

2021

CIO OF THE YEAR ORBIE AWARDS



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The 2021 St.Louis CIO of the Year® ORBIE® Awards program honors chief information officers who have demonstrated excellence in technology leadership. Winners in the Large Enterprise, Enterprise, Large Corporate, Corporate, and Healthcare categories will be announced on December 3 at the virtual St.LouisCIO ORBIE Awards.

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Peabody Energy Corporation

RICK HALL

Royal Canin

THYS LOURENS

Aegion Corporation



2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

PANDEMIC ELEVATES CIO'S STRATEGIC ROLE IN 2021

Since last March Chief Information Officers everywhere have supported the largest work-from-home experiment in the history of the world. Thanks to these innovative technology leaders, most organizations have managed to continue operating through this pandemic disruption.

Technology has enabled our new virtual lives; provided access to entertainment, food, and products delivered to our homes; and connected us with colleagues, friends and loved ones. Technology has helped us adapt, adjust, and survive our new abnormal. Without the leadership, planning, and foresight of CIOs, conducting business would be impossible under these circumstances.

St.LouisCIO brings together leading CIOs of Greater St. Louis' largest organizations to help CIOs maximize their leadership effectiveness, create value, reduce risk and share success. Through member-led, non-commercial programs, CIOs build meaningful



professional relationships with colleagues facing similar challenges, solving problems and avoiding pitfalls.

Throughout this crisis, St.LouisCIO members have collaborated locally

and nationally with CIOs from across industries. In any gathering of CIOs, the answer is in the room. The challenge one CIO is facing has likely been solved by another CIO. What was their experience? What did they learn? What would they do differently? How could other CIOs benefit from sharing their experiences?

There is no textbook for how to be a great CIO. The best way to sharpen your leadership acumen is to join a peer leadership network with other leaders working on solving similar challenges. The industries and size may be different, but winning approaches to effective leadership and problem solving are transferrable. Every leader's perspective is valuable and contributes to the conversation - and everyone wins when leaders engage, share ideas, experiences and best practices.

For over twenty years, InspireCIO has been inspiring CIO success through the annual CIO of the Year ORBIE Awards - but this is just the tip of the iceberg.

By joining St.LouisCIO, technology executives take their leadership to the next level through year-round, member-led programs and interaction. The power of CIOs working together - across public and private business, government, education, healthcare and nonprofit organizations - creates enormous value for everyone.

Together, we are transforming our organizations with technology and enriching our region and our world. On behalf of St.LouisCIO, congratulations to the nominees and finalists on their accomplishments and thank you to the sponsors, underwriters and staff who make the ORBIE Awards possible.

Sincerely,

Brian Shield
2021 National Chair
VP of IT - Boston Red Sox

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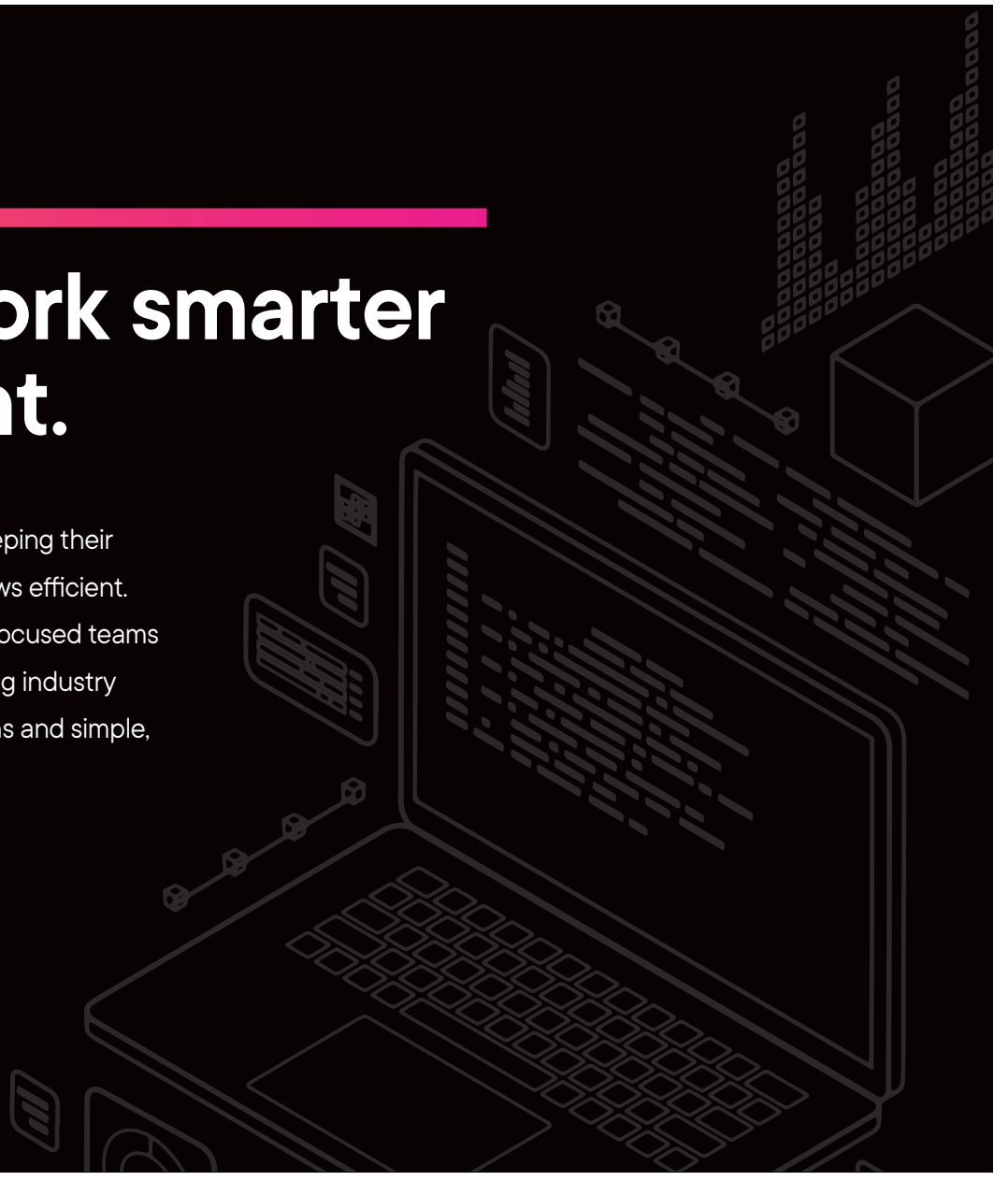
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ST.LOUIS CIO OF THE YEAR
ORBIE
AWARDS

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Award Winners and Nominees**

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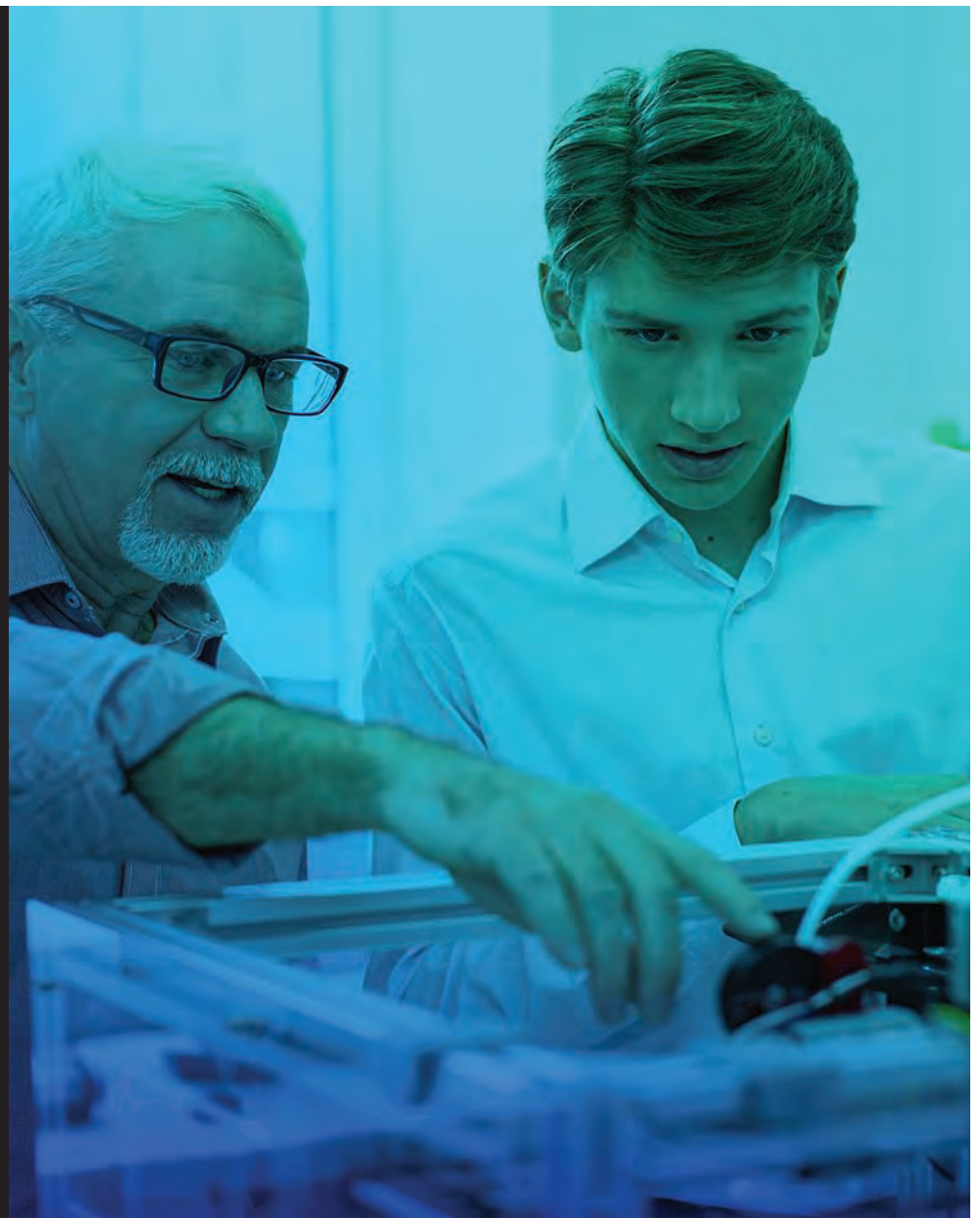
The best leaders understand the importance of keeping their teams' skills strong and relevant—and their workflows efficient. That's where Pluralsight comes in. We help future-focused teams stay competitive and innovative in an ever-changing industry by providing greater visibility into their work patterns and simple, effective paths to building in-demand skills.



We believe, innovate and pioneer.

We invest in understanding and pioneering the use of emerging technologies to ensure our clients are never left behind.

Building on belief





2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | KEYNOTE

RAGHU RAGHURAM, CEO, VMWARE



Q. Where did you grow up? Tell a little about your early life.

A. I grew up in India... most of my childhood was spent playing cricket and studying. I graduated from IIT Bombay before moving to USA for further studies.

Q. What attracted you to technology as a career?

A. When I was 8, 9, 10 years old, it was the early days of space exploration, at least in India. I was really interested in space and rockets and so on, and I still follow it closely. That led me to science. My first degree was in physics, and then I ended up in technology.

Q. Describe your leadership style and any leadership mentors/influencers?

A. My leadership philosophy is Servant Leadership, where my ultimate goal as a leader is

to serve. This is different from traditional leadership where the leader's main focus is the thriving of their company or organizations. A servant leader shares power, puts the needs of the employees first and helps people develop and perform as highly as possible.

When it comes to mentors/influencers... Ben Horowitz, my first manager at Netscape, taught me a lot of what I know about product management and building products. Paul Maritz, VMware's second CEO, taught me how to think about platforms. Pat Gelsinger, VMware's third CEO and my previous boss, taught me how to think and operate at scale. I could go on forever: I have been very fortunate.

Q. What would you consider

your greatest career achievements?

A. Becoming the fourth CEO of VMware is definitely the highlight of my career.

Q. How have obstacles/hardships made you a better leader?

A. I look at every problem as an opportunity.

Q. What advice do you have for the next generation of IT leaders?

A. The traditional role of IT [as we know it] is changing... the next generation of IT leaders will need to become more like business-technology consultants, with a fundamental understanding of business needs and how to provide solutions for those needs to ultimately provide new business opportunities.

Raghu Raghuram joined VMware in 2003 and currently serves as the company's CEO. He is an industry thought leader and has successfully steered the company's strategy and technology evolution across VMware's rich history. During his tenure at VMware, Raghuram has held multiple leadership roles across several business units and even served as part of the leadership team that took the company through its initial IPO. Prior to VMware, Raghuram held product management and marketing roles at AOL, Bang Networks and Netscape. Raghuram holds an MBA from the Wharton School of Business and a Master's degree in Electrical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai.



2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | LEADERSHIP AWARD

MARK J. BROOKS, EXECUTIVE VP, CIO, CENTENE CORPORATION

If there's one thing you can take away from a conversation with Mark Brooks, executive vice president and chief information officer at Centene Corp., about his work in the industry, it's that he believes in being a team player.

He doesn't take all the credit for work he has done at the St. Louis-based corporation since he became CIO in 2016. Instead, he talks about his team.

"What I'm most proud of today is that Centene Technologies is a team of very committed, very talented people who know that while the technology is important, the mission of the company drives them," he said. "It's what gets them out of bed every day to do an incredible job of transforming the health of the community, one person at a time."

Brooks oversees more than 4,000 employees across the U.S., Spain and the U.K. for Centene, a multi-national leader in government-sponsored healthcare programs for under-insured and uninsured individuals. His leadership is unique because he believes his team's focus must "reach far beyond the technology."

"I'm very focused on two things – one is people, so building a great team, building great relationships with my partners and customers and trying to bridge the needs of the business and the technology," he said. "And I have a passion for the business we're in. I've taken the time to learn the business side of the equation so I can be a better technologist. Those two things have distinguished my career."

Before joining Centene, Brooks spent 12 years at Health Net, Inc., rising from director of web development to chief information officer and managing systems integrations, application development and the company's digital strategy. He also spent several years in technology roles at Accenture and Veritas where he gained vast knowledge of technology systems and solutions.

Brooks shares that knowledge with

future generations of technology specialists as an adjunct instructor at the McKelvey School of Engineering at Washington University. Growing up in a rural environment has given him greater appreciation for the need for professional role models.

"I've had an extraordinary, rewarding journey to do challenging work with incredible people and travel the world," Brooks said. "And I have a real passion about trying to help the next generation have a similar experience. Teaching at Washington University is a way for me to take 30 years of experience and inspire folks to stay in technology."

Brooks also began serving as a board director last year with LaunchCode, a St. Louis non-profit that helps people enter the technology field by providing free education, training and paid apprenticeship placements. Centene partnered with LaunchCode from its early days, and is now the largest employer of LaunchCode graduates, he said.

"This has been an incredible opportunity for me," he said, "and I do my best to help others find the same career path."

While the pandemic created disarray for most every company, Brooks said it has put healthcare on the precipice of substantial change due to Cloud sharing, artificial intelligence and a true mobile revolution where technology can fundamentally change the way care is delivered in the country.

"There are always these waves of technology changes," he said, "but when we started the pandemic, the quick transition to virtual care was facilitated by those three things and has created a new foundation I think the industry is going to build off of."

Brooks earned both his master's degree in business administration and bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California at Davis. He and his wife are the proud parents of a daughter and son, who are very active equestrians.

—Bonita Tillman



Mark J. Brooks is the Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Centene Corporation, a multi-national leader in government-sponsored healthcare programs serving under-insured and uninsured individuals. Since 2016, Mr. Brooks has led Centene Technologies, the company's information technology (IT) organization, supported by 4,000+ employees across the country, and in Spain and the United Kingdom.

Prior to joining Centene, Mr. Brooks' 12-year tenure at Health Net, Inc. included a number of diverse technology roles including Director of Web Development, Vice President of Applications Development, and Chief Technology Officer. In 2013, he was promoted to Chief Information Officer for Health Net, aligning all technology, project delivery, security and production functions/capabilities across the enterprise. These leadership roles included managing large-scale systems integrations, application development and the company's digital strategy.

Mr. Brooks' career began at Accenture (formerly Andersen Consulting), where he gained noteworthy experience in

each different phase of the systems-development lifecycle. Concurrently, he became knowledgeable in foundational technologies such as enterprise resource planning, customer relationship management and web services. Additionally, Mr. Brooks served in a number of different roles for Veritas (Symantec Software), gaining responsibility for the company's online strategy, sales and marketing automation solutions.

In addition to leading Centene Technologies, Mr. Brooks currently serves as an adjunct instructor at the McKelvey School of Engineering at Washington University in St. Louis. In this role, he is focused on preparing master's level students from around the world to be the next generation of technology leaders. Mr. Brooks also serves on the board of directors for LaunchCode, a St. Louis nonprofit offering free tech education and job placement opportunities.

Mr. Brooks received his master's degree in Business Administration and bachelor's degree in Economics both from the University of California at Davis. He and his wife are the proud parents of a 13 year old daughter and an 11 year old son.



2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | LARGE ENTERPRISE (OVER \$8 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE)



CHRISTY BARKER
VP & CIO, Olin Corporation

Christy Barker serves as Vice President and Chief Information Officer. Since joining Olin in 2016, she has led Project Fusion, the program that transformed IT's operating model and aligned Olin's business and manufacturing technologies with the company's global strategy. She is also passionate about Lifting People, focused on connecting people and creating a culture of transparent communication, supporting a culture of trust and opportunity throughout the company.

Before joining Olin, Christy served as divisional CIO for Israel Chemical Limited (ICL), responsible for leading its global IT transformation program and establishing business shared services for ICL in Europe. She previously served in various IT and leadership roles at Monsanto, her entrée to the chemicals industry.

Christy is the recipient of a 2018 Stevie Award for Leadership in NextGen Technology and the 2019 Stevie Award for Digital Transformer of the Year. She holds a bachelor's degree in information systems from Missouri State University and earned an MBA from Webster University in St. Louis. Christy is married for 25 years and has 2 children. She practices yoga regularly, loves hiking year-round and skiing in the winter.

SUCCESS STORY

"Over the last 5 years, Olin has successfully implemented IT innovations across the company, spanning four continents and thousands of employees, developing a strategy and program for a new digital platform to integrate business and manufacturing processes around the world.

The integration program was the largest strategic investment in digital technologies in Olin's history. This involved executing a global transformation program to implement a standardized enterprise system and new integrated manufacturing and engineering systems which harmonized both business and manufacturing processes across all regions and modernized core IT infrastructure improving capability, collaboration, performance, reliability, security, and service."



FRANK LAQUINTA
CIO, Edward Jones

Edward Jones Principal Frank LaQuinta has served as the firm's chief information officer since 2018. In this role, he is responsible for the firm's overall technology leadership, vision and strategy. In 2021, Frank's responsibilities expanded to include leading Product Management with a focus on delivering extraordinary experience to our branch teams and clients.

Frank joined Edward Jones in 2016 after a 30-year career in technology on Wall Street. He joined the firm as a principal and senior director in the Information Systems division responsible for Strategic Delivery.

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Frank received his bachelor's and master's degrees in Information Systems from Pace University in New York City.

He is a member of the St. Louis CIO Board and well as an active participant in the St. Louis CIO Alliance focused on expanding Technology opportunities for our surrounding community.

SUCCESS STORY

"My greatest accomplishment is building and leading a high performing team that partners with our branch teams to deliver human centered complete wealth management experiences to our clients and to positively impact and improve their lives and the lives of our colleagues, and together, better our communities and society. Our digital strategy is the anchor to our success and delivers extraordinary client experiences and realizes our branch teams need for productivity, capacity, ease and speed; and sustains and improves our business performance as a market leader and innovator."



DAVID MEYER
VP & CIO, Graybar

David Meyer is Vice President and Chief Information Officer (CIO) for Graybar, a leading distributor of electrical and communications products and related supply chain management services. In his role, David has overall responsibility for Graybar's Information Technology strategy, which involves supporting the needs of the business and leading technology innovation. In addition to serving as Graybar's CIO, David also oversees Cape Electric Supply, a wholly owned subsidiary of Graybar.

David came to Graybar in March of 2015 from INVISTA, a subsidiary of Koch Industries, where he was Director of Global SAP since 2010. He previously worked for Chevron where he was Global Trading Systems Manager from 2007 to 2010.

David holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from University of Missouri – St. Louis and is currently pursuing his MBA at Washington University's Olin Business School. He also completed the Digital Business Strategy executive education program through Columbia Business School and the Rutgers-Graybar Digital Supply Chain Leadership program.

Outside of work, David enjoys volunteering and working with local charities. He currently serves on the boards of the Humane Society of Missouri and the United Way of Greater St. Louis. In addition, David enjoys playing golf and spending time with his wife and three young children.

SUCCESS STORY

"My greatest accomplishment has been to honor Graybar's long track record as a technology leader, while driving the cultural change and building the digital foundation to sustain Graybar's competitive position in the future.

Our approach focuses on establishing a modern platform that allows Graybar to be much more agile and efficient, while also offering the flexibility to take advantage of new and emerging technologies. The top four priorities include application modernization, cloud adoption, advanced analytics and integrations, all of which equip us to better anticipate and address the needs of our business, our employees, and all those we serve."collaboration, performance, reliability, security, and service."



SHRI RAMACHANDRAN
VP & CIO, Boston Scientific

Shri has extensive global IT experience in the pharmaceutical and medical device industries, which includes time living and working in Asia, Australasia, Europe and the United States. He has also held roles of increasing responsibility at top multinational corporations in industries from finance and information services consulting to semiconductor manufacturing.

Shri's primary accountabilities include strategic and operational planning, as well as technology evaluation, acquisition, development and integration. He frequently functions as a member of the business executive team to help develop sophisticated technical visions and create the IT operating and capital budgets.

Shri serves on the SLU Board of Advisors for the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology program, on the Board of Advisors for the Cybersecurity program at Webster's University, Honorary Advisors Gateway to Innovation Conference, Governing body chair for the Evanta CIO chapter for greater St. Louis, HMG Strategy CIO summit advisory Board and a frequent presenter at many conferences including Evanta CIO conferences, Global Investors conference NY, National Inclusion & Diversity conference and University conferences.

Shri holds a Bachelor's degree in engineering from India, a Master's degree in engineering from New Zealand, and a Master's in Business Administration from Penn State University's Smeal School of Business, USA.

SUCCESS STORY

"Despite the challenging situation with the Pandemic Shri's key accomplishment is in leading change, increasing productivity and effectively managing and executing business and IT strategies through the progressive use of Information Technology for Boston Scientific.

The technology roadmap includes enabling capabilities to perform advanced analytics, automation, supply chain optimization, reduced time to market and, ensuring protection of intellectual property and information. His vision for the team is to enhance their experience levels, ensure we have the skills with cutting edge technologies to deliver on our key strategies supporting an ambitious Digital innovation strategy to develop new products and services."



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Congratulations, St. Louis CIO of the Year Winners & Nominees!



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Burwood Group is proud to be a founding underwriter sponsor for the InspireCIO St. Louis Chapter. Visit [burwood.com](https://www.burwood.com) to meet our team and learn more.



2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | ENTERPRISE (OVER \$2.5 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE)



BHAVANI AMIRTHALINGAM
SVP, Chief Digital Information Officer,
Ameren

Bhavani Amirthalingam has over 23 years of experience leading digital and information technology within multiple industries and geographies. She specializes in technology innovation, governance, risk management, large scale transformation and change management. She is recognized as an industry leader in driving customer centric innovation, leveraging digital technologies to transform operations, and cybersecurity. She has served as an executive sponsor for C-Suite leaders at several Fortune 500 firms in her IT consulting roles. In 2021, she was recognized by Forbes as one of the Top 50 Innovative Technology Leaders "CIO NEXT 2021".

Currently, Bhavani serves as the Chief Digital & Information Officer for Ameren, a Fortune 500 utility with over \$6B in revenue providing electric and gas generation, transmission and distribution services that includes nuclear operations to over 2.4M customers. She is primarily focused on driving the digital customer experience, enabling new customer products, services and the connected grid of the future. She is also responsible for cybersecurity for Ameren's Digital and Critical Operational Technology (OT) and enabling the smart grid of the future. Bhavani is a member of the Executive Leadership Team.

SUCCESS STORY

"I am leading Ameren's digital transformation in delivering a differentiated customer and co-worker experience, leveraging emerging technologies to enable the sustainable, secure and reliable grid of the future while driving operational efficiencies at scale.

Key focus areas include:

- Transforming the customer experience, enabling new products and services
- Enabling the smart grid by building the fiber optic backbone and private LTE communication infrastructure
- Digitizing our end-to-end field processes transforming our field co-worker experience while driving productivity for our operations
- Leveraging cloud, analytics, artificial intelligence and automation to drive efficiencies
- Managing cybersecurity across our entire footprint to protect the nation's critical infrastructure"



AARON GEIGER
CTO, Alberici Group

Evaluate, prioritize and align describes how Aaron Geiger delivers continuous improvement to the Technology stack at Alberici Group as CTO. Aaron and the Alberici Technology Team hold responsibility for both Core and Operational technologies. Aaron and his team seek to enhance alignment and collaboration among colleagues while vetting and implementing technology initiatives on behalf of the enterprise and its subsidiaries. Aaron has served as part of the Alberici Executive Management Team since joining the company in 2018 and is considered a trusted advisor in the ongoing evolution of the business.

Aaron holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Finance and Banking from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Aaron has held a CTO or CIO role in the Construction industry for the last 11 years.

Aaron and wife Amber have two children. When not spending time with his family, he enjoys playing golf, watching motorsports and his first passion – Aviation. Aaron maintains several flight instructor ratings and is "wheels up" whenever he gets the chance.

SUCCESS STORY

"Since joining Alberici in 2018, I have partnered with leaders across the Enterprise to create and continually improve our Technology Innovation Ecosystem. This ecosystem is a framework that empowers leaders at every level to continuously investigate, vet, and implement new technologies that meet our demanding threshold of delivering measurable customer value and bottom-line results. This ecosystem, and the discipline and culture behind it, has helped further improve Alberici's approach to innovation, and nurtured our innovative spirit."



JUSTIN MCFARLAND
EVP IT, McCarthy Holdings, Inc.

In this role, he oversees all strategic and operational aspects of technology strategy, implementation, and innovation at McCarthy.

Over the course of his twenty plus years of technology and consulting experience, he has spent considerable time across four major industries – food distribution, medical device manufacturing, consumer goods manufacturing and packaging, and engineering and construction.

A pragmatic technology leader with a diverse business background, he applies this broad experience to McCarthy's approach to technology across all areas of the business. Justin holds a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration from Washington University in St. Louis.

SUCCESS STORY

"My top success has been leading the cultural transformation of the IT organization. When I joined McCarthy, the IT organization did not have a healthy culture. Engagement scores were low, team collaboration was mixed, and our reputation was poor within the organization. Since then, we have developed a highly engaged and healthy department that is deeply connected, aligned, and passionate about delivering value to the organization. We recently completed another engagement survey and our department had some of the highest engagement scores across the company! Seeing this transformation has truly been special and makes me extremely proud."



JEFF SCHUCHARDT
VP IT, Enterprise Fleet Management

Jeff Schuchardt is the Vice President of Information Technology (IT) for Enterprise Fleet Management, an affiliate of Enterprise Holdings Inc., the largest car rental operator in the world. He joined Enterprise as a Management Trainee on the rental side in 1988 after graduating from Washington University in St. Louis. Two years later he moved over to Enterprise Fleet Management, where his responsibilities evolved to include IT. Schuchardt was promoted to Assistant Vice President of IT in 1999 and was named Vice President in 2017. Currently overseeing a team of more than 200 employees, Schuchardt has led and been involved with many of Enterprise Fleet Management's innovative IT efforts and solutions over the years, including the recent rollouts of a fleet replacement and total cost of ownership tool, aftermarket and logistics program, and client-owned vehicle enhancement.

SUCCESS STORY

"Our greatest accomplishment is not any one project, but a mindset. We talk about IT as an investment and enabler for our business, and when we do, we never use the word 'cost' or 'expense'. I think that helps not only our IT team but our business to realize the value and importance of the tools we deliver to help fuel our business growth. It also helps us focus on staying close to the business at every level and keeping our employees engaged so we can improve as a team and deliver even more value with every new IT initiative."

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2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | LARGE CORPORATE (OVER \$1 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE)



RICK HALL

CDO North America, Royal Canin a Division of Mars Inc.

An Experienced Executive, People Leader, and Strategic Operational Technologist with 20+ years' experience in consumer goods, services, technology, E-Commerce, Distribution, and manufacturing. Leading teams that find more efficient ways to enable capabilities through a product based agile approach inserting value quicker with priority.

Changing the narrative within Marketing, Sales, Operations, HR, Recruiting, Finance, Field Operations, C-Suite, and Ownership that focuses on Capability enablement and not systems to help more effectively build the right strategy that then enables operational success. Helping to build a focus on the role of Data within the organization to create a focus on Data as an asset.

Rick serves on multiple university boards and organizations that focus on how Data is becoming such a large part of how we do business. These include Washington University Center for Analytics and Business Insights, University of Missouri School of Data Science and Analytics, and St. Louis Chief Data Officer Forum.

In addition, Rick is a member of the adjunct teaching staff at Lindenwood University Plaster School of Business teaching classes in Management and Leadership, Organizational Behavior, Supply Chain Management, and Employment Law in both the Graduate and Undergraduate focus.

SUCCESS STORY

"The single greatest accomplishment has not been what we have enabled but how we are enabling. We have inserted into the organization an Agile Product Domain-based process that delivers smaller sets of capabilities in an agile approach. We have gotten closer to our internal and external customer by creating champion teams to define and prioritize value through a sprint-based process. This process evolves our capabilities decreasing the need for major upgrades keeping up with the ever-changing needs of the business quicker. We validate this through our continued internal efforts on powered by Data and Analytics. Deliver right / Deliver Quick."



THYS LOURENS

SVP & CIO, Aegion Corporation

I joined Aegion Corporation in 2008 as the CIO. Prior to Aegion, I was the Senior Director of IT for Spectrum Brand's Home and Garden Division and the Director of Global Integration Projects for Spectrum Brands before that.

During my career at Aegion Corporation, I built a purpose-driven IT Department, that accepted accountability to deliver meaningful results. I helped to grow the company from a \$500M business to a \$1.3B business through numerous large-scale M&A integration activities. I generated \$3M of annual cost savings by establishing a shared services IT organization and reduced operating expenses by \$1.8M by negotiating favorable contracts. I recently established a Digital Value Creation and Capture Program in the company that is playing a big role in how we will be running the company going forward.

I am a graduate of Northwest University in Potchefstroom, South Africa, with a B.S. Degree in Computer Science.

SUCCESS STORY

"We established a Digital Value Creation and Capture Program to support the business' growth objectives, increase process efficiencies, focus on customer centricity and improving our employee's experience through digital collaboration and application simplification. The program has been a major shift in our culture since digital transformation has never before been a consideration. We anticipate significant improvements in efficiencies, sustainability, cost containment, etc. The most promising initiatives are all focused on digital transformation efforts to introduce complimentary digital offerings that will augment current products and service offerings."



JOHN MEISTER

SVP & CIO, Panera Bread

John Meister joined Panera Bread in June 2013 as Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer. In that role, John leads and is responsible for the many information technology initiatives at Panera.

Prior to joining Panera, John worked for MasterCard Worldwide. In his 15 years at MasterCard, some of John's responsibilities included the global Authorization system, analytics platforms within the enterprise data warehouse, and a mobile phone card authentication platform. Prior to MasterCard, John was with Accenture, where he oversaw a number of major corporate accounts.

John earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

SUCCESS STORY

"Any CIO accomplishment is really an IT team's accomplishment. In 2014, Panera's team built 'Panera 2.0', the first national 'non pizza' food ordering platform. Later the team built on it's success and created a fully integrated restaurant technology suite with a focus on making our internal and external customer experiences frictionless.

Every restaurant has an app or a website, but Panera continues to innovate at the speed of a startup. By trying to make the complex simple, Panera has become the gold standard in restaurant technology.

Panera set out to digitally transform it's business. The technology team changed an industry."



TERESA SANZOTTERA

VP & CIO, Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals/ Specialty Generics

Teresa Sanzottera is Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Specialty Generics at Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals. She has executive responsibility for digital and information technology and cyber security.

During her tenure at Mallinckrodt, Ms. Sanzottera has led several global technology initiatives and has made substantial contributions to Mallinckrodt's acquisition integrations and divestitures. She is active in the St. Louis information technology community, involved in a number of philanthropic organizations and has served as an Edison Award Judge, an organization that honors and recognizes innovation and innovators.

Prior to her tenure at Mallinckrodt, Ms. Sanzottera spent 10 years in various technical and management roles in financial services, higher education and manufacturing.

Ms. Sanzottera holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Studies from Webster University and a Master's of Business Administration from Maryville University.

SUCCESS STORY

"Working with fellow members of the executive leadership team to determine the business unit's future operating model, Teresa developed our information technology strategy and built an IT organization while executing more than 100 projects in 12 months. The result today is a highly centralized and optimized organization that leverages infrastructure as a service, cloud computing, managed security services, and other digital platforms. Under Teresa's IT leadership, we have successfully reduced operating costs; implemented improved processes across functions; adapted quickly to changing business needs; delivered business insights through advanced analytics; and reduced our cybersecurity risks in an ever evolving threat landscape."



2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | CORPORATE (UP TO \$1 BILLION ANNUAL REVENUE)



JIM CAVELLIER

EVP & CIO, Cass Information Systems

Cass is the nation's leading provider of transportation, energy, telecom and environmental invoice payment and information services. Within Cass, Mr. Cavellier has responsibility for the company's global information technology strategy and operations. Mr. Cavellier has more than 25 years of experience in strategic technology planning and development of critical systems. His background includes streamlining operations, implementing Agile and Lean methodologies and enhancing business partner alignment.

SUCCESS STORY

"In 2018, I had the honor of being selected the first enterprise-wide Chief Information Officer (CIO) in Cass Information System's 115-year history. It is only through the company's ability to reinvent itself and innovate that it has been able to not just survive but thrive over this time. Looking back, I believe my greatest accomplishment and that of the entire IT team is the continuation of this legacy."



JOHNNIE FOSTER

VP IT, Curium Pharma US LLC

CURIUM is a global supplier of products to the nuclear medicine industry. CURIUM's products are used in treatment and diagnosis of more than 14 million persons per year. The privately held company was established in January 2017, by the combination of Mallinckrodt's and IBA Molecular's nuclear medicine businesses. CURIUM is headquartered in Paris, France.

SUCCESS STORY

"Curium was formed by the combination of Mallinckrodt's nuclear medicine business in North America and IBA Molecular's nuclear business in Europe. Working collaboratively with I.T. Team members and Business Leaders, I played many key roles, for example leading separation from Mallinckrodt, CIO-North American, global CISO and CTO at various points in time. The combination was accomplished at expected cost with no major business disruption. Curium has emerged as the world's leading producer of nuclear medicine supplying approximately fourteen million doses annually. It is very rewarding working in an organization that directly impacts the life and health of so many people."



GREGORY SNIDER

Director, Information Technology, Rawlings

Gregory is responsible for all technology aspects of Rawlings Sporting Goods Co.. He has created the technology roadmap for the modernizations of all Rawlings technology from infrastructure to applications, including replacement and complete integration for all systems from the ERP solution to digital platforms for all channels of the company.

SUCCESS STORY

"In my three year tenure at Rawlings, I've created the roadmap for the modernization of Rawlings technology footprint; led the technology divesture of the company from a parent to a stand-alone entity, and in doing so managed the buildout of a new data center for Rawlings core iSeries, NOC, OS upgrades and migrations for the network of application servers; including an infrastructure cutover of over 3000 devices allowing remote functionality for voice and systems from anywhere. As part of our roadmap we are upgrading all of Rawlings core systems as part of the modernization."



JENNIFER WALTON

Director, Technology Services, Saint Louis Zoo

Jennifer oversees the planning, implementation and management of the Zoo's technology environment. This includes planning and execution of the Zoo's IT strategy, management of the computer systems, networks and security, protection of sensitive information and data, management of hardware and software deployments and assessment of IT risks.

Jennifer has over 30 years of experience in the information technology field in various roles (analyst, networking, infrastructure, voice) and industries including insurance, healthcare, workforce development and the world famous Saint Louis Zoo. That experience includes implementation of the Zoo's first Point of Sale system, which enabled electronic management of member benefits and a holistic view of benefit usage and spend. She was the project lead for implementation of Voice over IP (VOIP), which laid the groundwork for the Unified Collaboration Platform currently in use. Jennifer also served as Project Lead for Unified Point of Sale system, which involved migrating from three separate, outdated systems into one. The results were increased efficiency by elimination of two systems, one very outdated and labor intensive, reduction in credit card processors and merchant fees and increased productivity.

SUCCESS STORY

One of my greatest accomplishments was leading my team through enabling our workforce to work remotely in a matter of weeks. We knew the ability to stay connected to our workforce and community were key during this period of uncertainty. Implementation of rotating webcams allowed our community to see the animals virtually while closed. Enabling secure remote access to software and files allowed staff to continue to do their work anytime and anywhere. Success of remote work forced our organization to rethink our stance on how and where we work, as well as how we view and engage our community.



PERRY YEE

Director of Information Technology, St. Louis Cardinals

As the Director of Information Technology for the St. Louis Cardinals, Perry Yee oversees the planning, support and development of the team's various information technology systems. The scope of Perry's responsibilities include oversight of the team's technology needs at Busch Stadium, as well as their new development within Ballpark Village, the team's Spring Training complex in Jupiter Florida, the Dominican Republic Baseball Academy and the team's minor league facility in Springfield.

Perry has over two decades of experience in the technology field including providing technological guidance and support on topics ranging from the operating system/desktop level to servers, infrastructure design, IT security, software application development and more.

SUCCESS STORY

My greatest accomplishment would be the incorporation of cybersecurity awareness training into the St. Louis Cardinals work culture. We viewed human error as our biggest threat. Considering the Cardinals aren't a technology company, the significance of this accomplishment is that we were the first baseball club to have cybersecurity training incorporated into the HR onboarding process. Since 2016, all new employees have been given this training and current employees are given a refresher courses biennially. My cybersecurity policy formation presentation and awareness training primer was shared with other baseball teams as a template to develop similar programs for their organizations.



2021 CIO OF THE YEAR | HEALTHCARE (HOSPITALS, HEALTHCARE, AND OTHER NONPROFIT HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS)



JERRY FOX
SVP, CIO & CDO, BJC HealthCare

Jerry is responsible for information technology, information security operations, biomedical engineering technology and strategic digital initiatives throughout BJC's hospitals and service organizations, including BJC Virtual Care.

BJC HealthCare is one of the nation's largest nonprofit health care organizations with \$5.7 billion in net revenues and more than 32,000 employees in the greater St. Louis, southern Illinois and mid-Missouri regions. Its teaching hospitals, Barnes-Jewish Hospital and St. Louis Children's Hospital are affiliated with internationally renowned Washington University School of Medicine.

SUCCESS STORY

"When I joined BJC in 2017, we were operating in technology silos. I shared a vision for better serving patients wherever they entered our system by completing BJC's largest system conversion ever. Modernizing our technology infrastructure and platforms gave us the ability to improve the health of our patients and communities, while accelerating reimbursement for our lifesaving services. Leveraging this foundation, we moved nimbly to establish virtual patient care including remote patient triage, video patient visits, remote patient monitoring and virtual patient/family collaboration and alternative work sites for nonclinical staff just 3 years later during COVID."



DAVID HAKANSON
VP & CIO, Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH)

In his role at SIH he oversees the Innovative Technology Solutions (ITS) division. In this role, Mr. Hakanson is responsible for setting the information technology strategy and investment plan that aligns with the organization's strategic and operational priorities. With a background including roles in both information technology and innovation Mr. Hakanson works closely with operational leaders and technology organizations to think innovatively regarding new and emerging technologies that can strategically differentiate the organization.

SUCCESS STORY

"In my tenure at SIH the greatest accomplishment thus far has been changing the way that Information Technology Services (ITS) works. This is visible in three areas:

- Strategic alignment – Stakeholders are directly involved in governance processes to ensure IT request/project prioritization is in line with organization priorities and outcomes.
- Recruiting and retaining top talent – A permanent move to remote work has helped with both recruiting high quality talent and retention of existing staff.
- Culture of Performance – To ensure a high performing remote work environment we have created manager and staff performance dashboards that directly align with corporate IT KPIs."



GERRY LEWIS
SVP & CIO, Ascension

Gerry chairs the Executive Council for Ascension Technologies, the organization's information technology (IT) subsidiary. He is also a member of the Ascension Leadership Community Council.

In his role, Gerry works with the Ascension Technologies leadership team and business partners to deliver technology solutions in more affordable ways. Business sustainability requires new approaches to technology deployment that move faster, remain flexible and drive more value for every dollar spent. The Ascension Technologies operating model focuses on creating better quality products that offer business partners, clinical associates and other stakeholders superior services and experiences.

Prior to his current position, Gerry served as Vice President of IT Strategy and Business Development, leading efforts focused on aligning and deploying IT strategies designed to transform and drive clinical and business initiatives. Earlier in his Ascension career, Gerry served as Regional Chief Information Officer for the former West region, and as Chief Information Officer for the Seton Healthcare Family in Austin, Texas. He also has held various leadership roles at Dell Inc. and Compaq Computer Corp., and served as an analyst with the Central Intelligence Agency.



SCOTT RICHERT
CIO, Mercy

Scott Richert is the Chief Information Officer for Mercy. Named one of the top five large U.S. health systems for four consecutive years by IBM Watson Health, Mercy serves millions annually. Mercy is one of the nation's most highly integrated, multi-state health care systems, including more than 40 acute care, managed and specialty (heart, children's, orthopedic and rehab) hospitals, convenient urgent care locations, imaging centers and pharmacies. Mercy has 900 physician practices and outpatient facilities, more than 4,000 Mercy Clinic physicians and advanced practitioners and 40,000-plus co-workers serving patients and families across Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

As CIO of Mercy Scott is transforming the role of the technology organization to enable a consumer-centric delivery of digital capabilities that will provide personalized, predictive, and proactive care to those they're privileged to serve. By combining the deliveries of these transformative capabilities with excellence in technology service management Scott and his teams will help shape the future of healthcare for Mercy. Serving in various roles within Mercy for over 30 years Scott has successfully implemented innovative technology solutions that have helped transform healthcare at Mercy all while delivering on the promise of reliable, scalable, and cost-effective technology services for his organization. In addition, Scott and his team provide hosting and electronic health record support and optimization services for other health systems across the country.

SUCCESS STORY

"I am blessed to lead the technology teams who helped enabled Mercy care for our communities during the pandemic. It was a highlight of my career to see the focus and commitment supporting the caregivers who bravely served. Collaborating with other teams, the technology teams established new digital channels and technology-enabled care models that provided the critical capacity to serve our communities during the pandemic. Concurrently, our teams doubled down on their efforts to continue our most strategic digital transformation initiatives including the consolidation of three electronic medical records systems onto one. I celebrate these tremendous accomplishments by our teams!"



JASON SMITH
CIO, Washington University School of Medicine

Jason joined Washington University School of Medicine in 2020 as the Director of IT Business & Operations and soon transitioned to Chief Information Officer. Jason is responsible for leading technology strategy for the University's medical school and coordinating technology operations with University IT, departmental IT, and BJC IT. Under his guidance and leadership, the medical school IT organization has been established and expanded capabilities to partner with individual medical school departments to successfully utilize technology in their education, research, and patient care missions. Jason has led initiatives to modernize medical school technology offerings including the introduction of the utilization of artificial intelligence in research and patient care disciplines.

Jason has been a technology leader within a variety of industries including manufacturing, banking, retail, and at several technology firms. Jason has successfully led two technology startups to higher levels of operating success, and he has completed multiple IT reorganization projects at a variety of companies. Jason is a graduate of the Executive MBA program at Washington University in St. Louis.

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BJC HealthCare Congratulates Jerry Fox

Senior Vice President and Chief Information & Digital Officer
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and to all of the nominees

St. Louis Business Journal
CIO OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

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