

CHICAGOCIO ORBIE AWARDS

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The annual ChicagoCIO ORBIE® Awards honors chief information officers who have demonstrated excellence in technology leadership. Winners in the Global, Large Enterprise, Enterprise, Large Corporate, Corporate and Nonprofit/Public Sector categories will be announced May 8 at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile.

INSIDE



KEVIN BOYD
2026 ChicagoCIO Chair



ANUJ GAUR
2026 Leadership
Award Recipient



CHICAGOCIO
ORBIE
AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS 2026 CHICAGOCIO ORBIE NOMINEES

EYAL ALTMAN Littelfuse, Inc	JEFF DOUGLAS Potbelly Sandwich Works	EBEN HEWITT Hyatt Hotels Corporation	TONY LERARIS Accenture	RUSTY PATEL Baxter International	DAN SIMPSON Grant Thornton International Ltd.
DEB ANDERSON Endeavor Health	SHAWN ELLIS TransUnion	SHANNON HOEKSTRA College Of American Pathologists	JONNY LEROY W.W. Grainger	ABBEY PERKINS StoneX	CHRIS SMITH Niemann Foods
TERESA ANDREA Silver Cross Hospital	MATTHEW ENGLEHART Maker's Pride	DANIEL HOLOHAN ZS	JENNINE LOISEL Bounteous	ERIC PHILLIPS BMO Financial Group	BHAVIK SONI Hillenbrand
NAVANEET BARATHALWAR Blue Health Intelligence	KEN FAANES Holland LP	CASEY HOSSA Health New England	CHRIS LOK Gibraltar Industries	DR. AUDRIUS POLIKAITIS University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System	THOMAS SOUTH Northern Trust
DIRK BEEKMAN Newly Wed Foods	BRETT FAHRNER Shared Apartment Services	NELSON IMANA U.S. Renal Care	JEAN LUBER MYR Group	JOLANTA POMIOTLO UTLX/ Procor	JUSTIN STAHL United Center
WILL BEERY Mars	NORM FLEMING Chicago Public Schools	ALEXANDER ITKIN Optiver	NICK LUCIUS City of Chicago Department of Technology & Innovation	JANE POSSELL CNA Insurance	HERNAN TABAH Suntory Global Spirits
JON BEYER Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	ERIC FOSTER Donnelley Financial Solutions	ZACH JECKLIN Echo Global Logistics	MIKE MARESCA ULTA Beauty	SRIDHAR POTINENI Newmark	JT TONNISON US Foods
ANDY BHOJWANI Cision	CAROLINE GALLAGHER Chicago Transit Authority	ZULFI JEEVANJEE Alistate	ARUN MATHEW Dentons	MIKE POWELL Powerfleet	RAM TYAGI City of Aurora, IL
BRAD BODELL Ryan Specialty Group	ANUJ GAUR Marmom Holding Inc	RUSSELL JOHNSON Old World Industries	JENNIFFER MATSUMURA ComEd	ALLISON RADECKI Morgan Street Holdings	KEITH TYRKA American Lung Association
BILL BUDIG Greco & Sons	JEFF GAUTNEY Rush University System for Health	JARON JONES ELM Utility Services	JEFF MCCLAIN Andy Frain Services	MADHU RAMAMURTHY Zurich North America	ERICK WALDCHEN ALDI US
WAYNE BULMAHN Unite Here Health	JOHN GIGERICH Kureg Dr. Pepper	TED KACZMARSKI Cushman & Wakefield	MICHAEL MCDONNELL Amsted Rail	KRIS RAO HNI Corporation	WILLIAM WALDERS The Joint Commision
AMIE CABAN Guggenheim Partners	SUSAN GOODSON Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago	DEEPAK KAUL Knowles	ANTHONY MCPHEARSON DuPage County	LINDA RAY Abbvie	VIKAS WALI Elevance Health
NANJJI CHANDRASEKHAR Ascend	DEAN HAACKER Metropolitan Capital	ROBIN KELLER TreeHouse Foods	BUD MCGUADE Duracell	BRIAN RICE McDonald's	CHRIS WALTER Central Garden & Pet Company
MANISH CHAWLA IAT Insurance Group	PAUL HAISMAN Rotary International	LAWSON KELLY OCC	DAVE MELCHERS JS Held	MATT RILEY University of Illinois at Chicago	ANDREW WARBURTON Life Fitness
YEMAN COLLIER UChicago Medicine	MIKE HALEY Lettuce Entertain You	BOB KING S&C Electric Company	VASU MODEKURTI UL Standards and Engagements	MIKE RYAN Wintrust Financial	JIM WISNIONSKI Kingsbridge Holdings
KELLY COOMER Sammons Financial Group	ROBIN HAMERLINCK LANE Shure	DAN KIRSCH Chamberlain Group	MOLLY MULROY WEC Energy Group	ARIANE SCHIERECK Hollister	SCOTT WOLSKI Neostella
PATTY CRAWFORD UL Solutions	BLAKE HANKINS Inhabit	AARON KOLESAR North America Central School Bus	SUCHITA NAGALE Weber	JASON SEGREBRECHT First Hospitality	DAVID WRIGHT Broadspire/Crawford and Company
SAMIR DAIYA Motorola Solutions	STU HANNAY Argonne National Lab	RAMESH KOLLEPARA Kellanova (fmr)	SARAH NAQVI LivCor	LEN SERVEDIO Dearborn	MARY WYDERSKI Lakeshore Recycling Systems
MARCO DEUTSCH Baker McKenzie	JAMIE HEAD Parts Town	ANDY KONCHAN Calamos Investments	ROBERT OH International Motors, LLC	SAMIR SHAH Brunswick Corporation	DIEGO ZENGIN Power Construction
BHAVANA DEVULAPALLY Ventas, Inc.	BRIAN HEERY Voyant Beauty	PUSHPENDU PAL CVS Health	MIKE PARISI ITW		
SACH DIWAN LaSalle Investment Management (fmr)	MIKE HERMAN Inspira				

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2026 ChicagoCIO Chair ▶▶ Kevin Boyd

Chicago CIOs building connection that drives impact



Chicago's leading organizations to build meaningful relationships, exchange ideas, and create real business value. While industries and organizational sizes may vary, the leadership challenges CIOs face, and the value of strong peer connections, are remarkably consistent.

Through the Inspire Leadership Network, ChicagoCIO members are part of a broader community of more than 2,000 C-suite executives across more than 50 chapters in North America, representing public, private, and nonprofit organizations. In addition to CIOs, Inspire supports communities for chief information security officers and chief marketing officers, creating a powerful network for leadership, collaboration, and shared learning.

Even the most experienced executives can feel isolated. For chief information officers (CIOs), the ability to connect with trusted peers can turn isolation into perspective, clarity, and confidence.

ChicagoCIO brings together senior technology leaders from many of

C-suite executives for leadership, innovation, and excellence. I encourage you to join us at the 2026 Chicago ORBIE Awards to celebrate and support these exceptional technology leaders.

On behalf of ChicagoCIO, congratulations to all nominees and finalists on this well-deserved recognition. I also extend my sincere thanks to our awards partners, chapter underwriters, and staff, whose support makes the ChicagoCIO ORBIE Awards possible.

Kevin Boyd

Kevin Boyd
2026 Chair, ChicagoCIO
Chief Information Officer, University of Chicago

"For more than 25 years, the ORBIE Awards have recognized outstanding C-suite executives for leadership, innovation, and excellence."



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CONGRATULATIONS ANDREW WARBURTON

Andrew, your nomination for the 2026 Chicago CIO ORBIE Awards is well earned. Your leadership has quietly transformed how Life Fitness / Hammer Strength operates.

Modernizing our data infrastructure, connecting our global teams, and putting better information in the hands of the people who need it most.

We're proud to work alongside you.
Your colleagues at Life Fitness / Hammer Strength

Leadership Award Recipient

Anuj Gaur, VP of Global IT, Marmon Holdings



Anuj Gaur is a transformative technology leader who has spent his career turning IT complexity into competitive advantage - and today, he's doing it at scale. As VP of Global IT at Marmon Holdings, a Berkshire Hathaway company with 11 diverse business groups and over \$12 billion in annual revenue, Anuj and his team drive initiatives that have redefined

how Marmon communicates, secures its systems, streamlines its ERP landscape, and empowers its people through a decentralized, innovation-first IT model.

Anuj's most forward-leaning focus is the one defining the next chapter of enterprise leadership: AI adoption at scale. He has established an AI CoE which is actively driving enterprise-wide AI capabilities - helping Marmon's business groups harness AI not as a future aspiration, but as a present-day operational reality.

His path reflects both depth and range. Before Marmon, Anuj served as CIO for PE-backed organizations and held senior leadership roles at GE, KPMG, and Sabre - building a career defined by strategic agility and measurable impact across industries and business models.

Throughout his career, Anuj has explored how to leverage technology to create value for businesses. He gives back through mentoring employees and social work in the community. Anuj encourages the next generation of technology leaders to embrace new technologies and drive business enablement.

Global Finalists ▶▶ Over \$2 billion annual revenue & multi-national operations



EYAL ALTMAN SVP, Chief Digital Officer & CIO, Littelfuse, Inc.

Eyal Altman is SVP, Chief Digital & Information Technology Officer of Littelfuse, Inc. and leads the global IT and Digital Marketing teams. Prior to this role he held executive leadership positions in general management and M&A at Littelfuse and other organizations. Eyal holds an MBA from the University of Chicago, and a Bachelor's in Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. He currently serves on the board of City Year Chicago.



Success Story: Our technology organization has been transformed into an innovative, scalable, collaborative, and progressive digital-enabling success driver for the company. We have enabled a scalable cloud-based infrastructure and cloud first application strategy. We created a Digital Innovation team fueling the creation of several successful COEs in the areas of data management, reporting & analytics, RPA, and AI. We have implemented a robust Industry 4.0 portfolio spanning all global manufacturing sites and supply chain operations. We stood up large offshore managed services practices for applications & infrastructure. We led the launch of a robust Digital Customer Experience strategy-driven new company website and related infrastructure.



RAMESH KOLLEPARA VP & Global CTO, Kellanova (fmr)

Ramesh Kollepara is Senior Vice President and Global Chief Technology Officer at Mars Snacking, where he leads global technology strategy across digital, data, cloud, and AI to drive growth and operational excellence. With 20+ years of experience, he has led large-scale transformations across global CPG organizations, including as Global CTO at Kellanova. Ramesh brings a global perspective, a passion for inclusive leadership, and a purpose-driven approach to innovation.



Success Story: In June 2022, the Kellogg Company announced plans to split into two public companies: Kellanova, a global snacking leader, and W.K. Kellogg. Ramesh Kollepara led the IT team through the \$13B+ Kellanova spin-off, building scalable platforms, new digital capabilities, and an IT operating model to support two independent organizations—while maintaining seamless continuity for customers, suppliers, and employees. Completed in October 2023 without disruption, the transformation strengthened architecture and cross-functional alignment, ultimately enabling Kellanova's successful \$36B acquisition by Mars in December 2025 under Ramesh's leadership.



BUD MCQUADE CIO, Duracell

Bud McQuade is Duracell's Vice President of Information Technology. Joining the divestiture team in 2015, Bud built Duracell IT from the ground up — today a 107-person global department across six countries with a culture built on transparency, inclusion, and autonomy. Prior to Duracell, Bud served as Vice President of IT at Tellabs, Global Director of Infrastructure at Ipsos, Division CIO at Argo Group, and spent 11 years as a founding employee at CarMax.



Success Story: When Duracell was divested in 2016, a complete IT organization had to be built from the ground up within 18 months. With only a handful of IT resources carried over, the work demanded rapid establishment of talent, an operating model, core processes, business intelligence, and an information security program. Today, Duracell IT is a 100+ person department across 6 countries with a distinctive culture of transparency, inclusion, and autonomy. Capabilities span warehouse management, HR, procurement, and robotic process automation. The most strategic initiative, a global Trade Promotion Management transformation, shifted a platform from finance-centric to sales-focused, delivering a competitive advantage.



KRIS RAO Chief Information & Digital Officer, HNI Corporation

Kris Rao is Chief Information and Digital Officer of HNI Corporation, a \$6 billion global enterprise. Reporting to the CEO, he leads global technology and digital strategy across enterprise systems, digital commerce, data, cybersecurity, and connected operations. With more than 1,000 professionals and a \$235 million budget under his leadership, Kris drives innovation, operational excellence, and measurable business value. He is passionate about building high-performing teams and aligning technology to enterprise growth and competitiveness.



Success Story: Under Kris Rao's leadership, HNI transformed its technology organization from a traditional support function into a strategic driver of enterprise value. By advancing digital commerce, CRM and ERP transformation, and connected factory capabilities, his team modernized core systems, strengthened cybersecurity, and improved operational visibility. These initiatives enhanced customer experience, increased productivity and delivered significant cost efficiencies. Kris also accelerated value realization from acquisitions by aligning digital capabilities with enterprise strategy. His disciplined portfolio governance ensures every technology investment is tied to measurable business outcomes, positioning HNI for long-term growth and competitive advantage.



DAN SIMPSON Global CIO, Grant Thornton International

Dan is a transformational leader who strives to simplify, optimize, and transform business and technology operations. He has the proven ability to create a vision that is fully aligned with business strategy and stakeholder expectations. Dan has served as a CIO for over 25 years across multiple industries including technology, Department of Defense, insurance, employee benefits, and professional services. Dan's greatest accomplishments have always been attributable to the team cohesion and synergy he creates.



Success Story: The Grant Thornton International technology team has come a long way over the past 7 years and has earned a seat at the table by delivering high-quality strategically aligned global platforms of record and engagement. From reactive order takers to proactive difference makers, we have built a strong technology foundation and operational capability that serves over 50,000 users annually. As our industry continues to evolve, we are well-positioned to lever that foundation and deliver with the agility and speed required to meet the increasingly challenging business demands of the future.

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Integration with All Networks

Platform Intelligence & Innovations

Simple, Unified Interface

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Apps: CDN, DNS, Load Balancing
Network: Smart Routing, Interconnect

Protect

SSE: ZTNA, CASB, SWG, DLP, RBI, Email
Apps: WAF/API, Bot Mgt, L7 DDoS
Network Security: L3-4 DDoS, FWaaS

Build

Serverless Apps: AI, Full-stack
Storage: Object, Key-Value, Vector
Media: Image, Video

Inline Proxy • SASE/SSE • App & API Controls • Edge Dev Services • CDN-WAN-Network Integration
Multi-Cloud (SaaS/IaaS) • Compliance & Privacy • Risk Analytics • Data Protection • Threat Defense

Cloudflare Programmable Global Network

Artificial Intelligence/
Machine Learning

Threat, Network
Intelligence

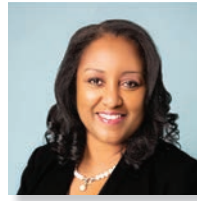


Certifications: Fedramp • SOC 2 • C5 • PCI • ISO 27018 • GDPR

Global Services & Support

Large Enterprise Finalists

Over \$4.5 billion annual revenue



DEB ANDERSON
CIO
Endeavor Health

Deb Anderson is Chief Information Officer of Endeavor Health, leading enterprise technology strategy for a recently merged integrated health system. She directs clinical, operational, digital, and cybersecurity platforms, executing large scale transformation that strengthens resilience, protects margin, and advances high reliability care. Recognized for decisive leadership and enterprise accountability, Deb builds enduring teams and positions technology as a strategic force multiplier serving the communities Endeavor Health calls home.



Success Story: Following a major system merger, Endeavor Health is launching one of the most ambitious digital integrations underway in healthcare. Under my leadership, we are unifying multiple EMR environments, modernizing infrastructure, strengthening cybersecurity resilience, and advancing AI driven capabilities to create a single scalable operating model. Operational complexity is being reduced while reliability, clinical capacity, and standardization improve across the system. This transformation is building a resilient digital backbone that accelerates innovation, strengthens performance, and advances our mission of delivering World Class Care in the Communities We Call Home at enterprise scale.

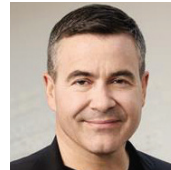


TED KACZMAREK
SVP & CIO
Advisory Technology, Cushman & Wakefield

Ted Kaczmarek serves as CIO of Advisory at Cushman & Wakefield, where he leads technology, data, and analytics strategies that drive growth and enhance broker productivity. He partners closely with business leadership to modernize revenue platforms, scale AI-enabled capabilities, and align digital investment to commercial outcomes. Ted is passionate about building high-performing teams and transforming technology into a competitive advantage.



Success Story: Ted led the transformation of the technology organization from a traditional IT function into a strategic growth partner for the Advisory business. By implementing a co-creation model that unites Product, Data, Analytics, and Business leaders, he aligned technology investments directly to revenue growth and EBITDA impact. His team modernized the data foundation, accelerated deal execution, improved pipeline transparency, and increased digital adoption across markets. The result is a unified, business-led platform that enhances broker productivity, strengthens client outcomes, and positions the firm for scalable, AI-driven growth.

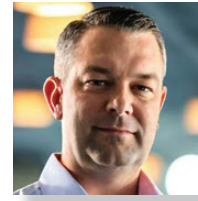


MIKE MARESCA
Chief Technology & Transformation Officer
Ulta Beauty

Mike Maresca is Chief Technology and Transformation Officer at Ulta Beauty, leading enterprise technology and transformation to drive agility, innovation, and growth. He joined in 2023 and expanded his role in 2025 to align IT and transformation. Previously, Mike served as Global Chief Technology Officer at Walgreens Boots Alliance and held leadership roles at Accenture. He was named to the Forbes CIO Next 2025 list and serves on the Chicago Innovation Board of Advisors.



Success Story: Since becoming Chief Technology and Transformation Officer, I've led Ulta Beauty's evolution into an AI-powered enterprise grounded in guest value. Powered by our enterprise data foundation and more than 46 million loyalty members, we use AI to deepen personalization, enhance discovery, and strengthen operational intelligence across every channel. Through strategic partnerships, we activate first-party data in real time to deliver individualized experiences that drive measurable growth. From virtual try-on and intelligent search to AI-enabled associate tools, we focus on augmentation over automation — embedding AI responsibly to scale innovation while preserving the human connection that defines beauty.



MATT ENGLEHART
CIO
Maker's Pride

Englehart drives enterprise IT strategy and large-scale technology transformation. He brings more than 20 years of global IT and supply chain leadership, including practice advisory leadership at Fremont Solutions Group, Global CIO roles at Soligent/Segen Solar Distribution, and senior leadership at Xerox, Stericycle, and Tyson Foods. Matt serves on the Gartner Chicago CIO Governing Body and is an active member of SIM Chicago.



Success Story: Over the past year, I led a technology-driven transformation at Maker's Pride, modernizing a historically underinvested IT environment while reshaping how IT is perceived across the organization. My team delivered ERP implementations, unifying the enterprise on a global instance, completed complex plant divestitures, and reduced IT operating expense by 25% through technology rationalization and financial governance. In parallel, deployed AI-enabled productivity, security, and digital employee experience solutions making it easier for employees to do their jobs. Most importantly, we shifted IT from a cost center to a trusted business partner, driving cultural change grounded in accountability, transparency, and value creation.



SUSAN GOODSON
SVP & Chief Digital, and Information Officer
Ann and Robert H Lurie Children's Hospital

Susan Goodson serves as Senior Vice President and Chief Digital & Information Officer at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. She leads enterprise digital, data, and technology strategy to improve patient access, clinician efficiency, and financial sustainability. With more than 30 years of experience in provider healthcare, she's known for aligning digital, data, and AI with enterprise strategy, developing future technology leaders, and driving measurable improvements in clinical, operational, and financial performance.



Success Story: In her first year as Senior Vice President and Chief Digital & Information Officer at Lurie Children's Hospital, Susan Goodson built upon a strong Information Management team to elevate the organization's technology capabilities. She introduced enterprise portfolio and technology governance with disciplined execution to improve investment prioritization and delivery predictability, while successfully delivering complex initiatives, including Epic Refuel, imaging modernization, and AI-enabled documentation. Under her leadership, data and AI were positioned as enterprise accelerators supporting access, clinician efficiency, and financial sustainability. Information Management is recognized as a trusted partner and is advancing Lurie Children's mission and long-term growth.



NELSON IMANA
CIO
US Renal Care

Nelson joined U.S. Renal Care as Chief Information Officer, and has 30 years of experience leading global, high-performing teams in healthcare and financial services. Nelson served as Divisional Technology Officer at HCSC – Blue Cross Blue Shield. Prior to HCSC, Nelson spent 15 years at Aon Corporation, where he held leadership positions in various divisions across the company including Corporate Systems, Retail and Affinity, eventually serving as Head of Global IT Operations.



Success Story: Nelson is driven by a deep sense of purpose that is tightly aligned with the mission, vision, and values of U.S. Renal Care. Our goal is to change the lives of people living with kidney disease. Nelson is focused on building high-performing teams that bring innovation and quality to the kidney care industry through the use of technology. The strategy and solutions delivered by Nelson and his team allow our physicians and care teams to provide industry leading quality care. Our innovative capabilities allow our teams to focus on what matters most, patient care.



JENNIFER MATSUMURA
VP, Tech Ops & Engineering
ComEd CIO, ComEd

I am Vice President of IT Operations & Engineering at Exelon and CIO of ComEd, leading a global team of ~1,200 that supports 24x7 technology operations. With 25+ years in IT, including leadership roles at IBM, I have driven ComEd's multi-year technology transformation to industry-leading reliability and efficiency. I co-founded Exelon's Women in Technology network and Pan-Asian Leadership Council and am recognized for building resilient operations and inclusive, high-performing teams.



Success Story: Since 2019, I have led an IT infrastructure transformation at ComEd that set new benchmarks for reliability and efficiency. Over six years, our team accelerated critical incident resolution by ~90% and reduced major IT outages by 88%, strengthening operational resilience. These gains came from standardized processes, expanded monitoring, and a strong focus on automation. Today, 90% of IT incidents are resolved through automated self-healing and AI-driven support, saving tens of thousands of work hours annually. Collectively, these improvements have enhanced reliability, improved employee experience, and delivered measurable cost efficiency in support of long-term operational and resilience objectives.



ROBERT OH
Chief Digital & Information Officer
International Motors

Robert Oh is the Chief Digital and Information Officer at International, accountable for enterprise technology strategy, operations, cybersecurity, and large-scale digital transformation. A seasoned global executive, he delivers measurable business value through modernization, innovation, and disciplined P&L leadership. Previously, he served as EVP of Corporate Digital Strategy and COO of Doosan Group's Digital Business Unit and held CIO roles at Hannon Systems and Mosco. He holds degrees from the University of Washington and Emory University.



Success Story: At International Motors, Digital & IT is becoming a catalyst for what's next. By modernizing eCommerce, reimagining warehouse operations, and launching Project NorthStar to build a modern SAP S/4HANA digital core, we help unlock new growth, elevate service, and strengthen enterprise resilience. These initiatives empower teams, simplify how dealers and customers do business with us, and create a scalable foundation for the future. Guided by purpose and discipline, our transformation shows how technology—when paired with people and ambition—can turn a proud legacy into a platform for enduring innovation and impact.



MATT RILEY
CIO
University of Illinois Chicago

Serving as Chief Information Officer at the University of Illinois Chicago, I celebrate the achievement and growth of individuals and teams I have been able to lead. I strive to provide resources and opportunities to individuals who place their trust in their leader, and I then link their achievements to the organization's goals. I welcome change and help guide teams through change as technology continues to grow in importance, fueling educational, operational, and research outcomes.



Success Story: Under my leadership, IT has evolved from a reactive, operationally focused utility to a strategic partner driving UIC's mission and goals. Key successes include: New prominence in research computing and facilitation. Significant network expansion and extended wireless coverage. A new security and privacy team, including a prominent CISO whose leadership has been recognized in Chicago. Enabled every teaching space with technology, allowing instructors and students to choose traditional teaching, remote teaching, or hybrid learning. Collaborated with colleagues across Illinois to extend our campus data center capabilities through the NCSA in Urbana. Created a positive and inclusive IT culture at UIC.



ZACH JECKLIN
CIO
Echo Global Logistics

Zach Jecklin is CIO of Echo Global Logistics, where he leads enterprise technology and artificial intelligence strategy in support of a \$4B transportation and supply chain business. Over his 17-year tenure at Echo, Zach has held leadership roles across finance and strategy, including Vice President of Finance and Senior Vice President of Strategy, before assuming the CIO role. He has helped evolve Echo's technology organization into a strategic driver of growth and expanded service offerings.



Success Story: Over the past several years, our technology team has helped position Echo to expand beyond traditional brokerage into a more comprehensive supply chain solutions provider. By strengthening our internal engineering capabilities and reallocating resources toward value-creating initiatives, the team increased development throughput by more than 50% while maintaining low voluntary attrition of 7-10%. These efforts supported the launch of new technology-enabled revenue streams, including proprietary insurance and financial platforms generating millions in annual EBITDA, as well as optimization capabilities that allow Echo to serve larger enterprise customers across brokerage and managed transportation.



JEAN LUBER
VP, IT,
MYR Group

Jean Lubber is a transformative, strategic, and outcomes-driven executive. She is the Vice President of Information Technology and a Corporate Officer at MYR Group, one of the top specialty electrical contractors in North America. In addition, Jean is a faculty member and corporate trainer at Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. Jean excels in cybersecurity and corporate governance. She is committed to helping companies prepare for both anticipated and unanticipated risk events.



Success Story: As Vice President of Information Technology at UTLX and Procor, I am currently leading the most significant technology transformation in our company's history through a multi-phase ERP program designed to reduce legacy risk, optimize business processes, and unlock significant operational efficiencies. This three-year business technology transformation will enable UTLX's and Procor's business consolidation strategy and will result in significant cost reductions, revenue growth, and improved customer and employee experience. My team's ability to balance this large-scale transformation with day-to-day operational excellence is truly commendable and I am incredibly proud of our collective accomplishments.



JOLANTA POMIOTO
VP, IT,
Marmon Holdings, Inc. (Marmon Rail / UTLX & Procor)

Jolanta Pomioto is a seasoned technology executive with over 25 years of experience across various industries. As the VP of IT at Marmon Rail, Jolanta is leading the charge in modernizing the company's legacy IT ecosystem. This includes spearheading a comprehensive ERP implementation to enhance operational efficiency and ensure the delivery of high-quality core technology support services to maintain seamless business operations. Jolanta stays at the forefront of technological innovations and closely monitors market trends.



Success Story: As Vice President of Information Technology at UTLX and Procor, I am currently leading the most significant technology transformation in our company's history through a multi-phase ERP program designed to reduce legacy risk, optimize business processes, and unlock significant operational efficiencies. This three-year business technology transformation will enable UTLX's and Procor's business consolidation strategy and will result in significant cost reductions, revenue growth, and improved customer and employee experience. My team's ability to balance this large-scale transformation with day-to-day operational excellence is truly commendable and I am incredibly proud of our collective accomplishments.

Enterprise Finalists

Over \$2 billion annual revenue

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Congratulations Aaron Kolesar Corporate IT Director

Corporate Finalist
2026
ChicagoCIO
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ORACLE
Health

Congrats to Teresa Andrea,
2026 ChicagoCIO ORBIE
Awards Finalist





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Large Corporate Finalists

Over \$1.2 billion annual revenue



BILL BUDIG
CIO
Greco and Sons

I joined True Group in 2014 with over 25 years of experience driving major IT transformations. I lead enterprise IT, infrastructure, service delivery, and Advisory Services, helping small to mid-sized businesses—especially in Private Equity—with IT strategy, ERP, reporting, and engineering solutions. Recognized for effective leadership and execution, I have served as a fractional CIO for Greco and Sons for the past seven years, delivering technology-driven improvements that support business growth and operational excellence.



Success Story: Our team played a key role in the Campus Model Project, Sysco Foods' strategy to integrate standalone Greco facilities into U.S. broadband distribution centers. Greco St. Louis successfully moved operations into Sysco's St. Louis center and began servicing Greco customers. Our technology teams partnered with Sysco's Technology Team to build scalable integrations that supported ordering, architecture, and customer experience needs. This model enables customers to access Greco products alongside Sysco's assortment while allowing Greco to expand nationally at a much lower cost than acquisitions or new builds. A second Campus Model is underway in Tampa, with shipping beginning April 27th.

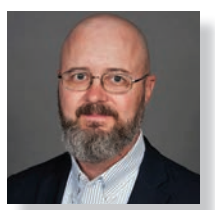


CASEY HOSSA
CIO & CSO
Health New England

Casey Hosha is a healthcare technology executive with deep experience leading enterprise transformation across health plans and integrated delivery systems. As CIO and CSO at Health New England, he modernized core platforms, advanced data and analytics capabilities, strengthened cybersecurity governance, and aligned technology to business strategy. Known for building high-performing teams and delivering results with fiscal discipline, Casey is passionate about using technology to improve care, resilience, and member experience.



Success Story: Casey Hosha transformed Health New England's technology organization after nearly a decade of limited progress, leading a multi-year modernization of core health plan platforms. Under his leadership, IT evolved into a strategic partner—enabling improved care coordination, real-time analytics, and stronger payer-provider integration. These efforts improved risk adjustment performance, reduced avoidable utilization, enhanced digital experiences for members and brokers, and strengthened cybersecurity governance. By modernizing systems, upskilling teams, and maintaining budget discipline, Casey helped position the organization for sustainable growth, improved member outcomes, and long-term resilience in a highly regulated healthcare environment.

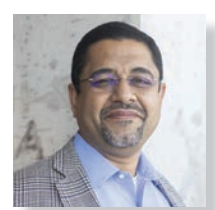


RUSS JOHNSON
CIO
Old World Industries

Russ Johnson is the Chief Information Officer at Old World Industries, where he leads enterprise technology strategy, cybersecurity, infrastructure, and digital transformation. He brings more than 20 years of IT leadership experience, with prior roles at Whirlpool/Maytag Corporation, HNI, Reyes Holdings, and The Coca-Cola Company. Russ holds an MBA from the University of Iowa and is recognized for driving scalable platforms, advanced analytics, operational excellence, and technology-enabled business growth across global enterprises.



Success Story: I am very proud of the work the IT organization at OWI has accomplished. The team successfully bridged the best practices into the core values of our founder. The team fought through the challenges of the uncertainty of a pandemic combined while battling the challenges of transitioning to a new ERP. The team successfully partnered with our internal and external partners to transform the business to achieve year over year record financial performance. While these results are great, navigating adversity through partnership and authenticity is what makes me most proud to be a part of this team.

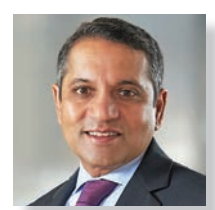


NANJI CHAN-DRASEKHAR
CIO
Ascend

Nanji Chandrasekar is the Chief Information Officer of Ascend, the leading mid-market public accounting firm aggregator, recognized for building high-performance technology organizations that accelerate growth and enterprise value. He has architected cloud-first, globally scalable platforms enabling rapid M&A integration, advanced analytics, and industry-leading security. A strategic partner to executive and private equity stakeholders, he is known for translating technology vision into measurable financial outcomes while cultivating elite, high-performance teams that consistently deliver at scale.



Success Story: From Zero to Billion-Dollar Ready in 18 Months: Starting with nothing more than a single domain controller, our team built a fully modern, global IT ecosystem—deploying Workday across HCM, Finance, and CRM; a secure multi-cloud infrastructure supporting 100,000+ clients and 2,500 users; virtual desktops, advanced analytics, and a high-velocity M&A integration engine capable of onboarding 40 acquisitions annually. Backed by 24/7 support delivering 98% customer satisfaction, this platform now powers a billion-dollar enterprise—and we're still accelerating.



SACH DIWAN
Global Head of Technology
LaSalle Investment Management (fmr)

Sach Diwan is the Global Head of Technology at LaSalle Investment Management. In this role, he oversees all strategic aspects of business technology and is responsible for driving innovation in data and AI. Prior to this, Sach was a Senior Vice President at Northern Trust Asset Servicing, where he held product leadership roles in investment data science and investment operations. Sach holds a Master of Science in Computer Science from the University of Chicago.



Success Story: Over the past four years, I led LaSalle's Global Digital Transformation, realigning technology strategy with business objectives while maintaining a flat budget. I restructured the department, recruiting 30% new talent and promoting emerging leaders. By partnering with C-suite executives and the Global COO, I helped to shape both technology and business priorities around capital raising and investment optimization. I presented our AI strategy—spanning classical AI, generative AI, and agentic workflows—to senior leadership, delivering multiple production solutions in 2025/6. Our data science-driven capital raising campaign generated a large number of qualified leads, demonstrating how strategic technology leadership directly accelerates business growth.



AARON KOLESAR
Director of Information Technology
North America
Central School Bus

Aaron Kolesar serves as Director of Information Technology for a multi-state student transportation organization, where he leads enterprise technology strategy, cybersecurity, data, and large-scale operational modernization. He is focused on harmonizing platforms, enabling scalable growth, and advancing safety, efficiency, and financial performance through disciplined innovation. Aaron is recognized for developing high-performing teams and aligning technology investment with measurable business value and long-term organizational strategy.



Success Story: By harmonizing previously siloed business units and modernizing end-of-life systems, our IT organization established common enterprise platforms that improved reliability, strengthened data visibility, and enabled scalable growth. Standardized hardware, cloud applications, and secure infrastructure increased frontline productivity while reducing downtime and manual workarounds. These efforts accelerated acquisition integration, improved operational consistency, and delivered measurable cost savings and risk reduction. Most importantly, the transformation empowered employees with simpler, faster, and more reliable tools—allowing technology to become a true enabler of safety, efficiency, and long-term organizational value.

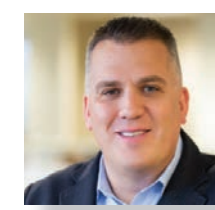


MICHAEL MCDONNELL
CIO & Chief
Corporate Services
Officer,
Amsted Rail

I am proud to work at Amsted Rail for the last 18 years. Amsted Rail is an ESOP (employee owned) company that cares deeply in developing the Spirit of Ownership in the employee owners of the company. This Spirit drives an amazing culture that I am proud to be part of. I enjoy helping our business units achieve their strategic objectives with technology solutions, digital transformation, and AI.



Success Story: I am proud to have supported i.c. stars in Chicago and to have hired graduates from this program in Chicago. I am also proud to help found a i.c. Stars chapter in Kansas City that has now graduated 6 classes. I.c. Stars is committed to racial equity and provides underserved young adults with technology-based workforce development, community leadership training, internships and job placement. This is a highly selective program for people who love learning as much as they love tech. We're looking for motivated problem-solvers who have overcome adversity and want to help other people.



MIKE POWELL
Chief
Innovation Officer
Powerfleet, Inc.

Mike Powell is a technology executive leading Powerfleet's global technology strategy and innovation. He oversees the development and expansion of the Unity AIoT platform, driving AI-powered solutions that transform connected device data into actionable intelligence. With more than two decades of experience in digital transformation, artificial intelligence, and data-driven platforms, Powell focuses on building scalable technologies that improve safety, efficiency, and operational performance for customers worldwide.



Success Story: One of our greatest accomplishments has been transforming Powerfleet's global technology organization following the combination of three companies through recent M&A. Since early 2025, we have aligned approximately 570 technologists across six continents around a unified technology vision and platform strategy. The team built the Unity Data Highway to enable large-scale data ingestion and unified operations across diverse devices and systems, accelerating the development of AI-driven capabilities. These efforts strengthened our go-to-market strategy and helped Powerfleet be recognized by ABI Research in 2025 as the #1 most innovative platform and solution portfolio in our market.



ANDREW WARBURTON
CIO
Life Fitness

Andrew Warburton is an accomplished

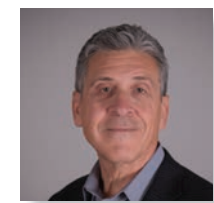
CIO with over 20 years of experience leading IT teams within the manufacturing and consumer industries. He currently serves as the CIO at Life Fitness / Hammer Strength. Here, his focus is on organizational development as well as digital transformation and modernization helping to create lasting value. His prior experience includes 20 years at Instant Brands where, as CIO, he led IT as well as Customer Service and M&A integration.



Success Story: Since I joined Life Fitness in 2022, my high-performing team and I have been leading a global digital transformation. We built a board-approved roadmap, modernized our ERP footprint worldwide, integrated CRM systems, and launched a modern data platform to drive strategic decisions. We've transformed customer experience with new quoting tools that cut sales cycle times by 80%, expanded e-commerce across NA and Europe, and integrated with major facility management providers. Now, we're enhancing post-purchase customer experience and accelerating value through AI, positioning Life Fitness / Hammer Strength for continued growth.

Nonprofit/Public Sector

Government and nonprofit organizations

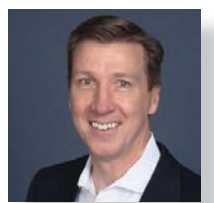


LEN SERVEDIO
CIO
Dearborn Group – HCSC

Len Servedio is currently CIO at Dearborn Group, joining Dearborn in 1999 and has held several key roles within the company's technology group. In his current position he supports Dearborn Group's ancillary insurance and dental operations for the DG family of companies. He is also responsible for developing the Dearborn Group Technology strategy and delivery program. Mr. Servedio holds a BS degree from Buffalo State University, and an MS in Information Technology from DePaul University.



Success Story: As a distinct IT group within a larger enterprise, our teammates have been empowered to envision, design and implement solutions in a lean and creative fashion. Over the last several years we have deployed a new, highly automated dental provider network platform, as well as other significant improvements in our dental network space. We also have led the implementation of creative solutions that support our unified customer experience model across our medical and ancillary product lines.



ADAM SILBERNAGEL
Senior VP, IT
Summit School Services LLC

Adam joined Summit School Services in 2010 and currently oversees the Information Technology team. Prior to joining Summit, he held executive roles in transportation with FirstGroup/Laidlaw. Adam has also held managerial positions with Sears, Roebuck & Co., including overseeing application development, operations, credit systems, and data warehousing. Adam possesses a Master of Business Administration degree in Information Technology from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Eastern Illinois University.



Success Story: One accomplishment I'm especially proud of is leading the development of the first vehicle-tracking app created by a school bus provider—the Durham Bus Tracker. Using near real-time GPS, it gave families a reliable way to monitor their child's bus and feel confident about its location. We rolled it out across our fleet, providing parents and guardians with meaningful peace of mind. Building on that success, we created and trademarked an enhanced platform, BusZone, designed from the ground up. Today, it supports tens of thousands of families across North America. As a parent, I deeply value that added reassurance.



DIEGO ZENGIN
VP, Technology
Power Construction

I am a global CIO and technology executive with 25 years of experience leading digital transformation across multinational organizations. I have worked in both family and public companies with worldwide presence, building and leading multicultural, geographically distributed teams. I have focused on creating opportunities for people, especially young talent, while aligning technology, security, and data to business strategy. Today, as Vice President of Technology at Power Construction, I drive scalable growth and global impact.



Success Story: Under my leadership, the technology organization was strengthened by intentionally developing leaders and creating clear, transparent career paths. I expanded responsibilities, coached emerging leaders, and set clear expectations for growth and accountability. I complemented internal development with selective external hiring focused on leadership mindset and cultural fit. This balanced approach elevated decision-making, strengthened the leadership bench, and built a resilient organization where people grow with clarity, confidence, and long-term alignment to the business.



TERESA ANDREA
VP & CIO
Silver Cross Hospital

Teresa Andrea is the VP CIO at Silver Cross Hospital. Having a technology and clinical background, Teresa brings people, process and technology together. Teresa also oversees the Continuity of Care Division and Business Intelligence. Teresa was listed on Women in Health IT June 2023 and 2024 by Becker's and a finalist for CIO of the Year in 2024 by SIM Chicago. Teresa was named Crains Chicago Business Notable Leaders in Healthcare Technology in October, 2025.



Success Story: We had performance issues and security vulnerability when I took the position as CIO and had a multi-million-dollar investment to our wired and wireless infrastructure that would span over 3 FY terms. As a hospital mitigating downtime is crucial. I challenged teams to think differently on the implementation approach due to the intrusive nature in this type of execution. Our innovative approach minimized disruption to the business. A solid communication plan with key stakeholders allowed us to manage expectations of the organization. It was well received, on time and under budget due to minimal overtime and off hours work.



JONATHAN BEYER
CIO&DO
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Jon serves as Chief Information & Digital Officer at the ELCA driving impact and value through intelligent enterprise technology and innovative digital solutions. Jon is responsible for vision and leadership in positioning technology as an enabler for mission and business operations. Jon began in Information Security at Andersen Consulting (Accenture) and Arthur Andersen. He served as VP of Infrastructure and Technology Operations at two Chicago startups. Jon received a bachelor's degree in mathematics from DePaul University.



Success Story: The ELCA's focus on connection aligns with a human-centered approach empowering faith-based leaders with modern technology. By prioritizing stakeholder needs before tools, we adopted a people first mindset that reshaped solution development across faith, mission, and philanthropy. This led to an AI-driven search system built on 40,000 documents, delivering personalized, spiritually resonant results. The team's integrated perspective—combining IT, user experience, AI, digital, and data—enabled secure, scalable solutions strengthening community connections that support both the churchwide organization and two affiliated financial institutions.



PAUL HAISMAN
CIO
Rotary International

Paul Haisman leads a global team supporting Rotary International, Rotary Foundation, and clubs worldwide. His leadership ensures innovative and modern technology, emphasizing continuous improvement and value. With over 25 years in technology leadership, Haisman holds a B.Sc. in computer science and MBA. He is recognized for thought leadership, earning the 2013 Academy of Achievement Award from Illinois State University College of Applied Science and Technology and the 2025 Chicago CIO of the Year Impact Award.



Success Story: When I joined Rotary, there was no dedicated information security function. I built a five-person security team, implemented DevSecOps scanning across all applications, and launched continuous security awareness training. As a result, Rotary reduced organizational risk scores by 30%, achieved a sustained phishing-prone rate under 2%, and remediated over 1,200 vulnerabilities in one year—protecting donor trust and safeguarding mission-critical systems.



ANTHONY MCPHEARSON
CIO
DuPage County

Anthony McPhearson is Chief Information Officer for DuPage County, where he has led a multi-year transformation of the County's technology organization serving nearly one million residents. He modernized legacy systems, strengthened cybersecurity and accessibility governance, expanded cloud adoption, and elevated IT to a trusted strategic partner. Under his leadership, DuPage County has earned national recognition for digital service innovation and operational excellence.



Success Story: Since joining DuPage County in 2021, I have led a countywide cultural and technological transformation that repositioned IT as a strategic driver of measurable public outcomes. Our work earned more than six national recognitions, including the NAGW Pinnacle Award for Best Website and designation as a 2025 Digital Counties Survey winner by NACo and the Center for Digital Government. National recognition for our domestic-violence support tools, police crime-statistics portal, and DuPage Pollinator Hub demonstrates impact across public safety, accessibility, and community engagement. We modernized enterprise systems, strengthened cybersecurity, and mitigated a severe cyberattack—protecting operations and reinforcing public trust.



VASU MODEKURTI
SVP & CIO
UL Standards and Engagement

Vasu is an accomplished technology executive with extensive experience leading digital transformation initiatives and strategies across Fortune 500 and global organizations. Known for building high-performing teams and aligning technology with business and mission goals, Vasu has driven significant cost savings, modernized infrastructure, and advanced research capabilities. His expertise spans cloud modernization, data analytics, cybersecurity, and innovation. Vasu is dedicated to fostering a culture of excellence, delivering impactful solutions that drive business growth and operational efficiency.



Success Story: As CIO for Underwriters Laboratories' non-profit entities, I successfully led the transition to an independent IT infrastructure within 9 months, ensuring no disruptions to our mission. By adopting a cloud-first strategy, we deployed a secure, scalable infrastructure and integrated cybersecurity measures, achieving a NIST CSF score of 2.2. Our customer-centric services, including the Tech Café and rapid deployment of advanced computing capabilities such as HPC and AI tools, enabled mission-critical priorities such as wildfire investigations, standards development and monitoring. This seamless transition enabled continued research advancements and aligned technology with our mission to make the world safer through science.



WILLIAM WALDERS
EVP, Chief
Digital & Information
Officer
Joint Commission

William Walders is Executive Vice President and Chief Digital & Information Officer for Joint Commission, leading enterprise digital transformation across Joint Commission, Joint Commission International, and National Quality Forum. With 25+ years of healthcare and technology leadership, he previously served as CIO at BayCare, Health First, and VMware's Federal Health CTO. A 22-year U.S. Navy veteran, he holds graduate degrees in health and business administration and multiple industry certifications.



Success Story: As Chief Digital & Information Officer of The Joint Commission, William led a mission-centered digital transformation that reduced contract labor 29%, eliminated 83 applications and bent the expense curve by \$3M year-over-year thus contributing over 1% to enterprise margin. Simultaneously, his team grew Digital revenue 10% and enabled Outcomes Driven Certification, a digitally powered business model. He also co-developed AI-driven healthcare guidance and a Clinical Resilience practice. By modernizing the platform and operating model, IT became a driver of growth, efficiency, and measurable mission impact.

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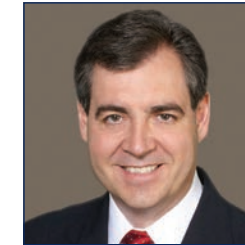
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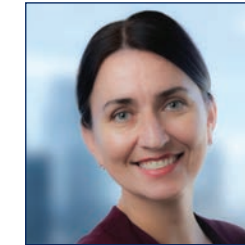
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