Welcome to the 2020 Tekne Awards!

We are thrilled you have joined us as we honor and celebrate the people and companies driving technology innovation in the State of Minnesota.

The Minnesota Technology Association is proud to present the annual Tekne Awards as we shine a light on the new and exciting ways technology developed by Minnesota companies is reshaping our community and the world. This year, we will recognize 53 companies competing for Tekne Awards in 16 categories plus an additional 10 organizations being recognized for outstanding community response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, we will honor two tech leaders with Lifetime Achievement Awards and present a Rising Star Award to a next-generation tech community leader. There is a lot to celebrate!

We hope you leave this evening inspired by the technological breakthroughs being developed here in Minnesota and proud of the important role we all play in fueling the innovations propelling our economy forward. Whether you're part of a team up for a Tekne Award or attending to support and honor their achievements, it takes all of us pulling together to build the more robust, vibrant, and inclusive tech ecosystem to which we aspire, and MnTech is proud to be your partner in this important work.

In closing, I want to thank our event sponsors, judges, and all who nominated companies for award consideration this year. We are grateful for your dedicated service and generous support.

Congratulations again to all 2020 Tekne Award finalists and enjoy today's program!

Jeff Tollefson
President & CEO
Minnesota Technology Association

AWARD PROGRAM

3:45 PM   VIRTUAL ARRIVAL & PRE-SHOW

Give a cheer to our Tekne Finalists!
#TekneAwards2020

4:00 PM   WELCOME

Jeff Tollefson, President & CEO, Minnesota Technology Association
Jade Denson, Minnesota Technology Association

INNOVATION TOAST

Todd Hauschildt, Optum OmniChannel
Rakhi Purohit, Thomson Reuters

COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESPONSE FINALISTS

Each finalist will be recognized at a different time during the program. Award Recipient at 5:42 pm.

Finalists: 3M | Apple Valley High School | Claros Technologies Inc. | Digi-Key Electronics | Ecolab | Graco, Inc. | KnightKrawler Robotics, Irondale High School | University of Minnesota Technology Commercialization | VenueScreen | Zipnosis

4:07 PM   BUSINESS ENABLEMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Introduction by Michael Lacey, Ahmed Maaraba, Lucinda Dutoit, Digineer

AI/MACHINE LEARNING
Presenter: Daniel Abdul, Medica
Finalists: 3M - VAS | BetterYou | Optum | Revel Health

DATA ANALYTICS
Presenter: Ritu Sharma, TCF Bank
Finalists: ABILITY, An Inovalon Company | Calabrio | Hoonuit

DATA SECURITY
Presenter: Patrick Joyce, Medtronic
Finalists: Code42 | Ostra, LLC | Tech Dump

DIGITAL MARKETING
Presenter: Amy Fisher, Padilla
Finalists: Irish Titan | Sportsdigita | Tunheim

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION
Presenter: Tammylynne Jonas, Self Esteem Brands
Finalists: Accenture | HGA | Unisys

EDGE COMPUTING & IoT
Presenter: Kalyn Hove, Comcast Business
Finalists: F3 Wireless | Medtronic | Packet Power

4:35 PM LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Introduction: Todd Hauschildt, Optum OmniChannel
Presenter: Jeff Tollefson, Minnesota Technology Association
Recipient: Rick King, Managing Director, Operations, Thomson Reuters
Recipient: John Santelli, Chief Information Officer, UnitedHealth Group (UHG) and Executive Vice President, Optum Technology

4:47 PM   INNOVATION IN MINNESOTA'S LEADING INDUSTRIES

Introduction: Lisa Maloney-Vinz, Ecolab

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING
Presenter: Trent Clausen, Comcast
Finalists: Diversified Plastics, Inc. | NETZRO | Seagate Technology | Third Wave Systems

FINANCIAL SERVICES TECHNOLOGY
Presenter: Ed Foppe, PwC
Finalists: Avtex | Certifi | DNT BLNK | ICP-Inc.

HEALTHCARE INFORMATION SYSTEMS
Presenter: Dr. Sameer Badlani, Fairview Health Services
Finalists: Flywheel | Medicom Health | Provation Medical

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY & DEVICES
Presenter: Shaye Mandle, Medical Alley
Finalists: Activated Research Company | HistoSonics | Phenomix Sciences | Zipnosis

RETAIL, SUPPLY CHAIN, & DISTRIBUTION
Presenter: Jacquelyn Crowhurst, Microsoft
Finalists: Digital River | Railbox Consulting | SPS Commerce

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES
Presenter: Tim Peterson, Xcel Energy
Finalists: Claros Technologies | CounterFlow Technologies | EarthScout, GBC

5:17 PM   RISING STAR AWARD

Introduction: Commissioner Steve Grove, Minnesota DEED
Presenter: Jeff Tollefson, Minnesota Technology Association

5:23 PM   VIBRANT TECH ECOSYSTEM

Introduction: Matali Mathur, Target

TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP
Presenter: Rakhi Purohit, Thomson Reuters
Finalists: gener8tor | Structural | ThreeBridge Solutions

TECH TALENT - SOLUTION PROVIDER
Presenter: Cy Morton, Robins Kaplan
Finalists: Genesis10 | New Vision Foundation

TECH TALENT - CORPORATE INITIATIVE
Presenters: John Khalaf and Bryanna Hill, Land O'Lakes, Inc.
Finalists: Software For Good | Target | Thomson Reuters

TECH FOR GOOD
Presenter: Tawanna Black, Center for Economic Inclusion
Finalists: Analytics for Good Institute | GeaCom, Inc. | Land O'Lakes, Inc. | Tech Dump | We Sparkle Co.

5:42 PM   COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESPONSE RECIPIENT

Presenters: Rosie Nestingen and Brad Hove, Best Buy

5:48 PM   TEKNE CELEBRATION CONCLUDES

Congratulations
to Rick King,
recipient of the 2020
Minnesota Technology
Association Lifetime
Achievement Award,

and to all of this year's Tekne nominees
and winners for your efforts to further advance
Minnesota's technology leadership.

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TECHNOLOGY A REALITY IN HEALTH CARE?

HOW

WE KNOW HOW. WE ARE THE HOW.

At Optum, we're not pursuing technology for its own sake. We're
striving to make health care more human. We're a unifying force
bringing together deep industry expertise with data, advanced
analytics and emerging technology to move health care forward.
Across millions of consumer touchpoints, Optum understands how
the world of technology connects to the world of health.

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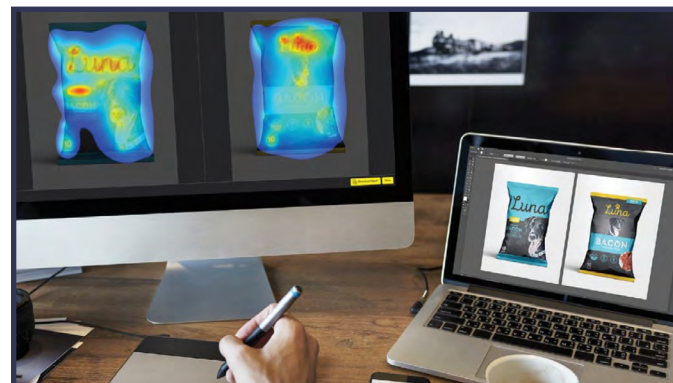
tekNe™ 2020 AWARDS

AI/MACHINE LEARNING

The AI/Machine Learning award honors organizations developing and/or utilizing software systems that simulate human intelligence in innovative and impactful ways, including applications of machine learning where systems automatically learn and improve from experience.

3M | **Visual Attention Software**

3M uses science to improve lives and help solve the world's toughest challenges. It has operations in 70 countries around the world.

3M was selected as a Tekne Finalist for Visual Attention Software (VAS). VAS is a predictive AI tool based on the fundamental building blocks of human vision. Content seen during the first glance, makes it more likely for viewers to engage with it consciously later. The first glance phase occurs before gender, age, culture and viewers' tasks impact the viewer's attention providing an unbiased objective analysis. It's like visual spellcheck for design!

BetterYou

BetterYou is an AI coach that helps people make better health and wellness decisions by passively logging how time is spent and linking it back to specific goals (social, physical, learning, mindfulness). It leverages background data from our phones to log progress without intensive manual entry, and its AI-based coach uses the insight to nudge us toward the outcomes we want to obtain, improving overall health in the process.

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AI/MACHINE LEARNING

The AI/Machine Learning award honors organizations developing and/or utilizing software systems that simulate human intelligence in innovative and impactful ways, including applications of machine learning where systems automatically learn and improve from experience.

Optum is a leading information and technology-enabled health services business dedicated to helping make the health system work better for everyone. With more than 180,000 people worldwide, Optum delivers intelligent, integrated solutions that help to modernize the health system and improve overall population health.

Optum is being recognized for its work to create on-premise AI infrastructure-as-a-service. This AI environment can be shared with multiple tenants, maximizes the access to GPUs, and supports many different use cases. This service directly touches all aspects of AI, NLP, DL, ML, computer vision and more. This new service was leveraged in several innovations at Optum including Optum 360 and Physician Advisor.

Revel Health is a healthcare technology company focused on helping health plans and healthcare organizations make the world a healthier place. Its health action programs are designed to meet people where they are with messages that compel them to take specific actions.

Revel Health was selected as a Tekne finalist for it Revel Connect platform. Revel Connect brings together qualitative and quantitative research to understand members' personal situations, health beliefs, biases, barriers to care, and habits, so it can personalize messages and do a better job of speaking to people about health issues. This customized messaging drives members to take key health actions, leading to better outcomes.

TEKNE 2020 AWARDS ™

DATA ANALYTICS

The Data Analytics award recognizes innovation in the process of inspecting, cleansing, transforming and modeling data with the goal of discovering useful information in support of decision-making. Data analytics initiatives help businesses increase revenues, improve operational efficiencies, optimize marketing campaigns and customer service efforts, respond more quickly to emerging market trends, and gain a competitive edge over rivals -- all with the ultimate goal of boosting business performance.

FINALIST

ABILITY® Network, an Inovalon Company, is a leading cloud-based, SaaS information technology company helping providers and payers simplify the administrative and clinical complexities of healthcare through innovative applications and data analytics.

ABILITY Network is being recognized for InfectionWatch™, an infection surveillance and reporting solution. InfectionWatch™ offers providers enhanced access to relevant, actionable patient data and predictive analytics to enable seamless monitoring and tracking of infections and antibiotic use. It provides detailed evaluations of infection trends by category, type and cultured organisms, antibiotics and antimicrobials used, as well as predictive insights into patient-specific and infection-specific progressions and risk rates. Healthcare workers use this information to effectively monitor the spread of disease and better address patient needs in real-time.

FINALIST

Calabrio's innovative, easily scalable workforce engagement management technology can help even the largest or most complex customer service departments quickly transform contact center operations and reach new heights of customer retention.

Calabrio is the customer experience intelligence company that enriches the "human" side of human interactions.

Calabrio is being recognized for Calabrio Analytics which delivers sophisticated speech, desktop and text analytics via a single, unified platform, and leverages cutting-edge technologies like AI and machine learning to help contact centers more deeply connect with customers. Calabrio Analytics empowers contact center leaders to ask tough questions of their data in order to gain greater insight about customers and agents.

FINALIST
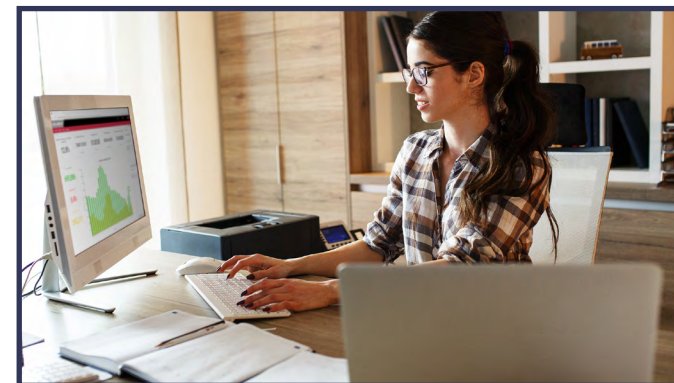
Hoonuit is empowering educators and communities with the knowledge and insights they need to improve student outcomes.

Hoonuit is an end-to-end K-12 education data management solution that includes reporting, analytics, and data visualization all in one.

Sourcing from disparate data sources, the Hoonuit data and analytics platform transforms information using sophisticated data quality processes and data models. Hoonuit's best-in-class machine learning and statistical modeling approach analyzes longitudinal datasets, predicts outcomes, and proactively addresses student needs, leading the way in the education industry with precision, accuracy, and performance. As a result, educators can leverage insights delivered through reports and dashboards that help them make informed decisions and take actions to tailor instruction for the success of each student.

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DATA SECURITY

The Data Security award shines a spotlight on innovative products or services that safeguard businesses and enterprises from unintended or unauthorized access. Recognizes products or services that uphold digital ethics and ensure safe, ethical, and professional online communities.

Code42, safeguards more than 50,000 organizations helping them detect, investigate and respond to insider threats. Code 42 tracks files as they are attached to emails, uploaded to web applications, and moved to cloud accounts, USB sticks and external hard drives.

Code42's insider threat solution, Incydr, offers organizations an easier, quicker way to secure their endpoint and cloud data from loss, leak, theft and sabotage — from employee hire to exit. A cloud-based SaaS solution, Incydr can detect risky file activity across on- and off-network computers, the cloud and email. Features include a remote worker dashboard, detection lens for departing employees, and another for high risk users.
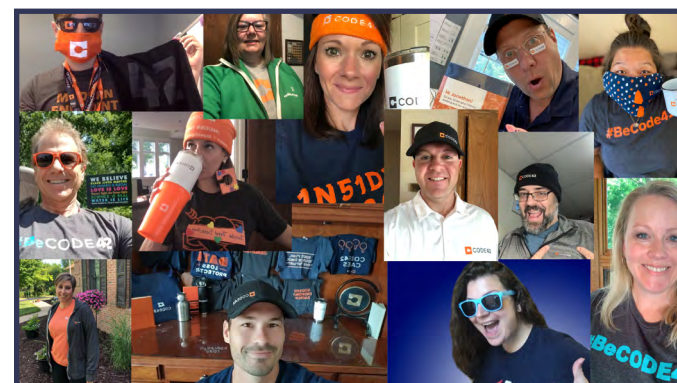
Ostra provides top-of-the-line cyber security tools to businesses of all sizes who do not have large IT budgets or security team.

Ostra has designed a 'Security as a Service' (SECaaS) platform specifically tailored to SMB-requirements. This platform is a highly effective affordable alternative that addresses all cyber-threat layers exposing SMBs to attack. It is built on next generation technology to respond to evolving threat techniques. It is unique in the marketplace because it is architected to allow many small businesses to be a part of a pool by leveraging best-in-class, enterprise-grade commercial security-products currently only available to large businesses.

Tech Dump is a certified, electronics recycling and refurbishing social enterprise.

As one of the largest collectors of e-waste in the state of Minnesota, it has processed nearly 35 million pounds of electronic waste—all while adhering to the highest standards of data security.

Tech Dump undergoes an annual R2 certification, thanks to a rigorous and continued third-party audit of all processes and procedures. Tech Dump is also an NAID member and offers Certificates for Destruction. Additionally, Tech Dump addresses several UN Sustainable Development Goals, including poverty, vocational skills, material footprint, sustainable industry, discrimination, urban waste management, hazardous waste, and climate change.

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DIGITAL MARKETING

The Digital Marketing award celebrates marketing initiatives leveraging digital technologies and channels to better connect with prospects and customers. Includes concepts and tools such as content marketing, SEO, social media, and email marketing to reach consumers and elevate brand awareness, as well as the use of AI and ML for increased personalization.

irishtitan

Irish Titan is an ecommerce agency offering strategy, marketing, creative, and technology expertise, with 100% MN-based employees.

Irish Titan was selected as a Tekne finalist for its work with Northstar Bison, a Wisconsin-based bison ranching company, seeking to improve its online sales. Irish Titan performed a website audit and conducted a detailed digital marketing assessment, then rebuilt the Northstar website. They created a seamless consumer journey to speed up orders and better backend integrations. After a rapid development process, focus shifted to digital marketing. Email marketing now educates customers and continues to drive new sales.

sportsdigita

Sportsdigita is the creator of Digideck, a cloud-based presentation platform that is transforming sales enablement for the biggest brands in sports and enterprise worldwide. Digideck's media-rich capabilities allow users to embed audio, video, and 360 degree panoramas into their deck to immerse audiences in the true buying experience.

A new live-chat, co-browsing platform experience called "Digideck Live" further empowers customers. Digideck Live provides an all-in-one selling solution for organizations to connect with prospects during critical times in the sales cycle. Features include: video conferencing, co-browsing, in-app chat, and real-time alerts - all housed in one location, Digideck.

TUNHEIM
PUBLIC RELATIONS | PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Tunheim leverages communications to help clients navigate today's complex business environment. Tunheim's core services are public relations, digital marketing, public affairs, corporate communications and management consulting.

Tunheim is being recognized for its work with The Minnesota Hospital Association. Tunheim developed a digital campaign to build awareness and educate the public about mental health needs in rural Minnesota, where a high rate of suicide occurs. The campaign positioned Minnesota's hospitals as a resource for those seeking mental health care. Content included sharable graphics, a social media influencer partnership, radio ads, videos and a landing page.

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DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The Digital Transformation award honors organizations using digital technologies to create new — or modify existing — business processes, culture, and customer experiences to meet changing business and market requirements. We look to recognize companies (and leaders) radically rethinking how their organization leverages technology, people, and processes to fundamentally change business performance.

accenture

Accenture is a multinational professional services company. A Fortune Global 500 company with more than 492,000 employees serving clients in 120 countries. Accenture's current clients include 91 of the Fortune Global 100 and more than three-quarters of the Fortune Global 500.

Accenture is being recognized for its work with a global retailer in shifting its business model during the COVID-19 pandemic. Its platform work helped roll out and scale contactless curbside service and prioritize customer orders placed from the proximity to stores. Accenture teams across the U.S. and India implemented this feature while working from home leveraging virtual collaboration tools.

HGA

HGA is a national multi-disciplinary design firm rooted in architecture and engineering.

HGA is being recognized for its work with Abbott Northwestern Hospital (ANWH) to design a center for neurological excellence.

ANWH wanted to respond proactively to patients having seizures. The challenge of integrating numerous systems into a seamless operation demanded careful coordination with all disciplines of the design team, contractors and hospital staff to meet the rigorous technical and logistical requirements of the innovative system. At the push of a button, a series of sequential functions are initiated which are specifically designed around helping neurological patients through seizures and improving the efficiency of staff when responding to these events.

WELCOME
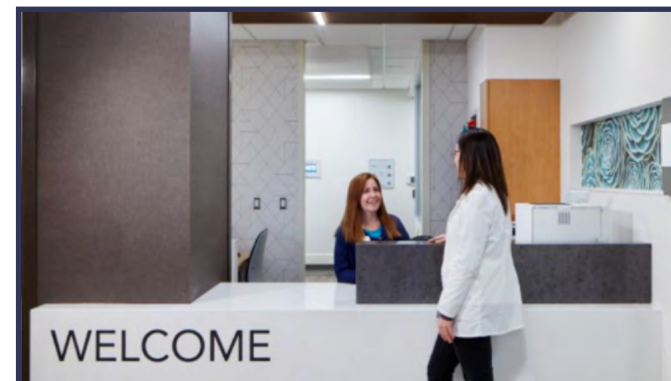
UNISYS | Securing Your Tomorrow®

Unisys is a global information technology company that builds high-performance, security-centric solutions for the most digitally demanding businesses and governments.

Unisys was selected as a Tekne finalist for ClearPath® OS 2200, an operating system designed and developed in Minnesota, purpose-built to deliver optimal performance, security, and reliability in today's most demanding environments. It allows companies to modernize their applications in place, extend their applications with state-of-art techniques and tooling and helps to address demographic issues created by the widespread use of older programming languages in core legacy systems.

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EDGE COMPUTING & IoT

The Edge Computing & IoT Award recognizes innovative approaches to making objects smarter through embedded technology and connections to a network. Edge computing is transforming the way data is being processed and communicated between millions of internet-connected devices. Fueled by faster networking technologies such as 5G wireless, edge computing systems are accelerating new applications in real-time analytics, autonomous vehicles, smart appliances, and robotics, to name a few.

F3 Wireless

F3 Wireless is a technology company that offers consulting, design, and manufacturing of custom wireless electronic products. They make the "Thing" in the Internet of Things.

F3 Wireless is recognized for its work with MSA Safety Incorporated. F3 Wireless is helping MSA go to market with a product that will increase situational awareness on the fire scene for firefighters in a building and incident command. This product will help firefighters be more effective in search and rescue situations. F3 led the design and testing of the directional antenna array, addressing RF concerns, and ensuring the device works as expected.

Medtronic

Medtronic products treat 70 health conditions and include cardiac devices, cranial and spine therapies, robotics, insulin pumps, surgical tools, patient monitoring systems, and more. Its therapies help 75 million people annually.

The Medtronic Teneo Platform is a set of services that provides security-based connectivity to medical devices. A patient's medical device can be remotely configured or updated while the patient is at home. The same platform can also be used for updates or servicing of capital equipment deployed in a hospital environment. Teneo is built with the flexibility to support all of Medtronic's device types in various environments, resulting in cost savings, faster device updates, and less burden on the user.

PACKETPOWER

Packet Power is an IoT company that develops and manufactures wireless power and environmental monitors and associated cloud-based data services. By focusing on products that are secure, easy to install and manage, Packet Power has become the leading wireless monitoring platform for data centers and other critical facilities.

Packet Power worked with a large cellular telephone company to actively monitor and analyze energy usage from its 48V DC equipment. Thousands of Packet Power wireless DC power monitors were installed in plants around the U.S. to monitor load all the way down to the brand circuit level.
The Telco customer was able to read power usage data within days of receiving their monitoring products.

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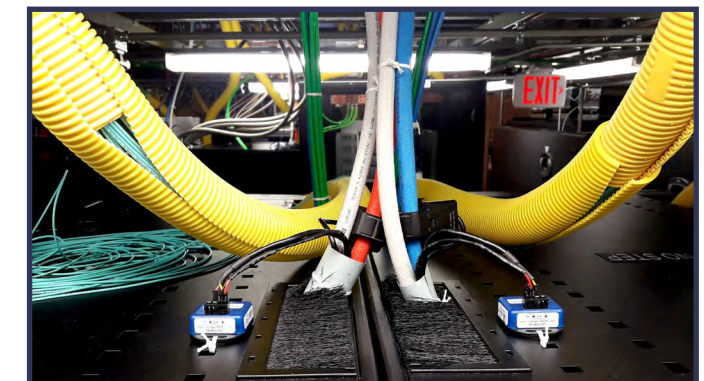
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Minnesota Technology Association is proud to recognize tonight's recipients of the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award: Rick King and John Santelli.

RICK KING
Managing Director, Operations – Thomson Reuters

Rick King has been with Thomson Reuters since 2000 and has held numerous executive-level roles in the company. Prior to Thomson Reuters, Mr. King held executive-level positions at Ceridian Employer Services, Jostens Learning and WICAT Systems Inc. Mr. King began his career as a teacher and coach in Vermont.

Mr. King was named by Governor Tim Walz to chair the Blue Ribbon Council on IT in 2019. The Governor also reappointed him to chair the Metropolitan Airports Commission, where he has served since 2011. He was named by former Governor Tim Pawlenty to chair Minnesota's Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force. Mr. King serves on the board of trustees for Minnesota Public Radio. He also serves on the board of directors for TCF Financial Corporation and chairs its technology committee.

In 2020, InspireCIO awarded Mr. King their CIO of the Year Leadership ORBIE, the first leadership award winner in Minnesota. In 2019 and 2018, Mr. King was named to the Minnesota 500 (top business executives) and in 2019, he was one of the "100 People to Know in 2020". In 2017, he was named to the CIO 100 and in 2012 won the CIO Career Achievement Award from the Minneapolis St Paul Business Journal. Previously, he was honored as Minnesota's 2008 Technology Executive of the Year by the Minnesota High Tech Association and was named to Computerworld's Top 100 Leaders in IT in 2007.

Rick has led the way as a true technology innovator on many fronts, but nowhere more notably than in his persistent drive and focus to create a more diverse and inclusive tech community at Thomson Reuters and across the Twin Cities.

JOHN SANTELLI
**CIO, UnitedHealth Group,
EVP, Optum Technology**

John Santelli leads Optum Technology, the leading technology delivery division of Optum serving the broad customer base of Optum and UnitedHealthcare. Santelli also serves as UnitedHealth Group's chief information officer. Santelli joined UnitedHealth Group in 1986 and has extensive experience in software engineering and application development. He has served as CIO since 2007 and is credited for leading the enterprise architecture and foundational technology capabilities present within UnitedHealth Group.

He has played a pivotal role in technology growth and development at UnitedHealth Group, leading many transformative initiatives. He leads a global team of more than 23,000 technologists and engineers who are leveraging the latest technology and digital solutions to create a more intelligent, connected, collaborative and efficient health care system.

Santelli contributes time to support the education and advancement of technology that drives access to quality and affordable health care through several different organizations. He co-chairs an annual charitable golf tournament that has raised millions of dollars for non-profits, which are nominated and chosen by UHG employees.

When not working, he enjoys traveling, playing the piano, and spending time on the water with his wife and three adult children.

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ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

The Advanced Manufacturing award celebrates innovation and pioneering efforts in the utilization of technology to more efficiently design and produce new products or improve processes for manufacturing existing products. Advanced manufacturing can include production activities that depend on information, automation, computation, software, sensing, and networking.

Diversified Plastics, Inc.

Employee-owned **Diversified Plastics, Inc.** (DPI) is a custom plastic-injection molder and digital manufacturer of high-precision, close-tolerance parts and components for medical device, filtration, aerospace and a variety of other industrial markets.

The Acceleration Station™ is an additive manufacturing service that delivers the fastest path to market. While there are many facets to a winning go-to-market strategy, design changes, prototyping and building molds can delay a product launch. DPI's Acceleration Station produces high-quality plastic parts faster. These services, including the Carbon® Digital Light Synthesis™ (DLS™) additive manufacturing technology, produces production and prototype parts in days, not weeks without tooling.

NETZRO
REDUCE · RECOVER · REHARVEST

NETZRO SBC is an upcycled ingredient company, creating a new environmental and economic standard for reducing global food waste. Working with large and small-scale businesses across the country, NETZRO uses proprietary technology to reharvest food byproducts into nutritious, versatile ingredients that are good for the planet, for consumers, animals and farms.

The objective of this project was to recover "spent grain" (distilling byproduct) at Tattersall Distilling for use in human food products. NETZRO proprietary equipment processed rye and organic corn spent grain byproducts, upcycling them into high value nutrient rich ingredients to be milled into flour. This process upcycles food waste and reduces greenhouse gas emissions throughout the grain production life cycle.

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ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

The Advanced Manufacturing award celebrates innovation and pioneering efforts in the utilization of technology to more efficiently design and produce new products or improve processes for manufacturing existing products. Advanced manufacturing can include production activities that depend on information, automation, computation, software, sensing, and networking.

SEAGATE

Seagate Technology is a world leader in creating precision-engineered data storage technologies that deliver superior capacity, speed, safety, and performance.

Seagate has pioneered the use of a new drive technology, heat-assisted magnetic recording (HAMR), to provide a commercially-viable path beyond the density limits of today's perpendicular magnetic recording. The product launch of an industry-first 20TB HAMR drive will conclude a 10 year+ innovative materials development cycle by Seagate that has increased head lifetimes from milliseconds to 2.5 years and enabled statistical failure rates meeting product requirements. This achievement will help usher in a set of next-generation hard drives that will provide storage capacities to 40TB and beyond.
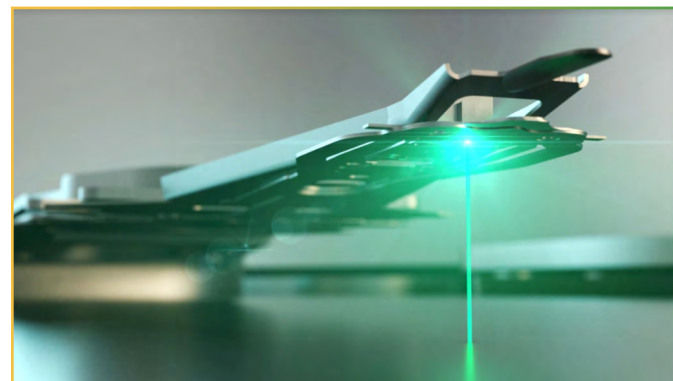
ThirdWave

Third Wave Systems (TWS) is a premier Computer-Aided Engineering (CAE) provider for companies that machine. It's modeling products and services are used by progressive companies to dramatically reduce costs of machined components, accelerate design cycles, improve part quality, and get to market faster.

TWS is being recognized for its work with an orthopedic implant manufacturer to improve its throughput while lowering the consumables cost. TWS products, AdvantEdge and Production Module, combine the proprietary material modeling technology with CAE modeling and machining analysis know-how. This combination allowed the users to run what-if scenarios to make trade-offs between production time and consumable costs while ensuring the expected part quality.
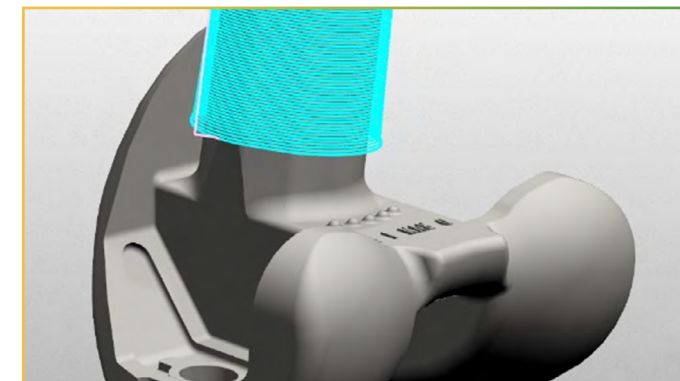
teKnē 2020 AWARDS ™

FINANCIAL SERVICES TECHNOLOGY

The Financial Services Technology award honors technology innovation that improves the delivery and use of financial services to businesses or consumers.

Avtex is a full-service Customer Experience (CX) consulting and technology solutions provider focused on helping organizations build trust with their customers.

Avtex was selected as a Tekne finalist for SmartApps--a full-feature app suite for credit unions that enhances CX and combats the rising rate of fraud in the industry. The suite consists of multiple applications with real-time integrations that work together with a credit union's core technology. Each application in SmartApps has a unique purpose that enables credit unions to eliminate member frustrations and increase the quality of member interactions. The newest app, SmartTrack, helps prevent fraud through a unique member authentication process.

Certifi is a FinTech company focused on software and services for benefit financials. William™, Certifi's SaaS platform decouples financials from enrollment, automating business logic, and maintaining a single source of data truth from which all financials are based. The result is an accurate, streamlined client experience. William's™ configurable, rules-based, cloud-native design makes it easy to accommodate a variety of plan designs and billing rules.

To date, Certifi has processed billions of dollars in premiums for more than 31,000 unique plan types, connected to 168 carriers, and processed more than 10 million monthly financial transactions.
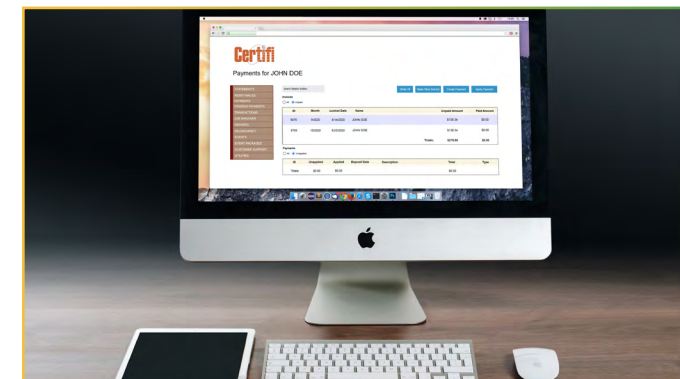
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FINANCIAL SERVICES TECHNOLOGY

The Financial Services Technology award honors technology innovation that improves the delivery and use of financial services to businesses or consumers.


dnt blnk™
venture studio

DNT BLNK is a venture studio, solving problems with innovative business solutions with and for established industries and companies. DNT BLNK builds wholly-proprietary startup projects as well as projects with corporate partners looking to move quickly and innovate.

DNT BLNK's most recent product to market is NetGiver, the fee-free charitable giving app (netgiverapp.com). Provided to credit union members as a mobile app, NetGiver is a unique acquisition, retention and loyalty building tool which delivers a branded, feel-good experience by simply and securely facilitating donations to a member's preferred nonprofit organization with the satisfaction of knowing that the nonprofit receives 100% of the donation.

INNOVATIVE COMPUTER PROFESSIONALS
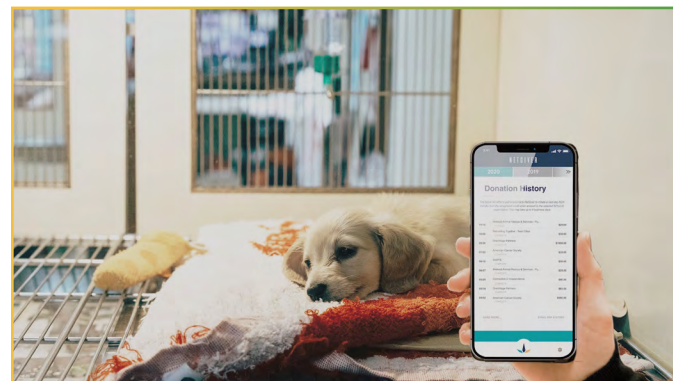
Innovative Computer Professionals (ICP), Inc. is a FinTech Corporation. ICP specializes in ATM, payment processing, and gaming financial services solutions.

ICP's OmniWallet mobile application enables a casino player to transfer funds between their phone and a slot machine without ever making physical contact with the machine. Once the player is done playing, they have the option to collect and cash out their remaining credits via a traditional slot ticket, or transfer the remaining funds back into their OmniWallet account. OmniWallet is secured by a user's unique username and password, fingerprint or other biometric, and dual authentication. The user also has access to a detailed transaction history, showing the date and dollar amount of each transaction.

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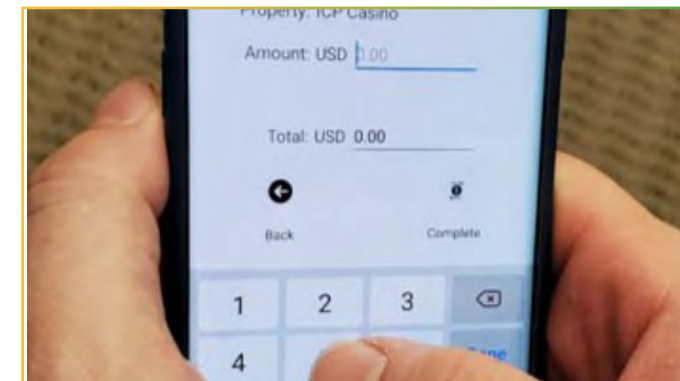
HEALTHCARE INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The Healthcare Information Systems award recognizes new approaches or advancements in digital systems that capture, process, transmit, report, or otherwise manage health data and activities. This includes electronic patient records and other data related to the activities of providers and health organizations, all with an eye towards improving patient outcomes, informing research, and influencing public policy and decision-making.

Flywheel

Flywheel is a platform for managing research data that automates scientific processes so academic, clinical, and life science institutions can efficiently manage, analyze and share medical imaging and related data.

Flywheel automatically captures any data from any source, such as instruments or medical records. It enables customers to control their data organization and quality from the moment it's gathered. Flywheel offers a suite of tools to test open-source algorithms and results are tracked. This is important for reproducing results and for regulatory approval. Data in Flywheel can be securely accessed by collaborators at any institution which is a new way for scientists to save time managing difficult data from different research sites.
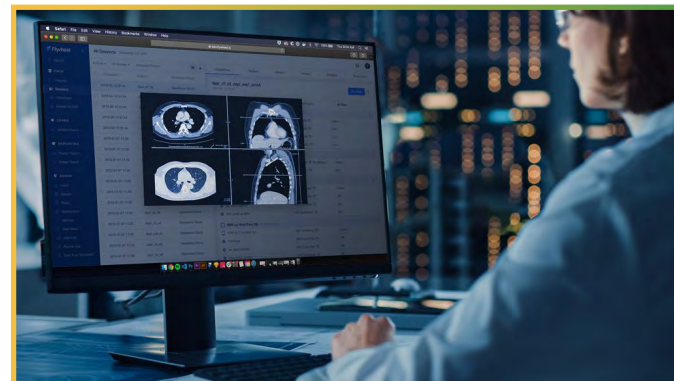
Medicom Health

Medicom Health empowers health engagement through software-as-a-service platforms including health risk assessments, and a clinical platform that integrates with EHRs to analyze patient medical records for insights and actionable data to tackle the thorniest of patient/provider issues, including medication affordability and adherence.

Medicom's Rx Savings Assistant® can instantly increase prescription adherence across an entire health system, alongside existing Patient Assistance Programs, without substantial cost to providers. By leveraging the EHR, it shows the availability of pharma-sponsored discounts. The EHR plug-in monitors every prescription and determines patient eligibility. It searches external databases for matching branded and generic manufacturer discounts then adds appropriate offers to discharge paperwork and patient portals.

provation®

Provation is a leading provider of clinical productivity software for healthcare professionals.

Provation® Apex is a multifunctional software as a service (SaaS) platform, combining medical procedure documentation and patient charting for end-to-end continuity of care. It allows physicians to create digital reports of a patient's procedure, and lets entire care teams contribute data and stay connected to their patient's procedure from pre-op to post-op.

The solution provides deep medical content to guide clinicians through their procedure notes and generates accurate procedure billing codes to ensure clinicians are properly reimbursed by insurers in a timely manner.
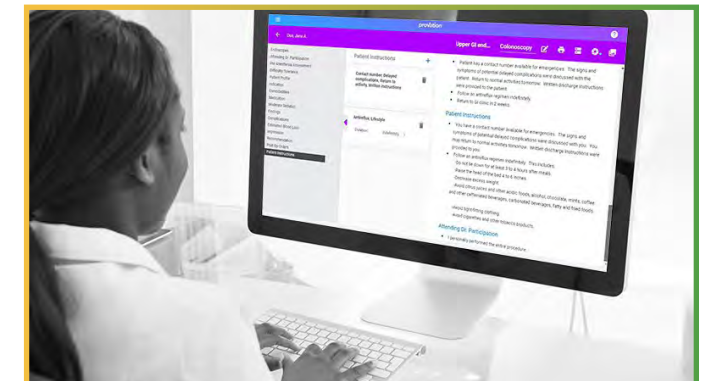
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MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY & DEVICES

The Medical Technology and Devices award shines a spotlight on significant achievements in medical product design and engineering that improve the quality of patient care and healthcare delivery.

FINALIST

Activated Research Company's products improve analytical workflow and open new capabilities in the laboratory by harnessing the latest in additive manufacturing and catalytic technologies.

ARC is being recognized for the Solvere™ Carbon Selective Detector. The Solvere is a detector for scientific instrumentation that produces a linear response to all non-volatile organic compounds using flame ionization detection (FID) and a novel separation-reaction method. It helps scientists and lab technicians improve the speed and accuracy of chemical analysis leading to faster development of cleaner, safer and more advanced pharmaceuticals.

FINALIST

HistoSonics is a medical device company and is developing an image-guided, sonic beam therapy platform using non-invasive, focused ultrasound to safely, precisely and effectively destroy tumors and diseased tissue throughout the body.

HistoSonics is being recognized for its Edison™ platform, which uses a powerful proprietary therapeutic ultrasound transducer to non-invasively deliver focused sound energy at a precise focal point inside the body and under direct physician control, that creates personalized, tumor-destroying forces, mechanically liquefying cells rendering them non-viable in a process called histotripsy. No needles or incisions are required, potentially providing the benefits of reduced risk of infection and blood loss, quicker patient recovery and avoidance of complications of thermal damage to non-targeted, healthy tissue.

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MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY & DEVICES

The Medical Technology and Devices award shines a spotlight on significant achievements in medical product design and engineering that improve the quality of patient care and healthcare delivery.

PHENOMIX SCIENCES

Phenomix Sciences was established by two leading NIH-funded obesity experts from Mayo Clinic to bring "precision medicine" to obesity.

Its first product is a novel blood test supported by an AI driven algorithm that classifies the unique pathophysiological phenotype of patients with obesity. Results from the test can be applied clinically by healthcare providers to guide selection of more effective interventions for their patients and improve overall weight-loss outcomes using existing FDA-approved medications and devices. Initial data from clinical trials at Mayo Clinic shows that with a phenotype-guided approach, the response rate to medication-based interventions is greater than 70% which drives 2.3X more weight loss than current standard of care.

ZIPNOSIS

Zipnosis is a medical technology company that provides white-labeled virtual care software to health systems across the country.

The platform's asynchronous technology allows patients to complete a virtual visit through Zipnosis' intelligent interview. The technology allows for protocols to be updated in real-time to keep pace with evolving CDC and local guidelines. Providers can step up an asynchronous visit to synchronous (chat, phone, or video) when necessary. The platform is both adaptable and efficient, with an average clinical work time of 89 seconds.

Back to Event Agenda

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RETAIL, SUPPLY CHAIN, AND DISTRIBUTION

The Retail, Supply Chain, and Distribution award recognizes application of technology to improve customer shopping experiences and the means by which products find their way to consumers. Includes automated vendor enablement, transportation and warehouse management, customer tracking tools, inventory optimization, augmented reality, and more.

Digital River®

Digital River is a global ecommerce solution company. It offers flexible, API-powered solutions for brands to sell direct to their customers, whether they live around the corner or around the world.

Digital River enacted a new strategy to modularize its commerce solution, resulting in a suite of modern APIs and a partner ecosystem built for global growth and security.

Using their existing commerce platform, brands can plug into Digital River's unmatched global Payments & Risk solution pre-configured with 20 local acquirers, 9 local entities, 70+ payment methods, 108 display currencies, and 46 transactable currencies in over 200 countries and territories, with over $100B in ecommerce transactions processed.

Railbox CONSULTING

Railbox Consulting is a technology company focused on the intermodal shipping container industry. It uses technology to automate processes and customer quoting.

In the United States, at any given time, there are tens of thousands of containers available for sale, owned by hundreds of different intermodal companies, located at dozens of different intermodal depots.

Railbox Consulting has an eCommerce experience that allows the customer to get pricing and purchase shipping containers online. They also added a new buying experience that locates the cheapest container based on a customer's zip code.
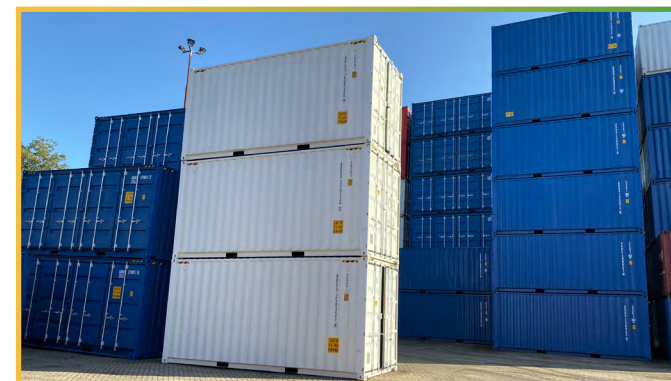
SPS COMMERCE

SPS Commerce is the world's leading retail network, connecting trading partners around the globe to optimize supply chain operations for all retail partners.

SPS helped to pioneer cloud-based EDI, redefining a market that was traditionally served by on-premise software providers and replacing it with a more efficient way for retailers, grocers, and distributors to onboard and manage their vendor communities.

Today, SPS Commerce Fulfillment supports a global retail network of more than 90,000 retail businesses. SPS Commerce Fulfillment is EDI compliance engineered. It allows suppliers to instantly exchange purchase orders, invoices, advance ship notices and more with its cloud-based solution.

HELPING BUSINESSES SCALE FROM PUSH CARTS TO GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION

teKNe™ 2020 AWARDS

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES

The Sustainable Resources award honors utilization of technology to more efficiently and sustainably manage resources related to energy, water, food, etc. Energy examples include solar or wind power, biofuels, green transportation, as well as water and waste recycling. Agricultural examples include technological advances in agricultural operations or food production that enhance productivity and efficiency, improve environmental sustainability, or contribute to food safety.

FINALIST

Claros Technologies

Claros Technologies is an advanced materials company that strives to lead the industry towards a holistic approach in material design and innovation to develop more efficient, safe and sustainable products with zero toxic waste.

Using its proprietary Crescoating™ technology platform, Claros is able to directly grow small, reactive nanoparticles within support structures. The resulting materials function as sorbents to capture and detoxify harmful contaminants like mercury, phosphorus and other heavy metals while allowing for reuse and recovery of valuable nutrients, rare earth metals, and precious metals. The sorbents can be used in a variety of industries including industrial water treatment, watershed management, and air pollution control.

FINALIST

CounterFlow Technologies

CounterFlow Technologies is a fluid processing technology company that leverages proprietary designs to improve spraying, mixing, or reaction processes used in a wide range of industries and consumer products.

The primary objective of spraying a fluid is to atomize a material into fine droplets, producing cost efficient coatings and powders while minimizing waste. CounterFlow Technologies has developed a novel nozzle technology that can produce fine droplets of materials over a wide range of viscosities. It requires 4 to 30 times less air, saving up to 50% on energy, and operates at low pressure.

FINALIST
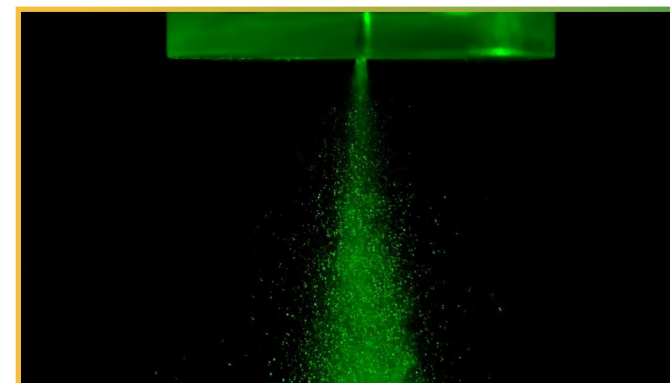
earthscout®

EarthScout, GBC is a startup company, comprised of experienced engineers and technical experts with farming backgrounds. EarthScout was created to help science-minded growers succeed and advance their competitive edge with the smart use of technology.

EarthScout, GBC is an innovative, commercial grade precision field sensor developed for continuously gathering real-time weather and soil data year-round. EarthScout captures multiple data points, enabling growers to gather up-to-the-minute field information between zones. The data enables growers to measure growing degree units and make smart, timely, and precise decisions about things like field irrigation, fertilizer and pesticide applications. This can help reduce on-farm costs, protect the environment, build living soils, and increase yields.

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RISING STAR

Who will be named this year's Rising Star?

Find out on November 18!

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TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP

The Technology Partnership award honors the technology vendors and partnerships that corporate leaders rely on to power their systems and enable business transformations.

gBETA Medtech is a program of the nationally ranked startup accelerator, gener8tor and University Enterprise Laboratories. It is sponsored by Boston Scientific with additional support from Mayo Clinic, University of Minnesota and Medical Alley Association.

gBETA Medtech is a free, seven-week accelerator that works with medical device, healthcare-related software, biotech and diagnostics startups for no fees and no equity. Participants receive intensive and individualized coaching and access to gener8tor's national network of mentors, customers, corporate partners, and investors. The program is designed to help startups gain early customer traction on their product or idea, and establish metrics that can make them competitive applicants for full-time, equity-based accelerators or investment.

Structural is built on three beliefs about making the future of work better: employee empowerment equals acceleration, internal opportunities should be shared widely, and networks are much more effective than hierarchies.

Structural empowers individuals across organizations to make the right connections at the right time. Its platform combines a dynamic people directory with an Internal Opportunity Marketplace, seamlessly matching unique skill sets, interests and development goals with internal projects, gigs, roles, training opportunities and more. They are 100% searchable via advanced filters and keywords like skills, interests, roles, client relationships, projects, capacity and more. This connects the right people to the right opportunities instantly. Empowered individuals are always connected to opportunities and one another.
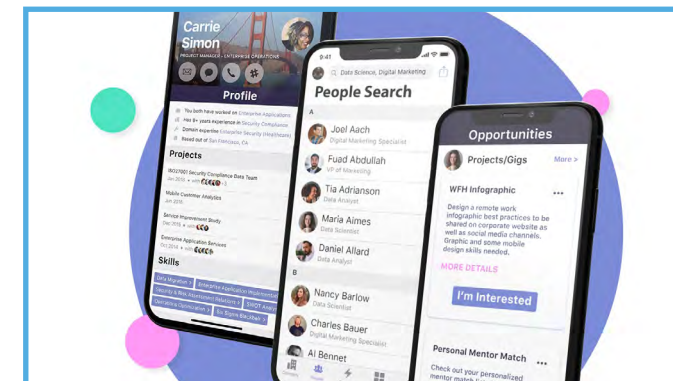
ThreeBridge Solutions is a national provider of management consulting and IT staffing solutions.

It is being recognized for Boom Lab, a division of ThreeBridge, which provides creative talent solutions in the technology consulting space. Boom Lab re-imagines the way recent graduates begin their careers, with a strong emphasis on training, mentorship, and community. Consultants are trained for up to four weeks in client-specific technical tools and methods before beginning their assignments. Boom Lab works within its clients' existing corporate structures to deliver high-quality consulting outcomes in areas such as Project Management, Business Analysis, and Technical Analysis. It also launched a Boom Lab Salesforce Academy and is piloting a Smart Data Academy.

TEKNE™ 2020 AWARDS

TECH TALENT - SOLUTION PROVIDER

The Tech Talent - Solution Provider award highlights the important work being done by organizations helping to address our tech talent gap by recruiting, training, preparing, and optimizing the digitally fluent workforce Minnesota companies need for continued business success.

Accelerate Innovation with Talent

Genesis10 is a professional technology services firm providing staffing, workforce optimization and domestic outsourcing solutions.

Genesis10 was selected as a Tekne finalist for Dev10, which reskills high potential U.S. citizens for careers in technology. Dev10 recruits, trains and mentors emerging talent to enable companies to effectively onboard and retain high-potential technical talent at scale.

After a rigorous vetting process, those selected for Dev10 become Genesis10 salaried employees with full benefits from the first day of training. Dev10 Associates begin their IT career in Genesis10's industry-leading 3-month coding Bootcamp. Upon graduation from training, they are placed in their first technology role.

New Vision Foundation is an immigrant-led nonprofit organization that provides disadvantaged youth in Minnesota with coding and digital literacy classes. They are a community partner of both Minneapolis and St Paul Public Schools, and currently have coding classes in 12 schools in the Twin Cities Metro. 100% of its students and trainers identify as people of color.

Coding Classes are offered for youth ages 13-18. Young adults ages 16-28 complete certification courses in software development. Once certified, employer partners hire them as interns/apprentices. New Vision also offers mentorship and e-pal programs. They facilitate community engagement opportunities for parents, families and the broader community centered on positive use of technology.

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TECH TALENT - CORPORATE INITIATIVE

The Tech Talent - Corporate Initiative award recognizes innovative approaches to hiring, developing, and retaining tech talent at an organization. Examples include novel approaches to talent recruitment, employee on-boarding, skills training, professional development, and impactful initiatives related to increased diversity, equity and inclusion.

FINALIST

Software for Good

Software For Good partners with those who share a belief that technology has the power to engage and motivate people to solve critical global issues such as hunger, affordable housing, human rights, climate change, clean water, renewable energy, health care, and education.

Software for Good's Giving & Internship Program pairs up-and-coming software engineers with mission-driven organizations to create lasting change. The program provides low-cost services to nonprofits, startups, and for-good organizations with limited development budgets, helping them grow their impact, market their product or service, or add new features to an existing platform.

The result is hands-on development experience for newcomers to software engineering, and deeply discounted professional software development for the organization.

FINALIST

Target is an iconic brand, a Fortune 50 company and one of America's leading retailers. Target Technology Services drives industry-leading technologies in support of every angle of the business. Its engineers and data scientists continue to build an advanced tech culture with a focus on risk taking, experimentation, and continuous learning, while developing programs designed to strengthen diversity.

Target was selected as a Tekne finalist for its Emerging Engineer Program. This is a year-long training program that provides access to a career in software engineering through structured onboarding and ongoing classroom training for candidates who have shown technical aptitude and innate curiosity to learn, but have not completed a bachelor's degree in computer science or engineering.

FINALIST

THOMSON REUTERS

Thomson Reuters is a leading provider of business information services. Its products include highly specialized information-enabled software and tools for legal, tax, accounting and compliance professionals combined with the world's most global news service – Reuters.

Through its decade-long partnership with Leadhership1, Thomson Reuters has increased retention and advancement of its highly talented mid-career women technologists. The online, virtual curriculum of Leadhership1 created a network of almost 1,000 mid-career women technologists worldwide who support each other's career advancement through peer mentoring. By preparing more mid-career women for senior leadership positions, younger female technologists have more role models. The initiative is a win-win for gender diversity and tech talent at Thomson Reuters.

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TECH FOR GOOD

The Tech For Good award recognizes novel implementations of technology to serve an unmet community need. Entries should demonstrate impact through a product or service innovation that assists underserved populations, enhances quality of life or safety, promotes interest in STEM, or generally helps our greater good.

CARLSON SCHOOL
OF MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Analytics _for_ Good Institute

The Analytics for Good Institute within the Carlson School of Management convenes University faculty and graduate students to unlock the power and potential of data to help mission-driven organizations achieve meaningful progress. Its work serves underrepresented populations facing disparities and supports change for the common good.

In its first project, students engineered a tool to provide a data-driven view of landlord issues (violations, evictions, complaints etc.). The tool was designed so that housing advocates could help steer their clients to better landlords. Other projects have included a model to predict likely evictions for renters in Hennepin County and an analysis of how investments and policy changes impact neighborhood affordability.

ALÞING
by GeaCom, Inc. & Austin Public Schools

GeaCom, Inc., headquartered in Duluth, is the inventor and provider of patented Communication and Information Theory Empowered (CITE) technologies and a recognized leader in Civil Rights technology.

GeaCom and Austin Public Schools have developed and employed novel solutions designed to address new and long-standing challenges. The Althing is a Civil Rights breakthrough in healthcare, education, and community services leveraging CITE Solutions. It is an inclusive model with K-12 as the hub branching into healthcare, economic development, social and community services.

The Althing also offers a more effective means for parent-teacher interaction, supports the personalized learning needs of students and connects them with career opportunities and community resources based on their individual needs.

LAND O'LAKES, INC.

Land O'Lakes, Inc. is a member-owned cooperative with industry-leading operations that span the spectrum from agricultural production to consumer foods.

Land O'Lakes was selected as a Tekne finalist for its work on the American Connection Project Broadband Coalition. The Coalition advocates for public and private sector investment to bring high-speed internet infrastructure to rural areas. It advocates for policies to facilitate remote education, health services, job opportunities and more, to close America's digital divide.

This year, more than 135 free, temporary Wi-Fi locations were made available in rural communities across 19 states. This effort went from idea to launch in less than one month to address the urgent need brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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FINALIST

Tech Dump is a certified, electronics recycling and refurbishing social enterprise.

In addition to Tech Dump's proven track record as an e-waste recycler, it is also a social enterprise providing jobs and training to 100 individuals seeking barriers to employment annually. Tech Dump also helped lead the fight for the "Right to Repair" in local and national legislative efforts, co-founded the Impact Recyclers, a national group of certified electronics recyclers that are all social enterprises, and sells affordable technology in their retail and online store with a one-year warranty.

Tech Dump addresses several UN Sustainable Development Goals, including poverty, vocational skills, material footprint, sustainable industry, discrimination, urban waste management, hazardous waste, and climate change.

FINALIST

We Sparkle Co. is a purpose-driven public benefit corporation that helps underestimated entrepreneurs—especially businesses owned by women of color — to start, operate, and grow their ventures via a suite of AI-powered software tools.

We Sparkle was selected as a Tekne finalist for Sparkle Assistant, a conversational AI assistant that texts messages with a business' customers to schedule appointments, answer FAQs, upsell products/services, and encourage customer reviews. The We Sparkle Directory spotlights great local businesses for conscientious consumers to support.
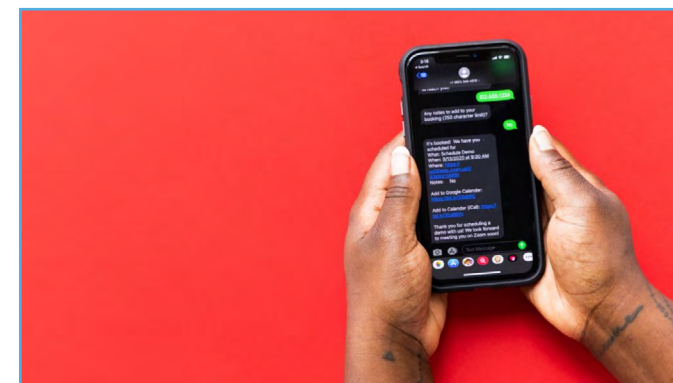
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AWARDS

COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESPONSE

The Covid-19 Community Response award will shine a light on organizations developing innovative solutions to help minimize the impact of COVID-19 on public health and disruptions to our economy. This includes initiatives related to testing, treatment, employment, and other activities focused on keeping our community healthy, safe, and employed.

**Science.
Applied to Life.™**

3M

In just two weeks, a team at 3M researched and developed an FDA approved testing protocol for the decontamination of filtering facepiece respirators (FFR).

The high demand for FFR means that many healthcare institutions must rely on decontaminating and reusing the supply they have. 3M's protocol supported two of the first FDA Emergency Use Authorizations and the team ultimately formed collaborations with over 35 decontamination manufacturers around the world.

APPLE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL
A **STEM** school dedicated to Academics, Arts & Athletics
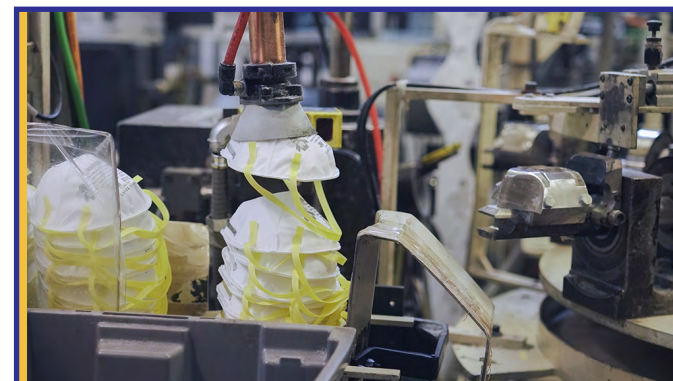
Apple Valley High School

When the pandemic hit and Apple Valley High School shifted to distance learning, the school's Fabrication Lab Supervisor Chris Lee saw an opportunity to help.

With financial support from local businesses, Apple Valley High used their 20 plus 3D printers to fabricate and donate over 5,000 face shields to local hospitals, clinics, senior living facilities and other needy organizations.

Claros Technologies

Claros Technologies

Personal protective equipment (PPE) acts as a barrier between our bodies and the virus, but Claros Technologies thought to themselves, 'we can do better than that'.

By manufacturing PPE with their Crescoating® antimicrobial, UV resistant, and flame-retardant textiles, barriers are converted to materials that actively neutralize viruses on contact. To date, this technology has effectively inactivated up to 99.9% of coronaviruses on the treated materials within ten-minute exposure.
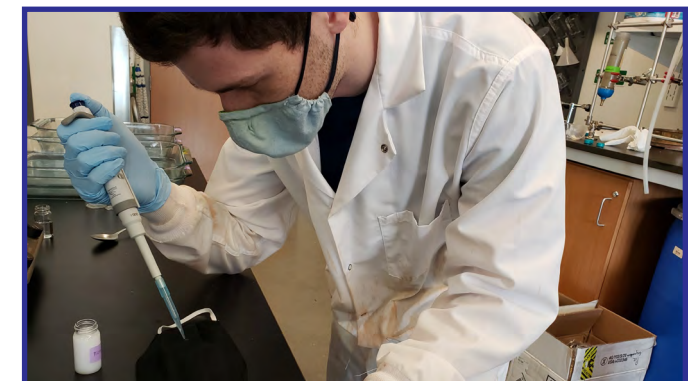
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FINALIST

Digi-Key

To ensure the health and safety of those in and out of their company, Digi-Key doubled down. An internal team quickly invented a 15-foot sanitization tunnel built into the curve of the incoming conveyor belt that uses a spray and UV light to protect employees in contact with the 8,000 plus totes that travel through their receiving, picking and packing departments. Externally they partnered with physicians at the University of Minnesota to develop a ventilator to help treat COVID-19 patients.

FINALIST

Ecolab

To help protect foodservice operators and restaurant goers, Ecolab developed and launched their SMARTPOWER™ Sink & Surface Cleaner Sanitizer: a no-rinse, concentrated, two-in-one cleaner and sanitizer for food contact surfaces.

The Sanitizer has been proven to kill the Norovirus in 30 seconds, is effective against emerging viral pathogens and is listed on the EPA List N as effective against SARS-CoV-2. This new EPA-registered innovation has already been implemented as the standard food contact sanitizer in many foodservice operations across North America.

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FINALIST

Graco

For many businesses, schools and healthcare facilities, life must go on. Graco set out to assist them in the safest way possible, and worked tirelessly to release their SaniSpray HP line of sprayers in April, just over a month after stay-at-home orders were announced in Minnesota.

SaniSpray is the first in the industry designed to disinfect wide areas quickly and consistently, providing better sanitizing and disinfecting coverage, in a shorter time than other methods. The sprayers are compatible with List N disinfectants that meet the EPA's criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2.

FINALIST

KnightKrawler Robotics from Irondale High School

Led by an all-volunteer coaching staff, the Irondale High School robotics team, KnightKrawler Robotics, rallied together to manufacture and deliver over 15,000 face shields to critical health care and public safety workers in and around the area. The team then went on to 3D print 10,000 additional plastic shield parts which they shared with other local organizations working to manufacture PPE.

FINALIST

UMN Technology Commercialization

In the face of the pandemic, The U of M's Technology Commercialization research institute reprioritized new tech additions to ensure that the innovations designed to prevent, diagnose, treat, and contain COVID-19 received immediate attention.

Due to the collaboration between university experts and industry leaders, many new COVID-related technologies are now available for commercialization, everything from a COVID-19 antibody test to a location and symptom mapping tool.

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COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESPONSE

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VenueScreen
The VenueScreen and Venue Tablet were designed for businesses and facilities that require daily temperature screenings for their employees.

Utilizing thermal camera technology, a powerful hand sanitizing agent and reliable training resources, VenueScreen provides a reliable scan to safely determine elevated temperatures and other COVID symptoms. Thus far, more than 500,000 people have been screened using this technology.

Zipnosis
When Zipnosis' White-Label telemedicine platform saw a 3,600 percent utilization increase due to COVID, they scaled their operation to meet the influx of demand. The platform now includes an 11-question COVID-19 screener, virtual visits and real-time updates. 400,000 patients were treated using this platform in one month alone.

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**Thank you to the 2020
Tekne Awards judges!**

Dan Atkins, Minneanalytics
Susan Auer, TCF Bank
Mike Bollinger, Livefront
Steph DeRuyck, Orbia
Tammy Dickinson, City of Minneapolis
Kollen Glynn, C.H. Robinson
Jim Graham, Prime Therapeutics
Melissa Harp, RSM
Jen Hauschildt, Uponor
Todd Hauschildt, Optum
Mats Heimdahl, University of Minnesota
Casey Helbling, Software For Good
Zach Hughes, CHS., Inc.
Matt Johnson, Seagate

Mike Johnson, UMN Technological Leadership Institute
Michael Jones, Accenture
Caroline Karanja, 26 Letters
Meaghan Kirk, C.H. Robinson
Kim Lynch, Minnesota State Mankato
Nancy Lyons, Clockwork
Kevin Maler, Dorsey & Whitney
Shaye Mandle, Medical Alley Association
Rebecca Martin, Calabrio
Ryan Masanz, Self Esteem Brands
Jill Measells, The Works Museum
Dr. Bhabani Misra, University of Saint Thomas
Cheryl Moeller, High Tech Kids

Matt Pammer, Individual
Rachel Polson, Baker Tilly
Vijay Ramanathan, Code42
Pat Ryan, sSpectrum LLC
Lisa Schlosser, Technovation[MN]
Steve Sigmond, Carrot Health
Jen Simon, Microsoft
Scott Singer, CyberNINES
Danielle Steer, Lunar Startups
Mike Thyken, Caring Bridge
Kari Toft, HealthPartners
Sue Wallace, Creating IT Futures Foundation
Jean Weiss, Code Savvy
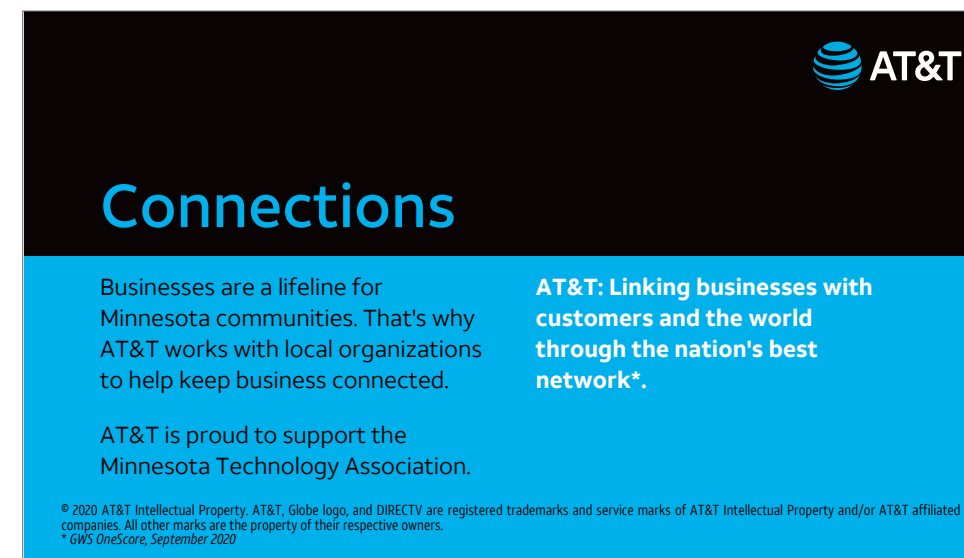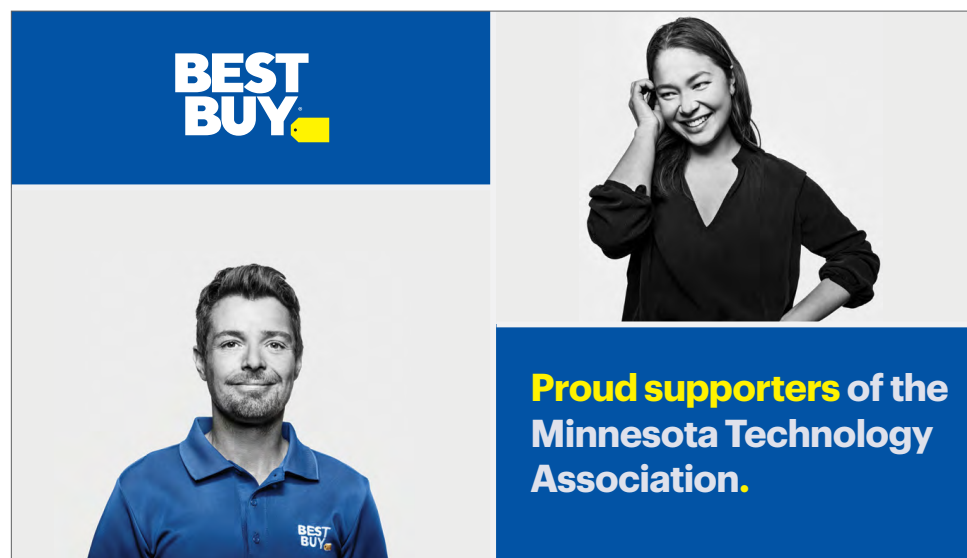
ABOUT THE AWARD

Minnesota-based artist Robert Delutri is the creator of the distinctive Tekne award sculptures. For 20 years, he has been commissioned to create these awards by the Minnesota Technology Association. The award symbolizes the ever-evolving and dynamic process of technology. Indeed, there is no end to what we can learn, know, discover, create or innovate. Each Tekne sculpture reflects the unique characteristics of shape, color, bubbles, swirls, and density formed by molten, hand-fractured glass, hand-cut by Mr. Delutri and mounted on a bold steel base.

Robert Delutri's professional experience includes working at the University of Minnesota and in the private sector in management, teaching and training positions. He has taught courses on aesthetics and creative problem solving at the University of Minnesota's Student Center and the Minnetonka Center for the Arts. Mr. Delutri's work is currently represented by the Dow Art Gallery in St. Paul.

MINNESOTA TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION STAFF

Jeff Tollefson
President & CEO

Jade Denson
Director of Member &
Community Engagement

Ray Hoover
Director of Membership
and Sponsorship

Lonni Ranallo
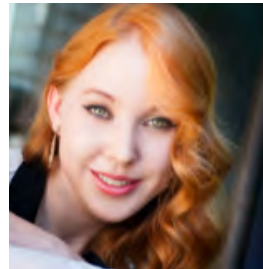Director of Finance
and Administration

Patty Carruth
Director of Events

Pat Dillon, MBA
Director of MNSBIR

Becky Siekmeier
SciTech Internship
Program Director

Fueling the Success of Minnesota's Innovation Economy

We believe Minnesota's technology-driven companies achieve the greatest success when they have access to exceptional talent, dedicated public policy advocates, and are part of an innovative, inclusive technology community. For more than 30 years, the Minnesota Technology Association has nurtured each of these attributes within our state, helping our tech community thrive.

Join us as we work together to accelerate growth, innovation, and the development of a stronger, more inclusive tech ecosystem in Minnesota.

Learn more at mntech.org.

Piper Cleaveland
Communications and
Marketing Manager

Molly Mitchell
SciTech Student Outreach
Coordinator

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Minnesota Technology Association