

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, featuring numerous skyscrapers and a harbor with several boats. The image is partially obscured by a dark blue diagonal overlay on the right side.

NATIONAL **ORBIE**[®] AWARDS

2023

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AUGUST 9, 2023

CONVERGE23

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Sabina Ewing, Abbott - 2022 Chicago ORBIE Awards

NATIONAL
ORBIE
AWARDS

AUGUST 9, 2023
6:30PM (ET) | 3:30PM (PT)



GO.ORBIE.ORG/NATIONAL-ORBIE

BE INSPIRED TO GREATNESS

Edward Wagoner | CIO, Jones Lang LaSalle (fmr) | ChicagoCIO

Converge is where the world's top technology executives come together. This event brings together Inspire members across the country to connect with industry peers, cultivate shared knowledge and experiences of CIO & CISO members, and celebrate the significant achievements of their peers through the National ORBIE Awards.

Q: Did you experience an "answer is in the room" moment at Converge?

A: After attending Converge22, I believe that the Inspire Leadership Network's line "the answer is in the room" doesn't fully communicate the benefits I experienced in attending Converge...

Motivation is in the room -

No other C-suite position has experienced the rapid evolution or expanding demands like the CIO. Only another CIO experientially understands what you're up against.

There is no greater motivation than listening to CIOs share how they successfully navigated a challenge you are currently facing or talking with other CIOs about how they are currently navigating similar challenges.

You'll come into the room carrying the weight of the pressures of the CIO role. You'll leave the room with the motivation that others in the same role are willing to coach, counsel, and cheer you on as a fellow CIO.

Inspiration is in the room -

Successful "retired" CIOs share how they leveraged their CIO experience to gain board seats, speaking engagements, book deals, and advisory roles. They challenge you to think "beyond" your current role.

In my case, I came into the room thinking one way about the next couple of years of my career. I left the room with an inspiration that recently resulted in my taking major steps in a career pivot to better enable success in the next phase of my life.

Stimulation is in the room -

"I found every Converge session to be an 'I've never attended a session like this at another CIO event' and a 'this was exactly what I needed to hear' experience."



Most CIO conferences approach topics from a technology perspective. Converge recognizes that as the technology leader in your organization, the CIO needs a broader and better executive perspective. Converge approaches every topic from a LEADERSHIP perspective.

Only at Converge do I hear from people in roles like the ones held by the people I report to and in the peer roles surrounding me. It enabled me to see more clearly how other executive roles think about technology and how I could better collaborate with them.

Only at Converge will a CIO be in a room with major executives that every one of your organization's other C-suite roles would want to be around.

Provocation is in the room -

While there are celebrations of CIO accomplishments like the ORBIEs and highlights of leading and successful technology initiatives, Converge is not a CIO "echo chamber."

The speakers and fellow attendees don't just motivate, stimulate, and inspire... they provoke you to think differently... to think about technology through the lens of your broader organization, your industry, and our economy and society.

They provoke you to consider different perspectives and viewpoints such that the answer you came into the room with will evolve into a better answer when you leave the room...

Connection is in the room -

I came into the Converge22 room knowing only the CIOs in attendance from my chapter, but left the room with new connections from across the Inspire network.

I've publicly collaborated with a few, regularly talk to a couple, and visited one when I was in their city.

The connections from Converge continue beyond the room...

Dedication is in the room -

These are CIOs dedicated to being leaders in their organizations and industries. These speakers are dedicated to inspiring and motivating you to think differently. The Inspire Leadership Network staff is dedicated to ensuring you make the most connections, exceed your expectations, and maximize the benefits of being in the room with your fellow CIOs.

You'll experience an "answer is in the

room" moment at Converge... but more importantly, you'll leave the room inspired and equipped with new connections to help you navigate and answer the challenges in the ever-evolving and increasingly influential role of being a CIO.

Q: What was your favorite part of Converge22?

A: Few truly understand the role of the CIO or its rapidly ever-expanding influences and challenges. Yet, I found every Converge session to be an "I've never attended a session like this at another CIO event" and a "This was exactly what I needed to hear" experience.

Perhaps my favorite part of Converge22 was its overall and all-encompassing focus on—and celebration of—the CIO as a leader and key to the success of our organizations' futures.

Q: How do you leverage Converge personally/professionally?

A: There was a lot to leverage in the room during Converge22, and it impacted me after I left the room. Several of the speakers radically influenced my thinking. Two inspired my thinking and resulted in my writing and publishing pieces influenced by Converge22. Additionally, I have collaborated with several CIOs I met at Converge22 on publicly facing initiatives. Most importantly, I recently took major steps, inspired and influenced by the Converge experience.

Looking back on Converge, there were a lot of answers in the room that I needed. I'm glad I invested time to be in the room for Converge.



Converge22 Keynotes - Horst Schulze (Ritz-Carlton), James Dallas (Georgia Pacific), Ed Bastian (Delta), Peter High (Metis Strategy)

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DR. TIMOTHY CHESTER
VP for IT



CATHLEEN CURLEY
CIO



ANN DUNKIN
CIO



ANDY FARELLA
SVP & CIO



ANJALI GANDHI
SVP & CIO



ASH RANGAN
SVP Engineering & CIO



"The recognition that comes with an ORBIE has impacted me in several ways. It has reminded me of the special nature of my professional journey and how mentoring and professional support from others was vital. I try hard to pay that forward, and the ORBIE has increased opportunities to do so.

I've been fortunate to work for a president who has championed my work and intentionally communicated my ORBIE recognition to the University community.

That recognition has created new opportunities to expand my influence and impact within the larger University System of Georgia (USG) and positively influence many other communities of students, faculty, and staff across Georgia.

The USG is a \$10b+ entity comprising 26 institutions, 340,000+ students, and 50,000+ employees. After receiving the ORBIE, USG executives asked me to assume a concurrent appointment as the USG's interim chief information officer. These joint duties add 200+ IT professionals and \$85m+ in annual spending to my UGA portfolio. But more critically, these duties add indirect supervision over 26 institutional CIOs, each serving their university and community across Georgia.

I have moved quickly to instill a culture of teamwork, relying on my leadership style to 'sweat the details' together. Areas of early focus include greater shared purchasing, increased standardization and further consolidation of administrative systems, particularly CRMs used for recruiting students and tracking student progress, and the creation of dashboards providing system executives and elected officials real-time access to key performance indicators demonstrating the economic and strategic impact of USG across Georgia."

"Being an ORBIE winner has opened up my network tremendously in the past year.

The awareness and promotion that my institution provided has helped to open doors to more departments in my college who are interested in partnering with me and my team to help them meet their goals. Leaders above my leave have increased their responsiveness and interest in my career goals. They have also offered to support and help as I look to where I can make a greater impact.

I feel that my influence on other areas in our college has strengthened, especially in terms of innovative ways to develop staff, communicating in uncertain and difficult situations and leading an organization. My peers have reached out more and sought me out for advice, guidance and council.

As an ORBIE winner, I have felt more confident in my leadership skills which has helped me to increase my engagement in spaces outside my direct responsibilities. I've changed where I spend my time (letting go of committees I've led for multiple years) so that I can take and consider broader opportunities for me to make an impact for my college, University and in the State of Michigan."

"I don't exactly shout about the fact that I won an ORBIE - or any award - but word has gotten around DOE that I won the ORBIE and it certainly hasn't hurt my credibility. DOE is a large and complex enterprise, with 97 sites in 27 states, with a broad set of missions. DOE's annual budget is nearly \$50B and nearly 200,000 employees between federal employees and our contractors.

We say that the unofficial motto of DOE is 'you're not the boss of me.' That means that nearly everything I do gets done through influence. The fact that I'm an "award-winning CIO" who has been honored by my peers has been noted and noticed. It has increased my credibility as a subject matter expert. I find that there's a little more willingness to listen to my ideas and collaborate to reach desirable outcomes.

All that said, to me the most important moment is when people mention the award to me and I'm able to highlight the contributions of my team and the fact that I can't do anything without them. The award is really all about my team's contributions and is a celebration of their success."

"Since I won Philly CIO of the Year I have enjoyed many congratulatory words from my colleagues and throughout my network. I was humbled and honored to receive the award and attribute the win to the people around me including:

- My team - direct reports and all of IT at NBME
- My Executive Team colleagues
- My family

PhillyCIO and the ORBIE awards have validated the great work done by the team, not just the leader. This instills great credibility and pride in our accomplishments. This also infuses confidence in our internal and external customers. When stakeholders have confidence, resources follow, and momentum builds behind all of the objectives and initiatives leading to a virtuous cycle of success. We have that kind of momentum at NBME!"

"A number of colleagues joined me and my family at the ORBIE Awards, and it was a great opportunity to elevate our work as we were honored along with an outstanding group of peers from across industries.

Seeing our team's accomplishments alongside those of so many industry leaders underscored the innovation and skill of our team. The ORBIE was not just a reflection on me, but more importantly, on our entire team and we shared it internally and externally to foster pride across the organization.

Since receiving the award, I've been appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council on Information Technology for the State of Minnesota."

"As you know, I have yet to win the ORBIE National Award. However, my peers did declare me a 2022 regional Award-winner in the SoCal region. Thank you!

We are a senior team of 11 professionals, including the CEO. 5 of us serve as Officers of the Company. As such, I was already a trusted and credible leader - and member of the senior team - before receiving this high commendation.

When the SoCal regional results were announced internally, there was an outpouring of feedback and comments from hundreds of my colleagues at ICANN. These were on an internal chat-channel, which links all employees and contractors. Since ICANN has hired almost 100 people during the pandemic, this helped me to gain visibility with the new-comers and to (indirectly) gain their confidence.

When my nomination to the National Award was announced, I posted that announcement both internally and on LinkedIn. I was pleasantly surprised when our immediate-past Board Chairman, and current Board member, cited specific projects and his opinion that he was 'not surprised' with my nomination - on LinkedIn.

Given the criticality of Engineering in fulfilling the core remit of ICANN's work, and ICANN's significant levels of annual investment in Engineering and IT, I regard the above as terrific endorsements - to both the vitality of the E&IT function and to the impact of the timely solutions we deliver."



DR. ZAFAR CHAUDRY
SVP & CDO, CIO



"Winning the prestigious ORBIE has increased my recognition and prestige in the healthcare industry and validates my skills and accomplishments. It has given me enhanced credibility with my peers and Seattle Children's Board of Trustees, informing them that I have achieved a high level of expertise and can be trusted to make important decisions. Furthermore, it has helped improve my leadership skills.

For example, I have received the opportunity to take on new responsibilities such as leading equity, diversity, and inclusion work, which is outside the IT domain and more system-level. It has also helped me increase my influence within my organization by providing me with a platform to share my ideas and opinions and helped me position myself as a thought leader."



LISA DAVIS
SVP & CIO



"Being a Bay Area CIO ORBIE Award winner is a tremendous honor and bolstered my influence as a trailblazing technology and business female leader in my organization. This recognition has also lent credibility to how the technology strategies I lead are viewed as innovative by other industries. This helps us realize Blue Shield of California's mission to create a healthcare system that is worthy of our family and friends and sustainably affordable.

At Blue Shield, we offer development opportunities for all, and promoting this ORBIE award win has helped me model to my female colleagues what they can achieve in their careers. Particularly in technology, we must be role models to young girls and women. Research found that 64% of women working in tech report being inspired by a role model to pursue their career, compared to only 47% of men.

While I've seen more women in leadership roles in the healthcare industry and at Blue Shield, there is an opportunity to create true diversity and equity across industries. We all need to take on the call to action to reverse the effects of the shecession by attracting more women back to the workforce. If more women take a seat at the table, we have greater perspectives and experiences to draw from to make business decisions. The IT organization I lead, for example, needs more women to influence the development of our products and services to better meet the needs of all of our members and providers."



DR. JEFFREY FERRANTI
SVP & CDO



"Technology is a team sport, and I am humbled to be surrounded by many outstanding IT leaders in InspireCIO. Notably, the Carolina ORBIE Awards has helped me build relationships and collaborate with colleagues outside of healthcare. In addition, I have discovered that common challenges and solutions exist across industries. As a result, my institutional credibility is enhanced by embracing continuous learning and staying current with technology trends across sectors.

CIOs are cross-functional leaders charged with modernizing and transforming businesses. But, unfortunately, there is no playbook for the work we do. Our strategies often require digitizing familiar analog processes, and CIOs need organizational credibility to drive such change. Professional networks like InspireCIO help leaders increase their influence by integrating broader perspectives into business proposals.

For example, healthcare is struggling with an unprecedented staffing crisis. We cannot hire and retain sufficient nurses to keep our business running at scale. Other industries have successfully augmented their workforce using gig-economy approaches. These successes have inspired us to look at a gig approach for filling vacant nursing shifts. Initial data suggest that millennial nurses favor the flexibility of working when and where it is convenient. Supplementing traditional staffing models with a gig-economy approach is a novel way to solve a real crisis by leveraging strategies used outside of healthcare. As I pursue this initiative at Duke Health, I am confident that colleagues and peers in the Inspire network will provide examples of success in their enterprises that will add credibility to my approach."



JASON JOSEPH
Chief Digital & Information
Officer



"While awards are not my primary goal, the Michigan CIO of the Year ORBIE Awards is a great recognition of our continued focus on digital transformation and technology modernization at Corewell Health. This level of designation reflects our team and our organization's commitment to digital enablement. It really is a testament to the compassion, collaboration, curiosity and courage that we have brought forth - creating one of the top-performing health care IT and data analytics organizations in the United States.

These accomplishments are possible due to a dedicated and innovative team with a relentless focus on being "brilliant at the basics" - keeping our systems well-architected and healthy with diligence. I could not be more humbled and honored to lead this incredible team. After all, this is hard work - and our team members are going above and beyond to enable a future where health is simple, affordable, equitable and exceptional.

This award was a great opportunity to bring special focus and visibility to the innovative work we are doing since we are directly impacting the future of health care in our communities, across the state and beyond. In my opinion, there is no work more personal or impactful than helping to improve peoples' health and save lives. I am thankful to be on this journey with my amazing team and am looking forward to the future of health care."



JONATHAN MANIS
SVP & CIO



"Recognition as the Dallas CIO Global ORBIE Winner was an incredible honor and a career highlight for me personally. As the esteemed judges and my fellow nominees absolutely know, we accept these awards as representatives for and on behalf of our staff associates. For my entire CHRISTUS IS team, the ORBIE serves as no small source of pride as they consider the award an important recognition of their function and both their individual and collective contributions to the CHRISTUS Health Mission.

For me, the ORBIE has helped to elevate and promote the enabling role of technology in support of our business and clinical operations. Further, it has helped to highlight the IS function and the critical role technology plays in the promotion of health and the provision of high-quality healthcare.

Within my organization, the ORBIE has increased IS functional awareness, improved personal credibility, and both enhanced and expanded the influence of the CIO position. As an ORBIE Winner, I have leveraged my heightened leadership profile and enhanced influence to better inform organizational strategy development, capital investment, and decision-making. From a personal perspective, I have leveraged the ORBIE recognition to increase my visibility and amplify my voice on all business matters, not just technology-related issues. Further, the ORBIE has opened organizational and community doors that have resulted in speaking invitations. These opportunities continue to allow me to help orient, educate, and inspire the next generation of business and technology leaders."



KEITH PERRY
SVP & CIO



"The ORBIE award is a wonderful recognition of the hard work and accomplishments of a team aligned with the organizational mission. I personally am extremely proud of the way our team walks alongside institutional leadership driving strategic and operational change.

The award has also provided a vehicle for others outside the institution to recognize the tireless effort of the entire St. Jude Information Services department. Every department member takes great pride in our mission and working collaboratively to help others succeed.

While we celebrated the award internally, we also recognize there is much to do if we are to ensure the technology is in place to ensure our founder's dream that 'no child should die in the dawn of life'."

DEVELOPING THE FUTURE OF IT TALENT

Tim Dickson | CIO, Generac Power Systems | WisconsinCIO

This is why **Next Generation Leader (NGL)** was created - because great leaders develop talent. Investing in your team shows your appreciation, develops leadership skills and produces engagement and loyalty to you and your organization.

Q: Why do you choose to enroll your team in NGL?

A: When I joined Generac nearly three years ago, I found myself joining a new company and moving to a new town with no talent pipeline or CIO network available. I didn't have many options for hiring or training, and I wasn't aware of what Generac had internally to offer. So, I went with what I knew, which was NGL. The NGL program was the full package I needed, and it has since expanded and exceeded expectations. A significant majority of the nearly 20 individuals who have completed this program under my guidance have transitioned into new leadership roles. As a result of witnessing the positive outcomes experienced by their peers and team members who have gone through this training program, others are now eager to be a part of it. This program has been truly beneficial for them in terms of tangible rewards for their dedicated nine months of hard work and the subsequent growth they have achieved as a result.

Q: What improved leadership capabilities have you observed in team members who have completed NGL?

A: Almost everyone who has completed the program has taken ownership of their own communication with the business team and our executive-level business partners, right down to the individual contributors. This is not only a tactical achievement but also a clear indication that they have learned and grown through this aspect of the program.

I have always nurtured an external network and reached out to my peers for support or guidance whenever needed. Now, I see my team members adopting the same approach. Throughout the nine-month program, they have opportunities to meet and connect with individuals from various industries and backgrounds, extending beyond the confines of Generac's IT department. They establish meaningful connections, maintain contact, and learn from one another.



"The NGL program was the full package I needed, and it has since expanded and exceeded expectations"

its influence on our leadership capabilities.

Q: What have you enjoyed the most about serving as an NGL mentor?

A: Giving back through mentorship is important to me, as I've been fortunate in my own career journey. It's part of my philosophy to pay it forward and give back to the community that has been supportive of me. One of the most fulfilling aspects, particularly as an NGL mentor, is when mentees reach out to me outside of our scheduled calls with questions or requests. When they step beyond the normal boundaries and cadence, whether they recognize the benefits or have something on their mind that they need to discuss with someone, it brings me great joy. Personally, I find it extremely rewarding, especially if I can assist them in any way.

Undoubtedly, this exchange of knowledge and networking is one of the program's most significant benefits.

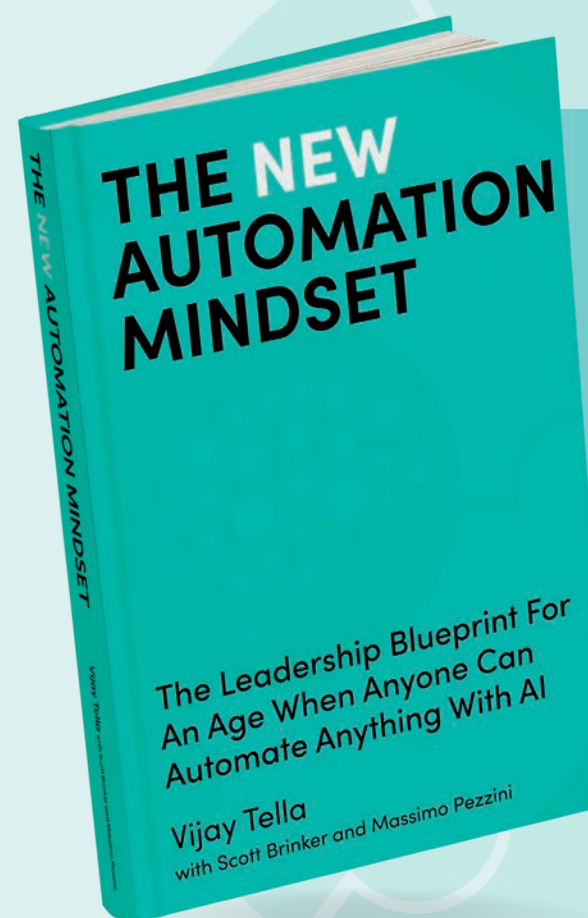
Q: How has developing your up-and-coming, high-potential leaders influenced your leadership success?

A: The impact of developing up-and-coming high-potential leaders on my own leadership success has been significant. Generac IT is now viewed from a different perspective. We are no longer seen solely as order takers or project managers. Instead, we are perceived as leaders of transformation programs, digital initiatives, and strategic projects for the business. Our role has expanded to include being a trusted sounding board and a talent source. We can leverage our enhanced leadership skills and training to propose innovative ideas, prototypes, hackathons, and solutions that may not have been initially requested by the business. This is a direct result of the NGL program and



Great leaders develop talent, NGL makes it easy.

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OHIO CIO



DAVID BLUM
CIO



"As a technology evangelist, winning the ORBIE CIO of Year award has helped me gain additional credibility, leadership, and influence within Hylant, as well as within industry and technology communities. This has enhanced my role of being the voice of digital innovation and my effectiveness in driving the creation of a digital culture across my company.

The onus has been on me in large part to paint a picture of the digital future for the rest of the company. This recognition and associated credibility has helped me to be able to effectively represent the opportunity and vision for the evolution of technology, which has propelled me to the forefront of Hylant's strategy by leading innovation to stay ahead of digital trends and evolving customer expectations. Through these efforts, I have been able to ensure that the business better learns about and stays abreast of digital trends, the implications of these trends for their business, and how to best leverage the new technologies.

This has also enhanced my influence in the leadership and management of our IT department, supporting our paradigm shift from a focus on systems and services, to a focus on our customers' experiences, outcomes and needs. This has ultimately driven greater alignment of IT with the business - moving beyond IT partnering with the business to IT being part of the business."

SEATTLE CIO



KARI ESCOBEDO
SVP, Technology



"Winning the ORBIE award last year has impacted my team and I in very positive ways. My team holds their heads a little higher and is more confident in their ideas, solutions, interactions and overall relationships with our business peers in the organization. This external validation of all the great work has given our teams a bump in their trust with business partners and opened doors for being included in more conversations early.

For me personally the proactive reach out on more strategic conversation has increased as is the openness to new innovative ideas from me and my team. Driving conversations on developing both short and longer term strategies on how new technology platforms in data & analytics to drive insights on both the baseball and business side - saving time and resources and bringing insights significantly faster than in the past or how to leverage shifts to IPTV/digital platforms integrated to our fan engagement platforms we have enabled to create unique experiences for fans and business partners!

We are engaging in more forward-thinking strategic conversations on how to enable different business processes or engagement opportunities through technology. This recognition has helped solidify my team as a thought partner not just a service provider!"

WISCONSIN CIO



STEVE HANNAN
Chief Information & Risk Officer



"Winning the ORBIE validated the IT and business transformation efforts that I developed and am executing. Being recognized by my CIO peers increased my credibility and influence with my peers, the CEO, and Board. This additional credibility enabled me to successfully lead our executive team and Board through the development of a new 3-5 year strategic plan. I also had significant influence on the strategy and partnered with several of my peers to co-sponsor several longer term, transformational initiatives included in the strategic plan. Examples include a new data and analytics platform, member service transformation that includes telephony/omni-channel replatform and new CRM, and consumer lending transformation that includes new origination and servicing applications and capabilities. I also leveraged my credibility and influence by accelerating our IT strategy through requesting and receiving a material increase in the 2023 budget to grow the team, deliver strategic projects, and accelerate the replacement of legacy technology.

While I won the award, our IT team did the work that made it possible. The entire team got a boost in morale and pride knowing that we received outside recognition for our work. Winning the ORBIE also increased the credibility of the IT organization and validated our IT transformation initiatives with business line stakeholders. It has become easier for my team to gain buy-in on delivering solutions and support aligned with our IT strategy vs siloed and less expensive solutions that end up with a higher total cost of ownership."

SOCAL CIO



DR. DEREK PETERSON
CTO



"Inspire Leadership Network is a powerful network of CIOs. Being an active part of the ORBIE CIO community has helped Boingo Wireless strengthen existing relationships and foster new partnerships."

Dr. Derek Peterson is a visionary leader with the outstanding ability to understand how the wireless industry will evolve long before the market begins to change. As Boingo Wireless CTO, Dr. Peterson is the company's lead technical strategist, driving industry-wide innovation across Wi-Fi, 5G, private networks and small cells.

His vision for connecting the physical and digital worlds through new wireless technologies continues to drive Boingo Wireless' business and has positioned the company for exponential growth as a total connectivity provider.

CAPITAL CIO



LISA ROGER
CIO



"Becoming an ORBIE winner is a wonderful experience! The best part was getting to share the win with my team and formally thank them for their effort and all that they do. We are an award-winning organization and Dewberry leverages the publicity with its social media announcements. It is a symbol of excellence that the entire team takes pride in.

Since winning the award my alma mater George Mason University named me one of the 2022 Prominent Patriot - which is described as 'as the alumna who are the very best in demonstrating citizenship, scholarship, and leadership in their daily lives'. I serve on the Women in Business Advisory board and since winning the ORBIE I have been elected to be chair of the advisory board.

I recently was selected by RedZone to appear on a podcast, entitled, 'The Joy Factor: How to build your dream career from the inside out' - which featured my leadership philosophies and my book, 'The Joy Factor, Escaping Job Disappointment and Finding Your Dream Career'.

My greatest joy is mentoring others, being an ORBIE winner has provided the credibility and exposure to mentor and coach more women in STEM and fellow CIO peers. Dan Roberts, CEO of Ouellette and Associates has asked me to mentor two of his cohorts in their TechLX cohorts, which has been very rewarding.

Lastly, Dewberry has taken a look at my compensation and has made some adjustments to reflect the win and their desire for me to stay with the organization."

BOSTON CIO



CHAD WRIGHT
CIO



"The role of Chief Information Officer at Boston Dynamics was created upon my hiring in December 2019. I am the company's first CIO in our thirty-year history. That in itself is an amazing honor, and I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with such talented and passionate people to bring our robots to market. Given our unique situation, I often find myself explaining to other leaders exactly what a CIO does in a robotics organization. As Boston Dynamics pivoted to become a commercial business, we established several new disciplines, like Sales and Marketing, Customer Support and Manufacturing Operations while investing in other General and Administrative functions, such as People Operations, Legal and Facilities.

The recognition of my team's accomplishments by BostonCIO and InspireCIO gives us the confidence and credibility that we're doing something right. The recognition is appreciated and is helpful when we engage with new strategic partners as the InspireCIO brand is strong nationwide. They see what we're doing at Boston Dynamics and we're instantly credible. For my Executive peers that are new to what a CIO does, this recognition helps them appreciate that what we're doing is not ordinary; it's special and ultimately allows us to be competitive in a new and emerging market. My stakeholders don't take me seriously because I've won an award. They take me seriously and give my team and I a seat at the table because we work hard, we show results, and they trust that we'll solve their problems."



JIM CHILTON
EVP & CTO



RICK HALL
CIO



BRETT LANSING
CIO



LEN O'NEILL
SVP & CIO



MICHELLE ROEMER
SVP, IT



MIKE SHANKO
SVP & CIO



"Winning the ORBIE has had a significant impact for our technology organization at Cengage Group, both in helping us push forward internal initiatives that drive innovation, and in generating external visibility and credibility. As an education technology company based in Boston, we face fierce competition from big tech players in attracting talent.

The ORBIE awards has helped us spotlight the innovative, impactful work our technology teams are doing to help more individuals change their lives through education, and the strong culture and mission-driven commitment our employees bring to their work each day. This is a differentiator for us and has helped us drive credibility for our team and attract new talent.

For me personally, as I've expanded my CIO role to CTO at Cengage Group, this ORBIE recognition has helped me expand my network, form partnerships and explore new innovations that keep Cengage Group on the cutting edge of education technology, and continue to build upon its leadership position in the industry."

"Mars is a Matrix driven leadership organization. We get things done through the relationships that we build in our segments and across our organization. A huge component of this is how we socialize both within and outside our organization the success of our teams and segments we support.

We have a large internal social network that has helped to create cross segment relationships with other parts of Mars as the news of this award was shared. These relationships have helped to build alignment not only on ways of working but have attributed to strategic discussions on what we should be doing going in support of our aspirations.

The recognition of this award by peers within the St. Louis region has helped to validate that we are doing, not only what is needed within Royal Canin, but is in line with what our industry supports. The discussions that I have already had with my peers within STL ORBIE has helped to validate assumptions and has led to changes in how we might approach initiatives. Recently I reached out to the broader ORBIE group as we were preparing to insert Solution Architecture into our org. The input and advice I received internally helped to shape the model we will be deploying."

"Winning the Dallas CIO ORBIE award has increased my marketability and resume equity. Winning this award has been a wonderful experience. It was an honor to have the COO present with me when I won the award last February 2022. I was grateful to have the AccentCare CEO, members of the Executive Leadership Team and a few of the board and private equity leaders have acknowledged me for winning this prestigious award.

My team was very proud of the award, and they know in their heart of hearts, I always give credit to the team. It is all about the team! I proudly display my award in my office, and it definitely becomes a conversation piece. I do believe the award instilled a 'next level up' of credibility for me. Whenever you are voted as a winner by your peers, especially across the nation, there is instant credibility and recognition! My invitations to speak at leadership events, attend other panel discussions and CIO events have increased significantly as a result of winning a Dallas ORBIE.

Winning this award has given me additional respect in my CIO circles and in our community too. It has truly given me a platform to become an evangelist about how imperative it is to build a high caliber, highly effective teams that are empowered and innovative to lead. I appreciated being recognized through the *Dallas Business Journal*, as that created even more visibility for me in our city. Winning the Dallas CIO ORBIE was the greatest recognition in my career."

"The honor of earning the Florida CIO of the Year ORBIE Award - and the subsequent promotions around that - opened many opportunities for me to engage with other CIOs and business leaders at both the local and national levels. The award brought greater visibility to Suddath and its unique businesses, particularly in commercial workplace design and specialized logistics - two of the fastest growing areas of our company.

At a time when so many organizations are re-evaluating their space to embrace a hybrid model, CIOs are often the key decision makers, determining which technology solutions and office configurations will best align with their workforce and business security needs, company culture and budget. Suddath works to continually diversify what we do and where we do it, moving up the value chain with our customers by offering integrated solutions and technologies that deliver greater efficiencies. Our goal is to help them grow and adapt their businesses as we grow ours.

The credibility resulting from the prestige of an ORBIE award afforded opportunities for us to showcase Suddath's diverse capabilities in new ways, and with greater networks of potential customers and peers."

"Winning the ORBIE award has changed the nature of my relationships with the other Executive leaders within the company and given me the next level of confidence to 'be bold'. I think that people trusted my leadership and valued my perspectives prior to the award, but historically conversations occurred as part of a normal course of business, in already established meetings, touchpoints, with set cadences.

Since the award, I have had several Executive leaders reach out to me to seek counsel in a variety of situations, such as how to respond to our CEO on a topic, get feedback on an organizational restructure they were considering, ask about how do we develop & support more women senior leaders in the company, etc. There have been many more topics and often, they are not related to information and technology. CIOs are in unique positions as they see how various parts of the organization interact (or how they don't but should). I find myself being bolder in raising awareness to how we could work better as an Executive leadership team, continuing to better connect all the functions together.

Specifically, I have made recommendations to the CEO and CFO on how to change up the structure of our Monthly Business Review so that our Operations and Customer functions become more integrated and aligned, ensuring we have clear action plans that require multiple functions to get performance back on track."

"Winning the 2022 ORBIE for Arizona has brought validation to the IT organization at large that the value we bring to our organization each and every day is not only appreciated internally but also aligned with best in class organizations.

Additionally, the award has brought great recognition with companies across the globe for Blue Yonder and for me personally. We are routinely sought out at events, online and asked to participate in speaking engagements or to provide time to network, help educate and grow others in the IT community. This opens the door for me to share the amazing platforms which we represent at Blue Yonder.

I am incredibly humbled to have received the nomination and honored to have received the award. What is more rewarding however, is that this public recognition now affords others to see the value and knowledge which I possess, providing opportunities for me to share my experiences with them. There is truly nothing more rewarding than watching others succeed and achieve their potential. This award now allows me to influence so many others, this is a privilege."

THE ANSWER IS IN THE ROOM... ARE YOU?

Surprisingly, CIOs often comment that the most helpful and interesting information learned at member programs isn't from "the sage on the stage" but rather from conversations with other CIO members facing similar challenges. **Insider Events** are purposefully designed to enable CIO members to host a chapter program for CIO peers at their corporate facilities to spark dialogue and innovative thinking.

Inside DHL January 18, 2023



Enna Zarate
SouthFloridaCIO

Hosting the Insider Event at one of DHL Express network facilities was a great honor and a unique opportunity not only to connect with my CIO peers but also to showcase some real-life examples of how technology

is powering DHL operations and helping us to continuously improve flexibility, reliability, and service for our customers' ever-growing international shipping needs. The DHL Hub tour at the Miami International Airport, which has always been a key gateway into South and Central America and the Caribbean, was definitely the event's highlight. It was amazing to see how excited and impressed my CIO peers were by the complexity and scale of our operations and state-of-the-art technologies behind it - from a small parcel sorting robotics arm to fully automated sorting conveyor lines and high-quality 3D CT scanners for automated explosives detection.

At DHL Express, we pride ourselves on working together AS ONE. We were thrilled to have several DHL US and Regional Board members joining the event. The participants greatly appreciated the insights and how technology is playing a vital role in helping us achieve strong performance.



Inside HudsonAlpha Institute February 22, 2023



Scott Ross
AlabamaCIO

For our insider Event, we focused on cybersecurity perspectives, helping educate our CIO peers on cybersecurity challenges and solutions in cutting-edge industries like biotechnology, aerospace, and

defense. The HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology's campus in Huntsville, Alabama has a unique mission specializing in genomic research, the development of biotechnology companies, and educational outreach.

HudsonAlpha provided tours of our laboratories and biotechnology campus where CIO members got to learn about human and agricultural genomics, success stories of entrepreneurial startups, and our leading cybersecurity research to help protect DNA. Finally, we gathered members at the Davidson Center for Space Exploration where they got to hear from a distinguished cybersecurity panel of academics, defense, and technology leaders about the cutting-edge industries and cybersecurity challenges in Huntsville, Alabama. Overall, the involvement of our team, community, and collaborators helped make our Insider event a success and meaningful experience for AlabamaCIO members.



Inside Ocean Spray Cranberries March 23, 2022



Jamie Head
BostonCIO

The Insider Event was an excellent opportunity to showcase Ocean Spray's technology journey and its unique structure as a global, farmer-owner agricultural co-operative headquartered in Massachusetts. We took the opportunity

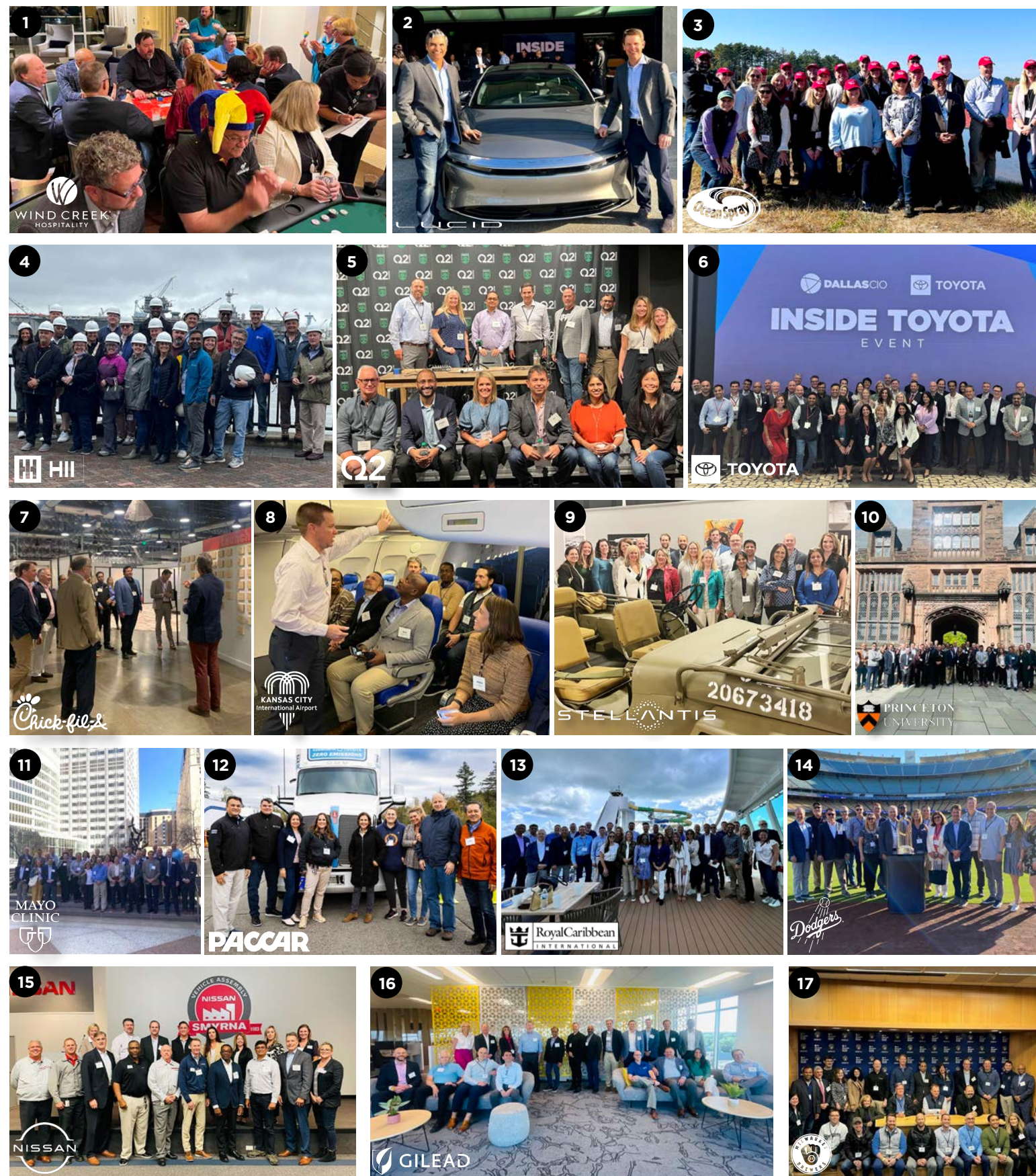
to provide context to our business model, featuring a conversation with our President & CEO, Tom Hayes. Our Vice President of Cooperative Development & Grower Relations, Jeff LaFleur, shared information about our agricultural operations and supply chain. Our Tech team also talked through the four pillars of our tech strategy, focused on outcomes for our business.

Given the answer is always in the room, Ocean Spray's Tech leadership team stated a business challenge or problem we did not have an answer to and asked the room if they could share their learnings.

We took the Insider Event "outside" to our Cranberry bogs during our harvest period. Our CIOs saw first-hand our commitment to sustainability and how agtech is aiding farmers to improve quality and yield. One of our farmer-owners also helped emphasize why we do what we do: a shared commitment to the planet and our farmer-owners prosperity and growth.



INSIDER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



1. AlabamaCIO Inside Wind Creek Casino, 2. BayAreaCIO Inside Lucid Motors, 3. BostonCIO Inside Ocean Spray, 4. CapitalCIO Inside HII, 5. CentralTexasCIO Inside Q2 Stadium, 6. DallasCIO Inside Toyota, 7. GeorgiaCIO Inside Chick-fil-A, 8. KansasCityCIO Inside The New Kansas City Airport, 9. MichiganCIO Inside Stellantis, 10. NewYorkCIO & PhillyCIO Inside Princeton University, 11. MinnesotaCIO Inside Mayo Clinic, 12. SeattleCIO Inside PACCAR, 13. SouthFloridaCIO Inside Royal Caribbean, 14. SoCalCIO Inside Dodgers Stadium, 15. TennesseeCIO Inside Nissan USA, 16. TriangleCIO Inside Gilead, 17. WisconsinCIO Inside Milwaukee Brewers.

Keep up with Inspire Leadership Network Insider Events by following your local chapter's LinkedIn page.

INSPIRELEADERSHIPNETWORK.COM/SOCIAL

OUR ROOM IS BIGGER & DIGITAL

Christie Nader | CIO, Jet Aviation | CapitalCIO



Q: What value has the Slack Member Workspace added to your organization?

A: Adding Slack as a connection tool has increased my reach from 50 to 1000+ CIOs.

I already get tremendous value from the weekly calls with my CapitalCIO chapter, where I get advice and ideas from my CIO peers that I can use at my own company. Through our Slack chats, I have learned some information that has been helpful in some product and organization decision-making processes. There have been times when I have had offline

chats with individuals to dive deeper beyond the Slack discussion.

Q: How does Slack help you stay connected with the CIO community?

A: Slack has given me the opportunity to find out when other CIOs will be attending conferences and such in different parts of the country. We have used the Slack channel to create meetups in person to build our relationships beyond online chat. A large group of us attended the same conference last October, and it was by using the Slack channel that we all could easily meet up. It led to great conversations and a lot of laughs (karaoke may or may not have been involved...). I could not have done that simply by posting on LinkedIn. Inspire has given us

a great tool to help us build relationships with CIOs all across the country.

Q: How do you leverage Slack personally/professionally?

A: I'm in the DC area, and I would say a great majority of our CapitalCIO members are GovCon or related to that somehow. With my being in the commercial sector, sometimes my needs are different. I have used it to reach out to CIOs in other geographical areas who are in my industry or who are more commercial-focused. I have also used it to discuss career planning, specifically looking into board roles. Many of us have that interest, and through the chats, we were able to support plans for board readiness training cohorts.



Continue the conversation with Inspire peers with the Slack Member Workspace.

INSPIRELEADERSHIPNETWORK.COM/SLACK

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YEAR UP: CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY DIVIDE

Chris Holm | CIO, The Perot Companies | DallasCIO



Year Up's mission is to close the "Opportunity Divide" by ensuring their students gain the skills, experiences and support that will empower them to reach their full potential. As

the National Partner of InspireCIO, Year Up provides support for the ORBIE Awards across the country.

Q: What value has Year Up added to your organization?

A: In a time when talent can be challenging to find and keep, Year Up has provided a consistently strong pipeline of candidates with great atti-

tudes and aptitudes. These students have learned how to contribute and help our team understand the value of diverse backgrounds and perspectives.

Q: How has Year Up supported your organization?

A: We started candidates with a natural fit - Desktop Support. But we quickly evolved to Applications Development / Support (Salesforce & Cloud Apps) as well. Both tracks have worked well for us, so we're considering expanding into Project Management and perhaps other entry-level tracks.

Q: As technologies are emerging, how has Year Up evolved to keep up with your organization's innovations?

A: Year Up candidates come to us with a good grasp of the essentials and build on them. Every candidate has built on those "basics" and quickly learned & applied new tech skills for their chosen field. Year Up has armed candidates to be "ready to learn and grow," and they've not disappointed.

Q: What insight would you give another organization considering partnering with Year Up?

A: Evaluate where entry-level skills can make a difference in your team, and don't be afraid to be a little bit disruptive to your norms. Your team will appreciate the energy and insights Year Up candidates can bring - as a result, you'll likely be stronger leaders.



Tap into a diverse pipeline of bright, skilled talent.
INSPIRELEADERSHIPNETWORK.COM/YEARUP

Includes CIOs for organizations over \$2 billion annual revenue:



IRVIN BISHOP JR
EVP & CIO



MARY LYNNE PERUSHEK
CIO



VIJAY RAGHAVAN
EVP & CTO



KARRIEM SHAKOOR
SVP & CIO



DIEGO SILVA
SVP & CIO



ENNA ZARATE
VP CIO



"Being recognized as an ORBIE award winner is not an achievement I can solely own. I take great pride in the stellar leadership I have assembled and the dedicated professionals who drive our business success every day. This recognition has enhanced our credibility and improved the visibility of our capabilities. It has also transitioned our past internal perception of being a technology services provider to a valued business partner.

This award helped further build our company's reputation. I was recently selected by our CEO to lead our BV Global Innovation Committee which encompasses all company innovations including technology. This opportunity allows me to lead and inspire business and technology innovations with peers across our global company.

Since winning the award, I have had numerous speaking opportunities, industry interviews, and podcasts. I have also contributed to a variety of global media thought leadership features and publications. These expanded opportunities are helping increase the voice of our company globally and drive our industry reputation as innovators who are disrupting today to inspire tomorrow.

Personally, the ORBIE award has provided me with an added level of accountability, energy, and focus that I share with my team every day. Being recognized for hard work is always rewarding, but the most rewarding part for me is sharing it with others. Following the ORBIE award recognition, we acknowledged the contribution of our entire CIO organization by creating an award for each person. It was important to me that my entire team shared in this achievement."

"Mortenson is known for being a company where team members spend their entire careers until retirement. As a multi-generational family-owned company, when you join, you are joining a family. This makes the award especially meaningful to me as someone who joined the company and industry later in my career. Since the award, our Mortenson Team members, specifically females, are more interested in my background and career journey within Technology.

In addition, my ideas for innovation, strategy and other general business decisions are sought out more frequently and are more highly regarded. This award has provided a boost of confidence, shaking the occasional doubts or imposter syndrome that can occur.

Shortly after the award was announced, I received congratulatory notes from the chairman of the board, the CEO, and other members of the executive team, in which they provided accolades for the impact that I've had both at Mortenson, and in the community. The CEO posted on our internal website expressing his pride at what a deserving honor the ORBIE is. I have been leveraging the increased credibility by participating in internal and external programs and panels, like industry-wide Women in Construction events, technology industry panels, MN Tech Association, and the Women in Leadership Conference at the University of Minnesota."

"Winning the Georgia CIO ORBIE Award was a pleasant surprise, and it was important to me that I shared the credit liberally with my peers and with my technology team. While I realize that the purpose of the ORBIE award is to acknowledge the contributions of 'CIOs as unsung heroes', the reality is that the CIO is nothing without their fantastic technology team, and without extraordinary business partners in Sales, Product, Finance, Legal, Marketing, HR, Strategy etc. I would hope that my having shared the credit quickly and effusively with my team and with my business partners gave me far more credibility than if I simply basked in the glory of winning this award. I know that my technology team felt pleased that one of their own had been recognized. It was a morale booster for them, and I believe they felt vicariously honored.

The award has helped raise the profile of my organization in the Georgia community and beyond. While LexisNexis Risk Solutions is a large company, we are not a household name - which sometimes puts us at a disadvantage when it comes to recruitment of talent. More than my leveraging this award to boost my own profile, I feel that this award and the resulting positive exposure has helped my company gain more visibility in the community, especially among prospective employees. This to me is far more important and desirable, than any expansion of my own influence or credibility as a by-product of winning the award."

"Being recognized as the Chicago CIO in the enterprise category has actually helped the IT organization overall far more than me personally. The ORBIE award is a team award, not individual. What it said is that IT is positively transforming UL faster or better than other organizations, that we possess better talent and have enabled that talent to succeed to serve our internal and external customers.

The award and recognition have helped to cement IT's brand as a strategic thought partner across the company vs. 'order taker' when I inherited my team in 2017. The award established my team as a winner and strengthened ULS' brand as our customer's most trusted science-based safety, security and sustainability partner."

"The ORBIE has never been for me, it has always been for my team. They are the true heroes who sacrifice every day to bring our vision to reality. The ORBIE is also for my wife, that put her prestigious career on standby to follow me around the world as I chased a dream. The ORBIE is for the leaders, including former CIOs, who took risks, trusted me, and gave me opportunities when others would not. The ORBIE is for all interns, students, and professionals who jump onto my team because they believe in a different way to run IT. The ORBIE is for all countries, cultures, and minorities I represent. It will inspire them to believe the impossible is possible...and this world needs more of this.

I accepted the ORBIE nomination for all individuals who made and continue to make personal sacrifices to help me be what I am. To all of them I will be eternally in debt. The ORBIE has never been for me. I am the same individual before and after, but that is not true for the hundreds of people I represent. This award has touched and inspired them, and I hope it continues to do so."

"Winning the South Florida ORBIE Award generated a lot of excitement and boosted my team's morale and motivation, since it is a validation of their hard work and dedication. This positive energy translated into increased engagement in our different locations in the USA. We were recognized as the #1 Great Place to Work and one of the 100 Best Places to Work in IT, so winning an ORBIE was a great way to wrap our year.

The ORBIE award was also a testament of the expertise and achievements of the team. Having an acknowledgement by other CIOs helped to keep on building credibility and reputation inside DHL.

For me as a CIO, it makes me feel so proud to be recognized as a transformational leader among other great CIOs from different industries. It also boosts my confidence that I'm doing the right things for my team and my company and will support my career growth and advancement."



CHRISTY BARKER
VP & CIO



ANTHONY DAYAO
VP & CIO



DR. BEN GORDON
SVP, CIO & CDO



MIKE GUHL
CIO



ANUPAM KHARE
SVP & CIO



MILIND WAGLE
EVP & CIO



"First, to be clear, the St. Louis ORBIE win is a recognition of the collective skill, capability, and work by hundreds of Olin employees, and this has been a big recognition and thank you to them. The award has impressed a higher level of credibility inside Olin, by strengthening employee confidence in our strategy and our ability to execute. The team feels incredibly proud of their accomplishments and the award helped memorialize this.

Externally, winning the ORBIE has increased visibility in our industry and the marketplace. I have more opportunities to share my experiences, lessons, and aspirations with others in the St. Louis community and globally in the Chemicals, Oil and Gas industries. With a 27-year career in business and technology, I have seen a lot of change, had wins and losses, and gained a broad perspective on how IT creates value across the organizations we enable and, in many cases, lead the change. I also have reached a point where it's not about my personal career aspirations anymore, but rather rewarded more by shifting attention toward helping others grow and be ready for their next big challenge. The ORBIE has opened doors for my voice to be shared."

"Motiva had experienced significant turnover within IT in the two years before my joining Motiva in May 2021. The trust in IT had eroded and pockets of shadow IT had sprung up. My leadership team and I spent 2021 regaining the organization's trust and respect. Winning the ORBIE validated the trust that the organization extended to our entire IT team. Winning the ORBIE has provided our IT team a sense of pride. The award is really for them and they're deserving of it. Winning has helped them believe more in themselves.

IT is now positioned to lead the digital transformation initiatives for Motiva that will create the process and technology foundations for business operations for the next 10-20 years."

"The credibility I gain from winning this prestigious award is something I share with my very talented IT teams. We succeed together, and I make certain they know that. Our utilities, SDG&E and SoCal Gas, are on the cutting edge of technology, delivering often unprecedented solutions that have a tremendous impact on the communities where we all live. We leverage big data and AI to protect our customers from wildfire. We employ digital twins to prioritize investment in lower-emission vehicles for neighborhoods that are disproportionately impacted by climate change. Those are just two examples of many.

Yes, in IT we 'keep the lights on' as the saying goes, and a LOT more. When the news of this win is published throughout our company, our leadership and colleagues in other departments know they can turn to us for solutions to big challenges. That makes us all stronger. And that's what the credibility of this award provides."

"It has been a great TEAM recognition for all of the hard work we have done simultaneously integrating two billion dollar distribution companies while migrating to the cloud and closing both of our datacenters, while rolling out a new Warehouse Management System.

The external recognition is a great validation of what an incredible year it has been. Honestly, it has also helped with recruiting. From a leadership perspective, it also validates that we are building a special culture here that people want to be a part of. I am thrilled to be a part of this team."

"Winning the ORBIE award has improved IT's credibility with businesses, enhanced our relationship with them as a trusted partner, and energized the IT team to innovate and deliver for our business partners. We are seeing an increase in business appetite for digital solutions, IT is regarded as an investment, and my team is proactively engaged in business discussions at various levels of the organization. This award has also further elevated the leadership's understanding of the value of digitization, and they are encouraging us to embed digital in every part of the business.

With greater credibility, I developed a Digital 2.0 strategy that focuses on improving the digital savviness of business team members, integrating automation into our workforce strategy, and increased emphasis on business value harvesting from technology investments. We now have a dedicated digital consulting team who has become a trusted extension of business teams. The team works to understand business processes and bridge the gap of how digital can unlock breakthrough performance. We are elevating IT from being a digital partner to a proactive thought leader and strategic value enabler.

I witness new confidence and energy in my IT team. Team members are learning more and experimenting more. I see additional opportunities for IT to play a more significant role in driving lasting business impact and organizational growth."

"Industry recognition is always a validation of one's strategy. Winning a prestigious award like the Bay Area ORBIE highlighted Equinix's strong positioning as a technology player and mine as a transformational CIO. It was a reflection of my team taking the right approach to shaping the role and relevance of IT for the organization. We are on a journey to become true strategic partners to our business and are showing up as integrators for strategy realization. The good news is that the company is also waking up to this role and expecting more impactful outcomes from us. More complex transformation challenges are coming our way, and IT is a stakeholder for all our big transformative projects currently running within the company.

I am grateful for the several doors opened for exciting opportunities and valuable peer networks from this recognition. I have been presented with the great opportunity of being mentored by prominent tech industry veteran Richard Daniels around accessing more board memberships.

I have continued to leverage this credibility and recognition to create more awareness and thought leadership around the evolving role of IT in the industry."

RELATIONSHIPS CREATE LEADERSHIP ADVANTAGE

Kim Hales | SVP, IT, NRG Energy | HoustonCIO

There's no textbook that tells you how to be a great CIO, but successful technology executives understand the 'superpower' of trusted relationships. Inspire Leadership Network membership facilitates problem-solving, avoiding pitfalls, sharing success, and building confidence to lead change.

"Coming together to genuinely learn, support and empower each other makes us better at our jobs and, even more importantly, better leaders."

"The mutual respect, support, and knowledge sharing for people in our challenging leadership position provides great insights, helps us become better leaders, and truly inspires us to be our best."



coming an exceptional leader. I have since become a Board member of one charity organization and will

Q: What do you love most about being an Inspire member?

A: The mutual respect, support, and knowledge sharing for people in our challenging leadership position provides great insights, helps us become better leaders, and truly inspires us to be our best.

Q: What key differences between Inspire and other CIO networking groups have you experienced?

A: This CIO network is so focused on members spending quality time together on quality discussion topics rather than sitting together to hear a sales pitch. We also get to celebrate each other with awards which are so important to help us all gain respect for what is often an underappreciated position.

Q: How has membership enhanced your overall leadership strategy?

A: Membership has absolutely enhanced my leadership strategy. I learned about the three pillars of excellence that the Inspire community uses for judging criteria, and it really resonated with me to become a better leader. Excellence in your job is certainly important, but excellence in bringing up the next set of IT leaders and using your position to lift your community are both critical to be-

likely join another board. This membership inspired me to use my leadership to better our IT and my local community.

Q: Why do you spend your valuable time attending member events?

A: My fellow members constantly inspire me. Whether it's catching up with each other, learning about the latest hot topic, or watching members rally around someone trying to tackle a tough issue, I always leave member events energized. These are our people, and we are here for each other. I was hooked from my very first meeting and knew that I had found a home with people that really understood each other.

Q: What insight would you give another CIO or CISO considering membership?

A: If you want your IT or Security leader to take it to the next level, this community will help. We support and inspire each other to be better. The Awards component stokes a competitive fire that lies within so many of us - but we support and cheer each other on through this process, and it makes us all better leaders by striving for that greatness. Coming together to genuinely learn, support and empower each other makes us better at our jobs and, even more importantly, better leaders.



Local Inspire Leadership Network chapters exist to help CIOs & CISOs thrive in today's most challenging C-suite executive role.

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Congratulations to the 2023 National CIO of the Year Award Winners and Nominees



Publicis Sapient congratulates the winners, finalists and nominees at the 2023 National ORBIE Awards

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DEAN DEL VECCHIO

Chief Information & Operations Officer



NEWYORKCIO



BRIDGET ENGLE

Chief Operations and Technology Officer



CHICAGOCIO



SABINA EWING

VP, Business and Technology Services



SEATTLECIO



LILY LEY

VP & CIO



BAYAREACIO



RAVI NAIK

CIO & EVP of Storage Services



SEAGATE

NEWYORKCIO



MICHAEL SMITH

CIO



"As a well-respected honor industry-wide, the ORBIE is synonymous with excellence, innovation, and forward-thinking among my peers, colleagues, and stakeholders. Both Guardian and I have shared news of my Philly CIO recognition across our wider organization, with our direct network, and on our social channels.

As someone who values finding solutions and effecting change, it's both humbling and inspiring to be considered a top leader in this space. The recognition underscores the ever-growing importance of IT, all that my teams and I are accomplishing through technology, and all that we endeavor to accomplish in the future as I'm entrusted to lead them. Receiving this honor at the national level would further affirm that my work, vision, contributions, and role at Guardian are leading us to make an impact and a difference in the industry and our communities.

I look forward to further leveraging the leadership and influence gained from this recognition to teach and mentor others while enabling transformational career journeys within tech. These are not my personal achievements alone; they reflect the growth, commitment and dedication of our team and entire organization. I have and seek to use this honor to further motivate our team to pursue excellence in our results, fearlessly seek new capabilities and solutions that inspire wellbeing for others and trust the vision for how we'll get there together."

"I really love solving problems and I think as I got into the workforce, I was really drawn by the ability to make a difference. For me, the mantra has always been competitive advantage. But I think it is really true in terms of when you kind of look at these big companies, they're driven and run by the operations and the technology.

I've had a lot of challenges, but I think I've been very fortunate in terms of the experiences I've had because I've been able to bring them to each one of the roles that I've had subsequently and kind of bring pieces, connect dots for people, help to give them insights into why something is important.

People always talk about wanting to build resilient systems. The fun part is seeing magic happen and being able to connect by making their lives better and moving them on. In the world of operations, it's really changing their job from a manual entry into process designers, process engineers, data, consultants to our clients to give insights in terms of what they're seeing in their data. Not getting caught up in just the machine of what actually has to happen. So it's great to celebrate those victories and to see people really engaged and happy to see that we care."

"My 2022 ORBIE win was more so a recognition of my team and the path we're charting together. While my name was on the award, it reaffirmed that we were leading the way in delivering 21st century technology capabilities and solutions with our business at the heart of what we do.

I continued to build credibility across the enterprise through how I show up every day; but even more so through the collective efforts of the organization and the wind this award provided at our backs."

"Winning the ORBIE has made a tremendous difference in the way I lead and influence within my organization. It has provided me the recognition and solidified my reputation as a visionary leader who continually cultivates a culture that drives for results, leads the adoption of emerging technologies, and empowers and develops leaders in the organization.

Personally, it has given me the courage to excel to an even higher level. As a minority female in a very male dominated industry, I have been faced with unique challenges and hurdles. This award provided me the insight to my core strengths and helped me realize that my personal mission is to provide the support and mentoring to others who could benefit from my journey and the lessons I have learned.

The ORBIE award has opened the door to building relationships that support and sustain conversations about inspirational leadership, creating an inclusive culture, and making the impossible possible. I have taken these lessons and insights and provided coaching and mentoring to others in the organization to succeed, especially women.

Though I am truly humbled by winning such a prestigious award, the real reward comes from helping others succeed in the collective efforts of the organization. The ORBIE has provided me access to leaders in other organizations and has opened the door for individuals in my organization to reach out and ask for advice and coaching. This has brought me great joy and these trusted connections will help me throughout my career."

"I am grateful for the credibility that the ORBIE Awards lends their finalists. One result of the work that won ORBIE recognition is that I now head up the Lyve portfolio of products as EVP overseeing the suite of data services that solve CIOs' data challenges.

When I speak to other CIOs (whether through mentoring relationships or via a podcast for CIOs that I host), both the Lyve solutions and the award lend me a lot more credibility. I look forward to recommending other talented CIOs for the awards."

"Inspire Leadership Network and the ORBIE Awards have allowed me to connect with more like-minded leaders who believe in the same ideas as me.

In 2017, I created Tech Day of Pink, which benefits the ELC Breast Cancer Campaign and the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF) in our mission to end breast cancer within our lifetime. We recently concluded our 6th Tech Day of Pink with great success, engaging 100s of IT organizations and tech companies, with approximately 2 million people participating worldwide. Over \$520,000 was raised this year for BCRF as a direct result of Tech Day of Pink activities.

ORBIE has allowed me to connect with even more CIOs and organizations who understand the importance of service and have been eager to engage with the day, and thus have brought even more awareness and donations to those impacted from Breast Cancer.

In 2020, I rallied several other CIOs to create the TechPACT, after I recognized the dramatic and harmful underrepresentation of Black and African Americans, LatinX, and women in technology professions and technology leadership roles across organizations. We created TechPACT to reduce the digital divide and pursue representative diversity in technology across all levels. ORBIE has also given me the opportunity to connect with other CIOs who believe in the mission and want to support this effort in their own careers."



JEN FELCH
CDO & CIO



"This award is further testament to Dell's commitment to excellence and innovation in our work. Our team is fully committed to assisting our customers in their digital transformation journey, working closely with our business to develop solutions that cater to their multicloud, as-a-service, edge environments, and other needs.

Additionally, being a part of Inspire network has provided us with an opportunity to exchange ideas and best practices with other industry experts."



LIDIA FONSECA
EVP & Chief Digital and
Technology Officer



"Everything that we do at Pfizer is with the aim of bringing breakthroughs to patients. Last year, more than 1.3 billion patients around the world were treated with our medicines and vaccines. Digital, data and AI help us to do this faster than ever before -- from how we research and discover medicines, how we develop and manufacture them, to how we engage with patients and physicians.

Having our work recognized by the ORBIE Awards is a great honor for both me and my team. Our colleagues are extremely dedicated to getting medicines to patients who need them, and this recognition is a source of great pride - both internally with colleagues as well as with external stakeholders. Each of these recognitions reminds me of my privilege as a leader, particularly as a Latina, and my passion for continuing paying it forward to the next generation of female leaders."



TRACY KERRINS
EVP & CIO - Consumer
Technology



"Being the 2022 Carolina CIO of the Year ORBIE award winner in the Super Global category has helped on several fronts. First, it's provided a big boost of encouragement and greater recognition to the Consumer Technology (CT) team that I lead! Formed in January 2022 out of two heritage technology groups at Wells Fargo, CT has an important role: supporting the company's growth strategies with the delivery of innovative solutions while also leading technology modernization efforts. Given the team's recent forming, we are actively building our brand and our culture. So, with all the hard work and effort being done to grow CT, the ORBIE was a notable team win and a testament to the progress we're making and the additional credibility and trust we're gaining with our clients.

Second, the ORBIE has allowed me the opportunity to share my story with more audiences, both within Wells Fargo and with external groups across Charlotte. With the highly competitive market for technology talent, I'm eager to share why Wells Fargo is a great place to grow your career and create opportunities for more women in technology - an important cause for me.

Lastly, the honor of winning the ORBIE prompted me to reflect on my own leadership journey and where I want to improve. With the CT role offering a new challenge, the award was a moment of both pride and inspiration to the journey and the personal growth that lies ahead."



WILLIAM ORANGE
VP & CIO



"First and foremost, while this is an individual award and I am tagged to it, I view this award as a huge accomplishment and a tremendous recognition for the entire Nissan Team. As an automotive company, most of the prestigious public awards related to Nissan are normally about our product accolades, product innovations, and world class vehicle designs and engineering. So, for myself and my team to be recognized for the technological innovations and tremendous teamwork that we are delivering to enable Nissan's digital transformation as a company, is amazing, humbling and well deserved.

By winning this award and receiving public recognition, we have received an overwhelming number of requests from other companies like Nissan to share the Nissan story, our keys to success and to talk about transformations we are delivering. It is encouraging and inspiring that others want to hear and learn from us on the things we are doing and how we are doing them to drive great innovation and teamwork. It has given us a tremendous opportunity to share our story of success, and at the same time, it has given us a significant discussion topic to engage and share in our acquisition of talent initiatives and is a catalyst for a dialog with many potential candidates that normally would not think of Nissan as a technology or digital company. Just the fact that myself and Nissan's name is being mentioned with the amazing leaders and great companies selected to the finalists has opened many doors."



SABINE RODUIT
IS/IT Head (CIO) of North America
for Nestlé



"Winning the CIO of the Year St. Louis ORBIE Awards has been a humbling experience for me. Throughout the years, my team has challenged me to become a better, more empathetic leader. This recognition gives me a sense of accomplishment and acknowledges my team's collective effort and contribution, because even though this is a CIO award, this is not mine to hold alone. This is IT North America's award.

With everything constantly changing, sometimes we are too busy to stop and appreciate all the excellent work being done. With this award, it reminded us to pause to celebrate together and to encourage a culture of recognition - from all successes big and small. We are doing good work, and we are making an impact. One thing I'd like to stress though, is that this award is not to signify the end of a job well done, but more as a validation and motivation for us to continue striving for excellence, to keep upping the bar. It's well-deserved encouragement to keep going and developing personally and professionally.

Even though I've been with Nestlé for 25+ years, this award also opened doors and created more connections with colleagues worldwide. While I'm happy this award has helped establish me as a credible and influential leader, the ability to continue meeting new people from all over and learn from each other and share our stories has been one of my favorite benefits."



DR. MIKE SCHMIDT
CIO, Audit & Assurance



"Winning the Florida CIO ORBIE (Global CIO of the Year) has been great recognition for my firm, my team, and me. It validates that what we're doing (digitization, culture of innovation, and technology enablement) is playing a key role in the continual transformation of our business.

My LinkedIn Network has expanded significantly since winning the award which reinforces the fact that we are leading the way."

ONCE AN ORBIE WINNER, ALWAYS AN ORBIE WINNER

Anthony DeCanti | SVP & CIO, Republic Services, Inc. | ArizonaCIO



The **ORBIE Circle** recognizes more than two decades of ORBIE winners, CIOs leading change and demonstrating excellence in technology leadership.

ORBIE winners are part of an exclusive circle of prior ORBIE recipients, with lifetime benefits and VIP access to annual ORBIE events in your community.

Q: How does the ORBIE Circle keep you feeling connected with the CIO community?

A: For me, winning the ORBIE award

was just the icing on the cake. Sharing the experience of being part of ORBIE circle gives you a common bond, but in reality, just being part of the Inspire Leadership Network has truly bonded many of us.

I currently serve on the board and continue to attend Inspire events because it is always time well spent. Whether continuing to build relationships, sharing life experiences, or giving helpful advice, I always come away with more than I came with.

Q: Why do you continue to spend your valuable time attending member events?

A: In prior CIO roles, I did not make the effort to connect with fellow CIOs. It was just my team and me. When I

moved to Arizona, I decided I would make more of an effort to network with my peers. That really culminated when I joined the Inspire Leadership Network, and it has had an amazing return on my investment.

My fellow CIOs have become people I can rely on to share ideas, commiserate with or just have some fun. They have become friends. This has led me to encourage my team to do the same—network and build relationships. Some of my fellow CIOs are even mentors to members of my team.



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Jonathan Manis
SVP & CIO

CHRISTUS Health.

Our sincere congratulations to Jon and this year's other CIO finalists. It is an honor to work alongside you in this industry.

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