations drive earnings, better serve their customers, and enable employee collaboration. Leveraging nearly 30 years of technology leadership and executive management experience, from leading business transformations at Accenture and McKesson to his current role as Shutterfly's CIO, Michael instills the courage to change as he develops teams and leads technology delivery with an agile, servant-leader mindset.

### SUCCESS STORY

I'm proud of leading a team that has enabled Shutterfly to operate as one integrated enterprise. We've driven a multi-year cloud adoption and application rationalization strategy that integrated three acquisitions, brought the entire company onto a common collaboration platform, and migrated our back-office to one cloud-based ERP. Our cloud data platform enables analytics, data science, and AI/ML that drive revenue; and our SaaS CRM has enabled the transformation of sales, operations, and service. Leading through these changes, we've maintained a highly engaged internal team despite the economic and pandemic headwinds, and optimized our mix of insourced vs. outsourced support.



## To Tsang

SVP of IT and Knowledge  
Management,  
Silicon Valley Community  
Foundation



To Tsang is the senior vice president of information technology and knowledge management at Silicon Valley Community Foundation. He oversees and optimizes all aspects of information technology, cybersecurity, knowledge management, and data analytics functions, and leads the enterprise-wide digital transformation. Previously, To was director of information technology at the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, where he oversaw all facets of information technology.

### SUCCESS STORY

As senior vice president of information technology and knowledge management, I oversee and optimize all aspects of SVCF's information technology, cybersecurity, knowledge management, and data analytics functions. Additionally, I lead the digital transformation and implementation of enterprise-wide systems to modernize the core work of the foundation, streamline the end-to-end processes, and to improve how SVCF operates.



## OVER \$1 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE



### John Abel

SVP & CIO,  
Extreme Networks



John Abel is Senior Vice President and CIO at Extreme Networks. He has worked in the high-tech industry for 30 years. Originally from Northern Ireland, John moved to Silicon Valley after earning his degree in Information Systems and getting into consulting. John has led numerous IT business transformations at companies including Symantec and Hitachi Data Systems and was most recently CIO at Ellie Mae and Veritas Technologies before joining Extreme.

#### SUCCESS STORY

Since joining Extreme just over two years ago, John Abel, CIO for Extreme Networks has been a pivotal leader for enabling the company's successful transition and subsequent growth to a cloud networking company. Through modernization of core platforms, significant process changes and innovative new business practices, the IT organization has transformed from focusing on internal efficiency, to an essential contributor of the company's overall success. In his own words John has said "The success of our transformation journey at Extreme is all due to our people and I am delighted to be a part of a such an amazing team".



### Bruce Burroughs

EVP, CTO,  
AAA Northern California,  
Nevada, and Utah



Bruce Burroughs is EVP & Chief Technology Officer at AAA NCNU. He oversees Information Technology and Cyber Security across the enterprise. He has worked for HP, ArcSight, Symantec, Price Waterhouse, OppenheimerFunds, and CNET, and has been a member of Silicon Valley's CISE group since 2006. He holds a degree in Computer Science from Iowa State University. Each year, he takes a trip with his two sons to spend time in the wilderness to refresh his mind.

#### SUCCESS STORY

Taking risks and being innovative are hallmarks of my success. My career began as a consultant at Price Waterhouse, establishing the foundation that propelled me to become the CIO of ArcSight. There, I realized how important it is for a CIO to possess cybersecurity expertise. Despite the well-intentioned concerns of my colleagues, I decided to take a risk and explore the field of cybersecurity at HP. That opportunity enabled me to become an innovative leader capable of seamlessly integrating cybersecurity into the fabric of organizations. It also led me to my current role as EVP and CTO at AAA NCNU.



### Praniti Lakhwara

CIO,  
Zscaler



As Chief Information Officer, Praniti is responsible for leading Zscaler's Information technology solutions and enabling a seamless experience for customers and employees. She is focused on driving a comprehensive strategy that will help scale the company rapidly, build a world class IT organization, deliver innovative solutions globally, and create a secure robust infrastructure. Praniti holds a B.S. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from Arizona State University.

#### SUCCESS STORY

Championed and evangelized product centric teams, Agile best practices to establish a continuous improvement-focused culture with the capability to drive Lean operational optimization while executing digital transformation efforts. Removed end of quarter bottlenecks within 6 months by creating a minimal no touch infrastructure to automate order receipt, PO quality checks, Creation and booking, Invoicing and automated cloud provisioning. Established a Zscaler on Zscaler program starting with best in class Zscaler implementation and policy enforcement, Zero trust principles, Beta program with eng and product, and customer showcase with Z on Z journey.



### Ajay Sabhlok

CIO & Chief Data Officer,  
Rubrik



Ajay Sabhlok is the CIO & Chief Data Officer at Rubrik, a cybersecurity company. He promotes business partnership and innovation to turn IT into a growth catalyst for Rubrik and a place where employees thrive and build a career. Previously Ajay worked in IT leadership roles at VMware, Logitech and Mercury Interactive. He received a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, India. Besides work Ajay is passionate about helping the community.

#### SUCCESS STORY

Turning IT into a business growth catalyst, Rubrik into a data driven company and investing in employee development are my biggest accomplishments. Developing a strong CIO network has helped too. IT has consistently delivered on all fronts with major on-time deliveries in go-to-market, accounting, compliance, TechOps, and security areas. A well-defined and coordinated annual demand management planning process helped capture, prioritize & fund business demand and a quarterly review helped address all incremental changes. A weekly plan of record review ensured initiatives were monitored to completion. Through consistently overachieving growth targets over 3 years Rubrik's future looks bright!



### Sriram Thiagarajan

CTO,  
Ancestry



Sriram Thiagarajan has served as Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer at Ancestry since November 2020 and is responsible for ensuring Ancestry's customers have the best product experience powered by its software products, advanced technologies, and cloud platform. With 20+ years of experience, Sriram joined Ancestry after serving as SVP & Chief Information Officer at Infoblox and as the Global Head of IT & Corporate Engineering at Twitter.

#### SUCCESS STORY

I'm proud of Ancestry's successful migration to a 100% public cloud infrastructure, resulting in a 32.9% reduction in carbon emissions. We harness advanced technologies to synthesize data to empower customers' personal discoveries. With a significant \$300 million invested, we built the largest collection of digitized records, largely made possible by AI. Our proprietary AI Handwriting Recognition technology indexed 150 million records within the 1950 U.S. Census in just 9 days, a remarkable improvement from the previous nine months. Ancestry's purpose-driven approach connects individuals to their history, utilizing big data and cloud technologies to make genealogical research more accessible for all.



# LARGE CORPORATE FINALISTS



2023  
ORBIE  
AWARDS

UP TO \$1 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE



## Brad Bell

CITO/CISO,  
Infoblox



Brad Bell is a veteran technology executive with over 30 years of experience leading global organizations. Prior to Infoblox, he led the Global Infrastructure at Microsoft. Prior to Microsoft, Bell was the CIO for Sonos Inc. He spent 17 years at Cisco leading various teams with progressively broader leadership responsibilities including WebEx. Bell holds a bachelor's in finance from California State University, Sacramento and completed the Technology Leader Program from Stanford Graduate School of Business.

### SUCCESS STORY

My team transformed the foundation of our company. We touched technology and processes that support our pivot to SaaS. Its rewarding to have the latitude to set the agenda partnering with our executive team. Building out a worldclass team and having the best people I can imagine to work with is about as good as it gets. We have built from the ground up and while doing so have touched virtually every process and platform. Its humbling to be in a position where so many place their trust in a team to drive great results and we do!



## Colin Carmichael

CIO,  
8X8 Inc



With a dynamic IT career spanning top-tier companies like Sun Microsystems, Amazon, Oracle, FireEye, and 8X8, I've honed my expertise in both business and IT transformation. I've navigated complex digital landscapes, driving innovation and efficiency through cutting-edge solutions. My passion lies in seamlessly bridging technology and business objectives, creating agile systems that propel organizations forward. I'm committed to driving change, optimizing operations, and ensuring that technology is a strategic enabler in achieving corporate goals.

### SUCCESS STORY

Rescued an out of control Billing project saving the company \$1m/yr. Optimized and rebuilt the IT team focussing on higher skilled leadership and removing inefficient processes and people, resulting in \$2M/yr savings. Took project delivery predictability from 60% to 90%. Conducted Enterprise business application portfolio review and initiated a Quote-to-Order Transformation program which included a complete rebuild of a new Salesforce org leveraging Salesforce Telecoms Industries solutions, a new Billing platform and a new EDP (Enterprise Data Platform). Drove QA organization from manual testing to automated testing with a resultant 50% headcount reduction.



## Sanjay Chandra

VP & Head of IT,  
Lucid Motors



Sanjay Chandra is Vice President of Information Technology and heads up all IT functions at Lucid Motors. He is responsible for IT Operations, Enterprise Systems, IT and OT Infrastructure, Go-to-Market Technologies, Enterprise Systems and Corporate Cyber Security. Prior his current role, Sanjay served as Chief Information Officer and Head of Cloud Operations at TiVo/ Xperi. Prior to TiVo, Sanjay spent honed his experiences in large organizations, including Workday, PayPal and Virgin Mobile.

### SUCCESS STORY

Sanjay Chandra is the head of IT for Lucid Motors. He leads a talented team of individuals that helps advance Lucid's global sustainability mission by enabling IT technology solutions to the organization including Global Infrastructure, Enterprise Systems, Go-to-market technologies, and Cyber Security functions. His strength comes from the leadership that surrounds him and from the diverse set of experiences this team brings. This has enabled IT to help lead Lucid forward as it expands globally.



## Trevor Schulze

CIO,  
Alteryx



As Alteryx's CIO, Schulze leads the global IT team in delivering a comprehensive, business-led services and solutions portfolio. He works to inspire teams to envision and execute solutions to difficult business problems. Schulze focuses on transforming businesses through innovative operational and technology initiatives and bringing award-winning products to market. Before Alteryx, Schulze served as CIO at RingCentral; Global CIO at Micron; VP Enterprise Applications at Broadcom; VP IT at AMD; and VP, CDO at Cisco.

### SUCCESS STORY

Business outcomes judge our IT success story. IT proudly spearheads the company's comprehensive digital transformation, revolutionizing business processes and enhancing operational efficiency. By strategically implementing cutting-edge technologies, we help drive innovation and foster a culture of continuous learning across the company. Our Alteryx-on-Alteryx initiative demonstrates to our customers how Alteryx runs our business on a modern data stack with AI-driven insights, helping them leverage our model for their businesses. Our proven ability to align IT initiatives with business objectives garners strong stakeholder support, which elevates the company's competitiveness while establishing it as a trailblazer in the digital era.



## Saket Srivastava

CIO,  
Asana



Saket is the CIO at Asana with responsibility of Enterprise Applications, Enterprise Data , Corporate Security, IT Operations, End User Services, Enterprise PMO, Asana on Asana (Customer 0). He has a dual focus - responsibility for digital employee experience and improving processes through people, process and technology (& data) AND helping Asana's GTM motion.

### SUCCESS STORY

Asana is a leader in the Collaborative Work Management category with 80% of the Fortune 100 companies as customers and Asana is used by over 140K customers across the globe. Saket is the CIO at Asana with responsibility of Enterprise Applications, Enterprise Data , Corporate Security, IT Operations, End User Services, Enterprise PMO, Asana on Asana (Customer 0). He has a dual focus - responsibility for digital employee experience and improving processes through people, process and technology (& data) AND helping Asana's GTM motion.



## Namo Tiwari

CIO,  
BrightDrop



Namo Tiwari, BrightDrop's CIO, is a seasoned technology professional with 25+ years' experience. Leading strategic direction and IT management, he excels in complex transformation projects. As a thought leader, Namo shares insights on innovation, cybersecurity, and emerging tech. Renowned for clear communication, he transformed BrightDrop's IT, driving innovation and customer experiences. With a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin, Namo ensures continuous digital leadership, elevating technological prowess, delivering exceptional value to customers.

### SUCCESS STORY

BrightDrop's IT organization propelled the EV company with a cloud-first strategy and cutting-edge innovations. Within 6 months, they overhauled the IT infrastructure, deploying a state-of-the-art CRM and ERP system for streamlined processes and data-driven decisions. As "Point of View solutions" providers, they showcased visionary leadership and gained industry recognition, featured in CIO.com. BrightDrop IT's outcomes set new standards for excellence, solidifying their position as electric vehicle pioneers. Committed to innovation and customer satisfaction, they lead the industry into a greener future.



## CHIEF INFORMATION SECURITY OFFICERS



### Selim Aissi

Global CISO,  
Blackhawk Network



As CISO for Blackhawk Network, Selim Aissi helped shape the future of cybersecurity for the company. Selim has more than 25 years of experience in numerous leadership positions in the technology and financial industries. Prior to Blackhawk Network, he was SVP and CISO at Ellie Mae. He previously held senior security positions at Intel, Visa, General Motors, and General Dynamics. Selim earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. engineering degrees from the University of Michigan.

#### SUCCESS STORY

Selim's contributions since he joined Blackhawk Network have enabled the company to continue delivering innovative security solutions as part of a new commerce landscape. He changed the company's security culture from being compliance-driven to a security-first culture, he significantly improved the relationship and trust between Information Security and the Business organizations by streamlining the cross-organizational engagement model and advancing customer-facing engagements. Selim has created a new security culture at BHN, where partnership, engagement, accountability, and trust are the core fundamentals.



### Colin Anderson

CISO,  
Ceridian



Colin Anderson is a 3x CISO for large public global enterprises. Prior to Ceridian Colin was the CISO at Levi Strauss and Safeway. He has served as a CISO for over 14 years and has 25 years of experience in the security industry. Colin has held leadership roles at BofA, Commerce One, Safeway, Levi Strauss, and Ceridian in his 30 year career. He holds a BS in Finance and an MS in Management Information Systems.

#### SUCCESS STORY

My greatest accomplishment is building a team which has developed a strong people centric cybersecurity program and culture that fosters personal growth and encourages taking calculated risks to change the status quo driving innovation in cybersecurity. This high achieving team has designed and implemented a risk-based metrics driven global cybersecurity program with high levels of intelligence and automation. The cybersecurity program is aligned to the businesses' core revenue generating products and services portfolio to efficiently manage risk to the enterprise. The cybersecurity team embraces the mindset that cybersecurity is a team sport and has strong security partnerships across the business.



### Eddie Borrero

CISO,  
Blue Shield of California



Eddie Borrero is a transformative global business leader and champion of diversity, equity and inclusion who has over 25 years of experience managing technology, security, privacy, and risk teams in a variety of verticals. He brings vast experience to his role as Blue Shield of California's Chief Information Security Officer, and a cutting-edge perspective as a business leader on corporate boards.

#### SUCCESS STORY

I am privileged to lead one of the top information security teams in the industry, and I'm extremely proud of our proactive security posture. We have prioritized strong and trusted relationships with our business partners to securely improve member, provider, and employee digital experiences; protect our data ecosystem; and implement the technologies that will enable real-time data sharing and interoperability for a reimagined healthcare system of the future. We are trusted partners aligning innovative security solutions and services with our business objectives, and I'm honored to lead our team of protectors at Blue Shield of California.



### Krishnan Chellakarai

CISO,  
Gilead Sciences



Krishnan is the Chief Information Security Officer and Head of Employee Experience at Gilead Sciences, headquartered in Foster City, California. He has over 30 years of Information Technology and Cybersecurity experience in multinational biopharmaceutical, financial, and technology environments. Krishnan is proficient in digital resilience, intellectual property protection, enterprise risk management, compliance, and data privacy. He is passionate about bringing diverse talent into cybersecurity, risk and compliance areas through his non-profit NextGen Cyber Talent.

#### SUCCESS STORY

I am invested in bringing more diverse talent into the industry. I founded NextGen Cyber Talent Inc., a non-profit organization that provides a platform for underprivileged and underserved students to learn cybersecurity and data protection concepts, techniques, processes, and solutions. We suggest and sponsor relevant courses based on student profiles and enable them to design career paths by providing full-time placements, internships, or externships. To date, we have trained nearly 430 candidates in 10 cybersecurity areas, and we have helped 25 candidates find jobs in cybersecurity. Additionally, we have provided grants to 30 candidates in Bay area community colleges.



### Mukul Kumar

CISO,  
Marvell Technology Inc.



As a Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), I take great pride in achieving a significant milestone: unifying our teams under a forward-thinking vision, emphasizing proactive cybersecurity rather than a reactive approach. In my role, I understand that while technology is fundamental, it is equally crucial to prioritize people, processes, and automation.

#### SUCCESS STORY

Our "lean forward" strategy has elevated our organization, positioning us to develop a robust and comprehensive cybersecurity framework that aligns seamlessly with our company's overarching goals and objectives. Beyond technical measures, collaboration with C-level executives led to a security-centric culture and fostered awareness throughout our organization. One of my key achievements has been in heightening awareness about security best practices and implementing employee training programs. This proactive approach has significantly reduced the likelihood of human error, leading to potential security breaches. Through these concerted efforts, we fortify our cybersecurity defenses and safeguard our organization's digital assets.



### Hemanta Swain

Global Head of Security and Compliance (CISO),  
Lucid Motors



Hemanta is a seasoned technology and cybersecurity leader, and a trusted strategic board advisor. He is an expert in advancing digital and cybersecurity risk management efforts for various industries. He is currently with Lucid Motors, and serving trusted advisor to multiple startup boards. The Industry Era recognized Hemanta as one of the 10 best CISOs in 2021. Hemanta's profound mission is to "Building Trust in this digital world for a safer and better future."

#### SUCCESS STORY

Hemanta, a seasoned cybersecurity and technology leader with over two decades of experience, has driven impactful transformation programs for diverse industries. Recently, he achieved a remarkable feat by condensing three years of cybersecurity program implementation into a single year and building a robust global cybersecurity team to support fast-paced EV innovation. His unwavering dedication to risk management has led to the successful implementation of cybersecurity programs to reduce cyber risks and the cultivation of a proactive security culture. Hemanta's expertise made him a trusted advisor for cybersecurity startup boards to foster innovation and contribute to the risk management industry.



# Quick pivots without the spin.

VMware Cross Cloud™  
services delivers  
the flexibility your  
business needs.

[vmware.com/welcome](https://vmware.com/welcome)

The smarter way  
to cloud™

© 2023 VMware, Inc. VMware and "The smarter way to cloud"  
are trademarks of VMware, Inc.

VMware congratulates the  
Bay Area CIO of the Year®  
ORBIE® Award winners  
and nominees.

**vmware®**



## Work, at the speed of conversation

Moveworks is the AI-powered  
enterprise copilot platform that  
**unifies all business systems**

Learn more at [moveworks.com/ORBIE](https://moveworks.com/ORBIE)



2023 LEADERSHIP RECIPIENT

# Rajat Taneja

President, Technology | Visa

## Leadership recipient Rajat Taneja on keeping the future in view

By The Business Journals Content Studio

While an engineering student at Jadavpur University in West Bengal, India, Rajat Taneja studied the complicated scientific computer language known as Fortran. Released in the late 1950s, it is the oldest programming language still in use due to its flexibility in evolving for computationally intensive applications. Taneja says coming to understand the profound power of software to make his role as an engineer more impactful was transformational. He was hooked.

Today, after decades working in cutting-edge technology, Taneja said, "Once I started working, I felt like I would do this even if no one paid me. It's so gratifying and so much fun, too."

Taneja's professional career has provided him with outstanding opportunities during a robust time in technological development. He joined Microsoft in 1996 and, for the next 15 years, was involved with the company's biggest and best products, including Xbox Live, Office product expansions including the precursor to today's Office 365 and Bing ad platform and commercial search engine. His last role was as corporate vice president of the commerce division, which was part of the Azure organization.

Taneja next had a brief stint at gaming company Electronic Arts, serving as chief technology officer before joining Visa as the president of



**"Our obsession  
with our clients  
means our  
cybersecurity  
has to be job  
No. 1 for  
all of us."**

technology. Now in his 10th year at Visa, Taneja is as excited about his work as he's ever been. "Technology has evolved so dramatically over the course of my career that it has enabled all of us in the field to do tremendous, impactful, purposeful and meaningful work," he said. "I feel more optimistic today about the future than when I first began."

Taneja leads the technology team at Visa, which will number nearly 14,000 people by the end of 2023. "I've never been in an environment where there is so much commitment and passion and client obsession," he said. "It's a large team, but it's also a very special team. I feel like it's one of those teams where the whole is much greater than the sum of the parts."

Taneja is the Leadership Award winner as part of the 2023 Bay Area ORBIE Awards. The award honors technology executives who exhibit leadership, create business value through innovation and are active in industry and community efforts.

Innovation is a key driver at Visa, according to Taneja. In fact, the company pioneered the use of AI models in payments 30 years ago and recently celebrated this 30-year milestone. Not content to rely on past success, Taneja's focus is on creating value for the next generation. "Ten years ago, we realized AI is going to accelerate, so we built our own AI data platform which allows us to

embrace AI for the future," he said.

What's the next big concern for evolving tech? According to Taneja, it's the hacking ability that bad actors will acquire with the development of quantum computing. Because of its unimaginable speed and processing capabilities, QC poses a significant threat to traditional encryption algorithms like RSA and ECC by solving their underlying mathematical problems exponentially faster, something Visa cannot let happen. This is an area of important research in Taneja's team, which is also working closely with standards organizations and other companies to prevent this with new standards and quantum safe security infrastructure.

"Our obsession with our clients means our cybersecurity has to be job No. 1 for all of us," he said. "We run such a large part of the personal consumption economy that we've invented many products to secure our infrastructure from breach. We have to get ahead in the use and practice of quantum computing."

Visa is celebrating its 65th year in business, a milestone which Taneja says puts his award in perspective. "This is an honor," he said, "but the honor reflects the team at Visa, not just now but in the past. It honors the people on whose shoulders we stand who did incredible work before us and our whole team."





# Congratulations Orbie Finalists of 2023!



okta

MILESTONE

## Delivering Client Success through **Milestone's Employee- First Culture**

Innovation | Transformation | Excellence

**Great  
Place  
To  
Work®**

**Certified**  
FEB 2023-FEB 2024  
USA

**Great  
Place  
To  
Work®**

**Certified**  
FEB 2023-FEB 2024  
PH

**Great  
Place  
To  
Work®**

**Certified**  
FEB 2023 - FEB 2024  
INDIA

**Great  
Place  
To  
Work®**

**Certified**  
DEC 22 - DEC 23  
IRELAND

**Great  
Place  
To  
Work®**

**Certified**  
APR 2023-APR 2024  
UK

[www.milestone.tech](http://www.milestone.tech)

25 Years of IT Service Excellence

Platform Engineering Services | Application Services | Digital Workplace Services | Cloud & Infrastructure Services | AI & Automation | ServiceNow

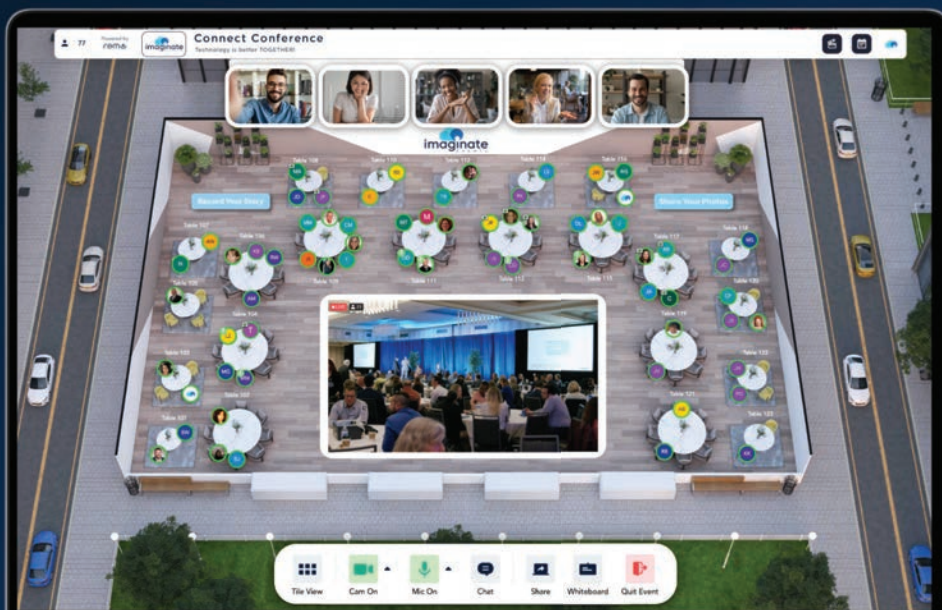


# THE DATA CLOUD

Mobilizing the world's data



**ENGAGING | HYBRID | DIGITAL | EXPERIENCES**



## **INSPIRE MEMBER BENEFITS:**

- Up to \$5k off your first event
- Custom-designed floorplan
- Hybrid event Integration



[www.imagine.events](http://www.imagine.events)



# The new way to cloud.

Google Cloud

Discover what's new at  
[g.co/cloud](https://g.co/cloud)

## INSPIRE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Attracting and developing talent is fundamental to the success of every great technology leader. An exclusive benefit of Inspire membership is access to the Inspire Leadership Academy, offering leadership development programs for CIOs & CISOs, executive leadership teams & high-potential leaders in your IT organization.



Make today's investment in  
tomorrow's leaders.



Empowering leaders to  
transform organizations.







# BAY AREA CIO WHO'S WHO

## ADVISORY BOARD OFFICERS



**CHAIR**  
**Adhir Mattu**  
NXP Corp



**VICE CHAIR**  
**Jyothi Gorti**  
Analog Devices, Inc.



**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**  
**Milind Wagle**  
Equinix



**MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR**  
**Carter Busse**  
Workato



**PROGRAMS CHAIR**  
**Ahsan Baig**  
AC Transit



**PROGRAMS CO-CHAIR**  
**John Wrenn**  
Flex



**AWARDS CHAIR**  
**Amy Farrow**  
Lyft (fmr)



**AWARDS CO-CHAIR**  
**Lisa Davis**  
Blue Shield of California



**CHAIR EMERITUS**  
**Ralph Loura**  
SVP & CIO  
Lumentum (fmr)

## ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS



**Alvina Antar**  
Okta



**Colleen Berube**  
Zendesk (fmr)



**Dick Daniels**  
Kaiser Permanente (fmr)



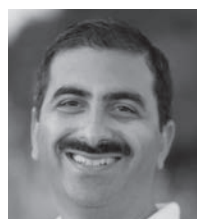
**Christopher Desautel**  
Berkshire Hathaway  
Homestate Companies



**Edward Kopetsky**  
Stanford Children's  
Health, Lucile Packard  
Children's Hospital  
Stanford (fmr)



**Kumud Kalia**  
Guardant Health



**Kumud Kokal**  
Farmer's Business  
Network Inc



**Nichole Meister**  
Abbott



**Saket Srivastava**  
Asana



**Tony Sorensen**  
Five9

## BAY AREA CIO MEMBERS

**JOHN ABEL**  
Extreme Networks

**GARY ALIFF**  
Zendesk

**PRITH BANERJEE**  
ANSYS, Inc.

**SUNNY BEDI**  
Snowflake

**BRAD BELL**  
Infoblox

**SANJAY CHANDRA**  
Lucid Motors

**SUDHAKAR CHILUKURI**  
Lattice Semiconductor

**GIRI CHODAVARAPU**  
Omnicell

**CHRIS CONRAD**  
Levi Strauss & Co.

**STEVE DEE**  
Rodan & Fields

**MICHAEL DERRY**  
Federal Reserve

**ABBAS FAIQ**  
Imperva

**ANANTHA GANGA**  
Coherent

**SINEESH KESHAV**  
Prologis

**GRACE LIU**  
Seagate Technology

**MICHAEL LUCAS**  
Wilson Sonsini

**CHETNA MAHAJAN**  
Amplitude

**SHARON MANDELL**  
Juniper Networks

**SONU NAYYAR**  
Nvidia

**PRASAD RAMAKRISHNAN**  
Freshworks

**HASMUKH RANJAN**  
Advanced Micro Devices

**AJAY SABHLOK**  
Rubrik

**TREVOR SCHULZE**  
Alteryx, Inc.

**AWINASH SINHA**  
Zoom Video Communications

**SEAN SMILEY**  
Atlantis Casino

**KHALED TAWFIK**  
City of San Jose

**UY UT**  
accel



# The Worldwide Cybersecurity Leader

Making possible a digital world you can always trust

- ✓ Most Devices Deployed
- ✓ Most Patents
- ✓ Most Zero-Day Threats Discovered
- ✓ Most Third-Party Validations
- ✓ Broadest Portfolio



Congratulations to the 2023  
Bay Area CIO of the Year  
Award Winners and Nominees



**INSPIRE LEADERSHIP NETWORK** is the preeminent executive peer leadership network of chief information officers and chief information security officers. The heart of Inspire is the value of membership in a local chapter, with access to thought-leaders across the United States.



SCAN TO VIEW  
INTERACTIVE  
CHAPTER MAP



# BAY AREA ORBIE<sup>®</sup> AWARDS

THANK YOU TO THE 2023 BAY AREA ORBIE<sup>®</sup> AWARDS SPONSORS

PRESENTED BY



LUMEN<sup>®</sup>

Google Cloud

okta

MILESTONE

snowflake

SPONSORED BY

SAN FRANCISCO  
BUSINESS TIMES

SILICON VALLEY  
BUSINESS JOURNAL

yearup

MEDIA SPONSOR

NATIONAL PARTNER

CLOUDFLARE<sup>®</sup>

COMCAST  
BUSINESS

EY  
Building a better  
working world

FORTINET<sup>®</sup>

Moveworks

vmware<sup>®</sup>

AHEAD

ARMIS

Espressive

f5

HCLTech

LeanIX

onetrust

paloalto<sup>®</sup>  
NETWORKS

SADA

SPARQ

servicenow<sup>®</sup>

SGIC  
Cloud Tech

tcs TATA  
CONSULTANCY  
SERVICES

workato

betweenpixels.

BEYONDSOFT<sup>®</sup>  
beyond your expectations

DELL Technologies

OPERA

Netwoven

TANIUM

Vibhathi Labs