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Proud to be named a 2023 NJBIZ Leaders in Digital Technology honoree.

New Jersey was at the forefront of change in the movement to legalize online sports betting. Collaborating with New Jersey's Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA), we have brought a new era of world-class technical infrastructure to the region, via a state-of-the-art data center facility in Atlantic City.

Housed within the landmark Atlantic City Convention Center, the data center opened in 2019, and we have completed multiple expansions to the site since. We proudly power the largest sports betting and online gaming brands in New Jersey and across the United States.



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WELCOME LETTER

NJBIZ would like to welcome you to our reimagined Leaders in Digital Technology awards program.

This new program, which was built from our previous Digi-Tech Innovators Awards, celebrates both companies and individuals who are making a difference in the digital technology space and using innovation to move not only their business forward but also the great state of New Jersey.



Today, we are surrounded by technology that is making things faster, easier and more efficient. It has completely changed how we communicate—from our daily lives to the workplace, which for many of us has become one in the same over the last several years.

Representing a wide swath of industries from financial services to health care, to marketing to—of course—technology, and more, this group of honorees is embracing innovation by listening to their customers, analyzing industry trends and insights, and providing solutions to problems we face every day.

In the following pages, we spotlight this year's 48 honorees, providing more insight into their accomplishments, why innovation is important to them, how it has impacted their roles over the years, what inspires them and how they see technology advancing even more in the near future.

Karren L. Johnson Event Supplement Editor NJBIZ



Robb Allen CEO Effectual

JUDGES



Brigitte Bastaldo-Tsampalis Founder & CEO Bond and Lead



Steven Giambrone Manager, Analytics & Insights Inspira Health



Adam Lowe Chief Product & Innovation Officer CompoSecure Inc.



John Cavanaugh, CISSP President Internet Infrastructure Services Corp.



Howard Ryan Founder Desktop Alert Inc.

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Sameer Sethi Senior Vice President and Chief Data and Analytics Officer Hackensack Meridian *Health*



CONGRATULATIONS

Sameer Sethi on your NJBIZ Leader in Digital Technology recognition. We are grateful for your leadership and innovation. You continue to transform technology in the health care space and we are proud of all you have achieved.



Hackensack Meridian *Health* HackensackMeridianHealth.org

911inform

Ivo Allen, President & CEO Wall, Monmouth County

911inform is a notification and safety management platform that assists public safety and organizations in providing full situational awareness and communication during any emergency.



How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? Five years ago, 911 inform was just a start-up with four employees creating the base utilities of the software with a

handful of schools using our technology. Today, we have over 50 employees, protect schools and large enterprises across the country, and continue to grow each quarter. Our development team has completed over 150 integrations into the 911inform stack and over 200 unique feature development tasks.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? With all the hard work, we try to make our environment as fun and friendly as possible. We have moon pods, spontaneous celebrations, game nights, pizza parties and social gatherings outside the workplace. Long days are often rewarded with a catered lunch or dinner depending on the project that needs to be done.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Our goal is to be the gold standard for building security and public safety with our number one goal always protecting individuals. We will always be ahead, adding new features, and keeping pace with federal law.

ORGANIZATIONS

Catalogic

Ken Barth, CEO Woodcliff Lake, Bergen County

Catalogic is a modern data protection company providing innovative cloud backup and recovery solutions, enabling organizations to protect, secure and leverage their data.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space?

Catalogic's growth has been driven by the development of data protection products for new digital technologies that we have taken to market with strategic partners.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Catalogic was formed in a spinoff from Syncsort in 2013 around our DPX business for enterprise data protection. In 2020, recognizing that this business was heavily tied to legacy data center storage systems, we challenged our team to apply their data protection expertise to the cloud and the new microservices architecture based on containers and Kubernetes. Our success led to divesting our legacy data copy management business to IBM in mid-2021. This enabled our team to focus on innovating for containerized applications in public clouds, and to develop new and innovative ransomware detection and recovery capabilities that we call GuardMode for enterprise data protection.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Catalogic focuses on ensuring our partners and customers are always able to shield and recover their data from ransomware attacks. In 2022, Catalogic added a free module called GuardMode, providing ransomware monitoring and detection to help IT ensure that backup copies of data are safe.

ORGANIZATIONS

Birdzi

Shekar Raman, CEO & Co-Founder Iselin, Middlesex County

Iselin, Midalesex County

Birdzi empowers retailers and brands to efficiently and intelligently connect with shoppers using Al/machine learning to create a hyper-personalized shopping experience like never before.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space?

As customer behavior continues to evolve, Birdzi's steadfast dedication to ensuring that grocery retailers have the data, support and tools they need to

inspire meaningful customer relationships has contributed to the company's growth.

Kird

What challenges have you faced when making your digital

transformation? When we started the company, computing infrastructure was a major challenge. With the advent of cloud computing, we were able to experiment more freely and also easily scale our operations. It is nearly impossible to offer our services without the existence of cloud computing.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Birdzi will continue to expand its partner network and customer implementations. Birdzi is planning to work with major point-of-sale and in-store technology solution providers to increase the accessibility of its technology at various touchpoints throughout the customer journey. Many of these partnerships will be implemented in grocery stores nationwide in the coming months.

ORGANIZATIONS

Continent 8 LLC

Michael Tobin, CEO & Co-Founder Atlantic City, Atlantic County

Continent 8 delivers world-class managed hosting, connectivity, cloud and security services to global organizations, with a private connected network spanning 90+ locations.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space?

Continent 8 provides businesses with secure, reliable facilities and networks to support critical online operations across 90 locations spanning Europe, Asia and

the Americas. Continent 8 has selected Atlantic City to be its core facility in the US. We have been at the forefront of the industry for 25 years, which has generated additional tax revenues of several hundreds of millions of dollars this past year in New Jersey.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? Continent 8's role in the US on-line gaming market has evolved from being an innovator and market enabler to new US gaming operators to supporting ongoing operations of hundreds of operators who are generating billions of dollars' worth of transactions.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Operators are increasingly reliant on cloud computing platforms to more rapidly deploy new games and services to customers. Continent 8 anticipates investments of several million dollars to support this market increase and will continue to do so as this market segment continues to grow.







Effectual Inc.

Robb Allen, CEO Jersey City, Hudson County

Effectual is an elite pure-play AWS managed and professional services company working with commercial enterprises and the public sector to enable digital transformation and full stack IT modernization.

What has contributed the most

to your company's growth in the

digital technology space? Effectual

was established with a simple set of values

represented by what we call our three E's:

Experience, Expertise, Execution. From day



one, our teams were focused on asking the right questions, tackling the difficult challenges, and delivering positive outcomes for our customers to unlock the potential of the cloud.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Effectual's teams thrive on the difficult challenges. We take a consultative approach to better understand a company's business objectives and apply our experience and expertise to execute proven solutions and ensure successful outcomes. Our portfolio of end-to-end modernization services was purposefully crafted to meet our customers wherever they are in their cloud journey.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Enterprise cloud adoption is not slowing down—however, effective adoption will require continuous optimization of existing implementations and thoughtful evaluation of emerging cloud capabilities. Through a combination of project-based initiatives and long-term managed services, Effectual is poised to solve business challenges customers are facing today and help ensure they are properly equipped for the future.

ORGANIZATIONS

General Devices

Curt Bashford, CEO Ridgefield, Bergen County

General Devices is a HealthTech company specializing in communications and telehealth solutions that help EMS and hospitals deliver simply seamless patient care.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space?

Our growth begins with our experienced engineering team and our core value of "Responsive Innovation." That DNA correlates directly to our ability to embrace and develop new technologies.



General Devices

By incorporating the latest architecture, interoperability and functionality in SaaS offerings, our business has pivoted to a recurring revenue model, which as a HealthTech company, positions GD very well.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Simply knowing the difference our solutions make to thousands of patients' lives every day further inspires us to continue to develop new technologies like mobile applications and highly configurable, easy-to-use communications software with an eye to the future.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? General Devices plans to continue scaling by leveraging technologies like AI, the cloud, 5G networks and powerful mobile devices. Our growth plan includes enhanced data sharing between our digital solutions and electronic medical record systems. GD is also exploring opportunities to leverage AI for employee wellness, which is a serious issue among nurse and EMS care providers.

ORGANIZATIONS

eMazzanti Technologies

Jennifer Mazzanti, CEO

Hoboken, Hudson County

eMazzanti Technologies delivers cloud and mobile solutions, multi-site technology implementations, outsourced network management, 24x7x365 IT support, cyber security assessments and protection services.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? We adopted a "Home and Hub" work model that brings flexibility to our staff. eMazzanti Technologies refined that model and extended this benefit to

clients, which has expanded our role in our customers' businesses, driving productivity improvements and enabling eMazzanti to double revenues over the past two years.

What challenges have you faced when making your digital transformation? To find talent in a tight labor market, support diversity in the workplace, and enhance customer service, eMazzanti prioritizes multiple language skills in the hiring process for technical positions. In addition to diversity, the policy supports immigration, business globalization and higher education, all worthwhile corporate goals. It's also gender-neutral and non-political.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? We see the company growing in our ability to transform customers' businesses to thrive in the modern, post-pandemic world. We expect Al to become a major operational advantage for our business and our customers as we aggressively share Al-based business tools. Our focus on industries, such as legal, retail and manufacturing, puts us in a position to expertly advise our customers on the use of the most promising Al technologies.

ORGANIZATIONS

GoMo Health

Bob Gold, Founder & Chief Behavioral Technologist Asbury Park, Monmouth County

GoMo Health connects behavioral science, technology and creativity to activate healthy change—improving adherence, reducing cost and scaling the services of clinical providers.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Our greatest contribution is utilizing

technology in a highly accessible way, through our evidence-based engagement solutions to provide programs for people every day around the world to live happier,



(e)mazzanti.

healthier lives. Our solutions are highly scalable and cost-effective, enabling better selfmanagement, healthy decision making, and improved outcomes.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the growth of digital therapeutics as the need to reach patients, members and employees through remote care solutions grew exponentially. This was a huge opportunity for us to continue to grow and provide services to both replace and enhance in-person health care. We have built up our employee specific mental health program offerings, as well.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? The goal is to continue to leverage and expand technology to help millions worldwide. Over the next five years, we will continue to do so, while addressing gaps in care and working to better social determinants of health in vulnerable populations.

Green Payments

Cliff Green, President & Chief Executive Officer Long Branch, Monmouth County

Green Payments is a mission-driven company dedicated to providing businesses with technology solutions to achieve financial freedom and eliminate unnecessary credit card processing fees.



What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Green Payments' signature "Dealer Genie" automotive solution provides auto dealers with complete control over their

internal point-of-sale systems. Inspired by a gap in consumer payment processing and automotive dealer standards, this program offers a new level of customization for a unique market. Green Payments' Dealer Genie has helped more than 500 automotive industry merchants achieve financial stability through its customizable approach.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Cliff Green's innovative nature and true entrepreneurial spirit are qualities that every member of the Green Payments team strives to possess. Green's drive to establish Green Payments as the leading payment provider is what inspires the company to continue innovating.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Green Payments plans to expand upon its portfolio of solutions with the launch of an integrated payment solution that gives better reporting and brings all of Green Payments' services in-house. This full payment ecosystem expands Green Payments from being a payment processor to being a solution-based software technology company.

ORGANIZATIONS

Internet Infrastructure Services Corp

John Cavanaugh, President Flanders, Morris County

Providing holistic vulnerability automation and improved security for cloud and legacy applications. We help the race to digital automation of commercial and government clients.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? We have

created a measurable provenance of cloud IT infrastructure, programming code quality automation, identified risk and security measurements and business requirements that accelerates product IIS

releases. We are now seeing a new manifestation of this with emerging ML/AI solutions that will dramatically change the ways we live, learn and work.

What challenges have you faced when making your digital transformation? We see a balance between existing business processes and future digital automation requiring an accurate inventory of data definition, sources and application connections. Data classification has been a challenge in getting business information owners to define the business data and which controls should be used to maintain confidentiality, integrity and availability.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? There will be a competitive race to innovate and automate business and personal queries beyond the current web search method of finding details but then manually creating a report. Generative AI will combine discovered data and automatically structure it into email, reports, music or videos.



NJBIZ 2023 Leaders in Digital Technology Award honoree

We are proud to be recognized for our leadership in implementing digital technology to meet the growing demand for online learning—particularly by adult learners and those seeking advanced degrees via flexible delivery models.

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Invonto LLC

Maulik Shah, CEO

Bridgewater, Somerset County

Invonto is a digital consulting company based in NJ since 2008 that helps top brands across the US create custom solutions for emerging digital technologies.

What has contributed the most

to your company's growth in the

digital technology space? We are

constantly pushing the boundaries of what

is possible and creating innovative digital

products that provide our customers with

the best possible experience. Our team

has created several innovative solutions

INVONTO

for our clients, transforming their businesses and delivering significant revenue growth. We also invested in research and development, keeping us ahead of the competition.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? Our company has evolved to provide complete digital transformation to our clients from strategy through implementation, leveraging modern digital technologies. We have continued to invest in building our capabilities in emerging technologies such as AI, machine learning, augmented reality and virtual reality.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? We anticipate that the demand for digital technology solutions will grow exponentially. We are focused on developing innovative solutions, staying abreast of the latest technological advancements, and further refining our processes for providing quality results to clients. Additionally, we are investing in growing our NJ engineering team so clients receive the best expertise available locally.

ORGANIZATIONS

National Retail Solutions

Elie Y. Katz, President & CEO Newark, Essex County

NRS is helping more than 20,000 independent brick-and-mortar retailers across the US compete and succeed, with affordable POS technology tools, NRS Pay credit card processing and more.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? From its inception, National Retail Solutions has been committed to the well-being and success of our retail customers. NRS is not just building a business and



expanding technology to increase sales-we are passionately committed to helping small and midsized companies, particularly those in underserved communities.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? We hire employees who share our commitment to bettering the experiences of our retailers. We are passionate about providing them with powerful tools to grow their revenue. Our business is not just about fast-track development of new products and services-it's about camaraderie with shared values, within a highly supportive environment.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? E-commerce has become critical for retailer survival. We offer retailers their store website with a shopping app that links directly to the store's POS system. Our retailer base consists of grocery/convenience, tobacco, liquor, hardware, and gas station c-stores. We will soon be expanding into other industries.

ORGANIZATIONS

Leap Consulting Group

Josh Kramer, Managing Partner Elmwood Park, Bergen County

Leap Consulting Group is a NJ-based consultancy firm, building digital solutions for health care, life sciences, telecom and financial services companies across the US.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? As a

firm, we have been fortunate to develop a wide-ranging and cross-industry understanding of consumer, professional, regulatory and technology considerations, which we use every day in serving our



clients. This insight and perspective help us drive innovation and solve problems creatively, seeing past obstacles in existing processes and tools.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? We have constantly accelerated our pace of innovation and ideation as the pace of global innovation continues to accelerate. The pandemic especially has reshaped and accelerated the digital transformation landscape for organizations alike, bringing complexity, new opportunities and change. We also have been advising more non-technology leaders in our industries than in past years.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Our role is to keep thinking fresh and pushing past the invisible boundaries of our clients' thinking. Our team is constantly reminded to reimagine the information they have been given and think of ways to incorporate concepts from other projects and experiences to refresh concepts and bring new life to ideas and discussions.

ORGANIZATIONS

NJII, Healthcare Division

Jennifer D'Angelo, Senior Vice President & General Manager Newark, Essex County

New Jersey Innovation Institute's (NJII) Healthcare Division offers advisory services through innovation and technology focused on improving patient experience and supporting statewide interoperability for event notifications and coordinated care.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? As the only network that can connect to state

health databases, the New Jersey



Health Information Network (NJHIN)-developed and managed by NJII is a crucial tool for health care facilities across NJ. As these facilities work to improve patient outcomes, reduce hospital readmissions, and meet state and federal mandates, they turn to the technologies provided by NJII to improve health care and data sharing.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? NJII's Healthcare Division has continuously expanded offerings to better address NJ's health care needs through digital innovation.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? The NJII Healthcare Division is passionate about improving the quality of patient care and systems while reducing the cost of health care. They have seen first-hand the role that technology, data and analytics and innovation play in advancing state-wide interoperability.

Princeton Consultants

Steve Sashihara, Founder & CEO Princeton, Mercer County

Princeton Consultants is a solutions and services firm helping clients transform performance by integrating new technologies into core business processes.

What has contributed the most



to your company's growth in the digital technology space? The startling advances in computational power and Al algorithms have most contributed to our company's growth. Business problems that once could only be solved by Al in a laboratory under highly controlled conditions are now solvable in real-time in a way that dramatically improves on speed, accuracy and quality.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? To best solve a client's problem, we inspire our consultants to be open-minded and draw from the increasing variety of emerging technologies and tools, including Optimization, AI, machine learning, predictive analytics, forecasting, data science and data engineering.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? We see the Digital Transformation space moving from "visualization" and "insights" to significant rapid improvements throughout the enterprise in execution. Our clients are increasingly requesting data-driven, Al-powered solutions, which are coordinating the complete enterprise—from strategy, pricing and sales to supply chain and operations. We believe the next five years will be the dawn of the wide application of Al to practical business applications.



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ORGANIZATIONS

RS Knapp/Napco

Michael O'Keefe, President Lyndhurst, Bergen

Serving the architecture, engineering and construction industry for 76 years with the latest technology and innovative processes, RS Knapp/Napco helps companies manage information, saving them both time and money.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Construction documentation is very complex and is still largely a process dominated by paper. Napco is at the forefront of the visualization of



information. Taking what was once a 2D black and white drawing and creating a 3D full color picture of what data is actually there. It is reality capture.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital/technology space? Napco went from dipping our toe in the water five years ago doing some demos and selling the occasional scanner to being a full-blown service bureau. We now have a dozen scanners, ground penetrating radar and drone capabilities. Napco employees have done scan work all through the tri-state area and as far away as Kansas and Florida.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? The world of construction documentation is getting more complex, not less. Our clients, while extremely bright and accomplished, don't know every new thing. We anticipate that as new technology and processes come to market, Napco will be there to help our clients navigate through it.

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SciMar ONE, Inc

Donna Conroy, CEO & Co-Founder Allentown, Monmouth County

SciMar is a NJ-based technology company offering a comprehensive suite of tools that enable pharma to accelerate drug development by improving Development VelocityTM.

What has contributed the most

to your company's growth in the digital technology space?

The greatest contributor to SciMar

pharmaceutical drug development.

ONE's growth was defining and naming the complex challenges that slow



Development Velocity[™] (DV[™]) is the speed a pharmaceutical company moves a therapy through the development process and into the market. By defining this challenge that slows drug development, we open doors to strategic conversations and demonstrate how technology can enable efficiencies that accelerate drugs to market.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Building technologies that help pharma develop and deliver therapies faster to the patients who need them is truly an honor that inspires our team.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? In the past five years, SciMar evolved its business model to focus on technologies that address a major gap in pharmaceutical drug development. Seeing the need for technology to improve slow and costly manual methods, SciMar pivoted its business and built its AI-based technology, the DVP. The DVP helps pharma accelerate therapies through development and into the market.

ORGANIZATIONS

STEERus Inc.

Loralyn Mears, Founder & CEO River Vale, Bergen County

An NJ HR tech startup, STEERus offers training in conscious leadership development, soft skills, job readiness and change management.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? We partnered with Riipen, the national authority that brokers work-based learning opportunities between 20.000

industrial partners (like ourselves) and

more than 500 colleges and universities.



In our first Riipen engagement, which was Fall semester 2021, we conducted nine projects with multiple schools. That broke a record previously set by another employer which was four projects in a single semester. As a result, we were awarded with a recognized Partner-of-the-Year status.

What challenges have you faced when making your digital

transformation? The challenge we faced when we got started was COVID-19. We began prototyping with NJIT students in Feb 2020 and less than one month later, our project was shut down. We had to regroup and wholly embrace cloud architectures and remote work to build the platform and content library that we have today.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? As we grow, we aim to hire within NJ. To do so, we envision being even more connected with NJ local high schools, charter schools, colleges and universities so that we can provide our youth and re-entering talent with the soft skills they need for success in the workplace.

ORGANIZATIONS

Selfie Background Check

Frederick Amicucci, Founder Woodland Park, Passaic County

Selfie Background Check is a techenabled background check company that gives you the ability to do a background check and social media cleaning on yourself.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? In today's

world, you mostly hear about people becoming "internet stars." But there's another side to that. People get fired because of something they posted. The addition of one of our main products, Self BackgroundCheck -Check yourself to be sure, do a Selfie.

Selfie Social Media CleanUp, has allowed us to further expand our product range, giving people an all-encompassing background check on themself.

What challenges have you faced when making your digital

transformation? The main challenge for us, and I think in any advancement that you make in technology or digital transformation, is educating and informing the public. When you are working with the advancements in your company day in and day out, you are used to it. But now you must showcase it to the public and show them how this new product or service can really help them in their everyday life.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Luckily for us, our staff doesn't really need much inspiration. The culture that we developed from hiring people that we found to be innovative and self-motivated has really kept us laser focused on making things better and faster for our clients. Everyone who works here has an opportunity to make an immediate impact on the success of the company.

ORGANIZATIONS

V-COMM, LLC Telecommunications Engineering

Dominic Villecco, President Edison, Middlesex County

V-COMM is a provider of integrated network engineering, radio frequency engineering, business services, and design/build services for inbuilding, in-tunnel, and other wireless telecommunications networks.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the

digital technology space? We have been involved with wireless in the transit venues for over 20 years. We have taken that invaluable experience to other venue owners including hospitals, schools,



government agencies and enterprises to help people communicate.

What challenges have you faced when making your digital

transformation? As we expanded into the indoor and private wireless space, we recognized the need for full turnkey implementation and have added those services. These networks can be very complicated and require special expertise and tools to maintain. As a result, we added maintenance and monitoring to our service offerings.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? The FCC opened up new airwaves for private networking capabilities within the last five years. Having significant experience with commercial wireless technologies and indoor wireless services, we have developed and deployed these fast and efficient networks. We are currently in discussions with wireless dataintensive customers like hospitals that need more efficient wireless data connections as they add more wireless devices to their "toolboxes" over the coming years.

VeriKlick LLC

Komal Dangi, CEO Newark, Essex County

VeriKlick is an end-to-end integrated Interview Management System Platform consolidating the candidate experience across all systems.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Our greatest contribution is talent transformation by building and developing a SaaS tool that supports corporations in their talent transformation journey, which includes candidate redeployment, candidate aggregation, developing a



Which includes calibrate redeployment,
candidate aggregation, developing a
candidate pipeline, and candidate verification.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? We were originally focusing on implementing the latest technologies into our processes and testing those processes to work effectively in an effort to fuel the growth of our approach we have use here evolved our approach and we applied our approach and we have use here evolved our approach.

effort to fuel the growth of our company. Now we have evolved our company and we act as a consulting partner to clients. We collaborate with our clients and strategize with them to enhance and improvise their technology roadmap.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Our goal is to work with the latest and greatest technologies. As a technology company our engineers are working 24/7 in our innovation labs so that we make sure that we are ahead in the game and implement innovative ideas. Our team and engineers are developing in the Web 3.0 version to provide our customers a seamless user experience.

ORGANIZATIONS

William Paterson University

Richard J. Helldobler, President *Wayne, Passaic County*

William Paterson University in Wayne is a public higher education institution with nearly 10,000 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students and more than 82,000 alumni.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the digital technology space?

With more than one million adult learners in the region with some college credit but no degree, the university has expanded its online programs to address student demand for online degree programs and stackable credentials tied to degree complete WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

stackable credentials tied to degree completion and workforce trends.

How has your company's role evolved over the last five years in the digital technology space? Since the launch of WP Online in 2020, William Paterson's online courses have grown from a handful to 46 degree and certificate programs in business, education, humanities, social sciences and health care, including 15 online bachelor's degree programs designed primarily for adults with some college credits and no degree or an associate degree.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? William Paterson is implementing Workday for human resources and finance operations, replacing a two-decade-old system, streamlining online business processes and replacing paper-based processes. Following initial implementation in July 2023, we plan to implement Workday Student to modernize all student-university interactions, including registration, business services and more.

ORGANIZATIONS

Vikar Technologies, Inc.

Glenn Bolstad, CEO & Founder Old Bridge, Middlesex County

Vikar Technologies offers straightthrough digital processing for account opening, lending, KYC and financial reviews across retail, commercial and wealth management business lines.

What has contributed the most to your company's growth in the

digital technology space? Vikar Technologies ("Vikar") is the first to offer software that enables all business units across banks' loans, deposits, treasury and wealth management departments to collaborate. Our One Vikar solution

delivers a quality digital experience that customers demand today.

How do you inspire your staff to continue to innovate? Vikar's innovation is driven by our CTO Amruta Dongre, but the founding team has worked together for the past decade. We push each other to solve complex problems for community banks.

What challenges have you faced when making your digital transformation? Vikar focuses on some of the most popular systems and common cores to deliver our One Vikar solution. There will always be legacy systems that are new to us and take additional time to connect for true automation to be effective.

Where do you see your company growing in the digital technology space over the next five years? Vikar will expand the One Vikar solution to include consumer loans. Expanding our intelligent user interface to guide consumer borrowers to capture the right data is an evolution of the software.

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Vikar Technologies

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John Accardi

Principal Mazars USA LLP Edison, Middlesex County

Accardi guides organizations who seek to transform their operations and IT environments. With over 30 years of experience, he leverages his strong

technical and analytical background to offer solutions to complex business problems by maximizing operational value, driving down the cost of quality, and enhancing technology innovation.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? The Mazars Microsoft practice was implemented in 2020. I was brought into Mazars to lead the practice, grow the business opportunities, develop and manage the team. Since then, I have grown the team to over 40 consultants, adding new clients to the firm and increasing the Mazars Consulting Practice revenue by 10 percent.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation keeps us alive. It's exciting and by constantly staying on the leading edge of innovation we can help organizations prosper, enhance human productivity, and move our client's business forward. Innovation and digital transformation help us drive our clients forward with the right people, processes and technology.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? As a longtime career salesman, I've always had an eagerness to learn and grow. I looked for opportunities to connect with clients to solve their business problems and pain points. As a technology leader, I think that it's essential to keep the momentum and the energy moving forward. You can't look back too long; you've got to analyze what works, consider the future and keep striving forward. Our customers need us to innovate.

INDIVIDUALS



Phillip Bauknight

Partner Fisher Phillips LLP Murray Hill, Union County

Bauknight represents and serves as trusted counsel for employers in a broad range of employment, business and labor issues. He regularly provides

guidance on navigating the complexities and challenges of blockchain technology and digital currency in the workplace.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Fisher Phillips is the first national workplace law firm to dedicate a team solely to employment issues arising from cryptocurrency and blockchain technologies. Since our launch in July 2021, we have provided counseling to a variety of companies, including tech companies, health care companies, auto dealerships, and more on the business use cases and applications of blockchain technology and cryptocurrency in the workplace.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation solves problems and provides benefits to society at large. New technologies generally reduce friction, provide better user experiences, and optimize human efficiency. The wheel, flight, the printing press, electricity, the telephone, the internet and the smartphone are all prime examples of innovations that have changed the course of human civilization.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? I pay attention to the friction points companies have in their consumer experience and what they or other companies are doing to address those friction points. Another easy way is to look at what people complain the most about and think of what can be done to fix it. When you evaluate innovation opportunities through that lens, the opportunities stand out drastically.

INDIVIDUALS



Tamir Barsik

Chief Operating Officer AQUABLUE Corporation Chester, Morris County

Barsik is recognized for his customer-first approach, creative problem-solving, and leading technical expertise. Under his leadership, AQUABLUE's Network

Operations Center is constantly evolving, introducing new software and systems to better support customers and streamline ticketing, reporting and maintenance outage times.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I feel that my most significant contributions to AQUABLUE are my professional commitment to prioritizing and delivering best-in-class customer service, along with my personal goals of creating a positive and fulfilling work environment for employees. I believe in leading by example, and that transparency and accountability are key tenets to that success.

Why is innovation so important to you? Our business growth goals dictate that we need to be committed to staying at the forefront of technology and remain leaders in that transformation. I'm proud that my team is empowered to take chances, try new approaches to problems, and see how we can do better. I'm always striving to improve how we deliver products and services—it's what makes this work so exciting and rewarding. AQUABLUE's reputation as a peerless leader in this space is what keeps us pushing forward.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? I like to stay at the forefront of emerging technologies, researching new developments and use cases. I embrace a customer-led approach to product development. Understanding the unique needs of our verticals allows us to tailor solutions that solve those challenges effectively. Being innovative keeps us fresh as a partner, not only to customers, but carriers as well.

INDIVIDUALS



Joseph Cameron

Web & Social Senior Marketing Specialist Brach Eichler LLC Roseland, Essex County

At Brach Eichler, Cameron created and implemented a social media strategy in 2022 that has yielded amazing results including increased followers by

61 percent. He has also coordinated the firm's recent website refresh and implemented a strategy that increased website users by 45 percent.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I've been a professional marketer since 2007. Still, my passion for digital marketing was truly ignited in 2010 when I was told, "Tracking the Return on Investment (ROI) of social media and social ads is impossible." Since that day, I have focused all my efforts on proving ROI, improving results and interpreting the data in a way understandable for everyone, not just marketers. I'm proud to say that many businesses have used my ROI reports as essential decision-making tools in budgeting and business development.

Who has been your most influential role model? My most influential role model is Shigeru Miyamoto, the Japanese video game designer, producer and game director at Nintendo. He is widely regarded as one of the most accomplished and influential designers in the history of video games. I learned from him that having a wild imagination and a unique perspective on the world should be celebrated.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? The conferences I speak at and the nonprofits where I donate my time inspire me to continue my profession. The marketing skills that I continue to sharpen at Brach Eichler are usually out of reach financially for nonprofits. It makes me proud and thankful to Brach Eichler that they are so supportive of my efforts to help the community.



Nick Cherukuri

CEO ThirdEyeGen Princeton, Mercer County

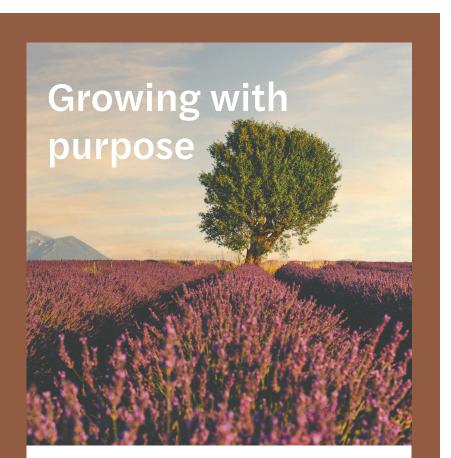
An entrepreneur and inventor best known for his work in engineering and Augmented Reality (AR) and Mixed Reality (MR), Cherukuri founded ThirdEyeGen

in 2016 and led the augmented reality company in coming to market with its first augmented reality product in 2017, the X1 AR Smart Glasses. In 2019, he was selected into Forbes 30 Under 30 for Enterprise Technology.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Augmented reality is the cornerstone of our company. This is an area of technology that has not been widely exploited. We have helped to introduce it to various facets of life. From military and space security to health care and engineering, ThirdEyeGen prides itself on the fact that we are showing this can be used everywhere.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? Augmented reality has only continued to grow over the past five years. While the market is still relatively small, this kind of technology which enhances reality in a way which is beneficial for a wide array of people has an enormous amount of growth potential. We foresee a future where vast numbers of people utilize AR in their daily lives in a wide variety of ways, much like the smartphone has become so crucial.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? We spot opportunities for innovation wherever we can seemingly do better in society. Whether it's working with NASA to use our technology to secure space rocket launches or giving first responders direct visual access to doctors to help save lives, we look for imperfect areas where our technology can make a real difference.



Mazars congratulates our very own John Accardi along with all of the other NJBIZ 2023 Digital Technolgy honorees

John embodies Mazars' core values and principles every day by demonstrating leadership while empowering people.

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INDIVIDUALS



Velinda Cox

Senior Vice President, eCommerce Konica Minolta Business Solutions U.S.A., Inc. *Ramsey, Bergen County*

Cox is responsible for the overall strategy and success of Konica Minolta's eCommerce program, creating new value and experiences for its

customers, partners and employees. She is a driving force for growth, brand building and digital reinvention, with extensive experience in technology, global business operations, sales and strategy.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Spearheading the launch of Konica Minolta's eShop strategy globally, which entailed building its global commerce platform from the ground up by incorporating a new way of working across leaders in three regions and circumventing challenges of global structure silos across the company, was likely the most complex global project ever undertaken at Konica Minolta and represents the global evolution of the company.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? My role has completely changed. Prior to 2021, I was in an overseas assignment running the global enterprise space business. After presenting a recommendation to the Konica Minolta board regarding the need for a digital business approach to market, I was moved back to the US to drive the transformation of a completely new GTM channel for Konica Minolta.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? As a hyper-aware, ferocious learner, I am constantly exploring the macro changes in the market, business sector, demographics and black swan impacts on economy, business and people. Through this constant exploration for knowledge, I am able to learn and find innovation everywhere. Working closely with customers also enables the ability to spot innovative opportunities.

Congratulations

Sunil Dadlani Senior Vice President Chief Information Officer Atlantic Health System

and all the other recipients as NJBIZ Leaders in Digital Technology





Sunil Dadlani

Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer Atlantic Health System *Morristown, Morris County*

At Atlantic Health System, Dadlani is responsible for the enhancement of the digital patient and consumer experiences, which includes delivering

transformative technology solutions to elevate patient care. One area of particular focus is the expansion and diversification of intelligent automation, such as artificial intelligence, throughout the health care system.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation is important because it enables organizations to identify new opportunities for growth and efficiency, and to keep up with advances in technology that can optimize operations and performance. Additionally, innovation helps CIOs identify and leverage new business models, allowing them to stay ahead of their competitors in terms of capabilities and offerings.

What was the best business advice you ever received? "Don't be afraid to fail—fail fast and learn the most from the failures. Direct success never imparts best learning lessons; it comes from failures. Failing is not a mistake but not failing is surely a mistake."—Former Google CEO Eric Schmidt and Atlantic Health System President and CEO Brian Gragnolati

How do you envision digital technology will affect your company in three to five years? Digital technology is expected to weave further into the fabric of the health care sector to elevate patient care in a multitude of ways. Increased automation and use of Al could further present vast improvement in clinical work-flow efficiency and decision making. Widespread use of digital platforms can enhance patient engagement and communication throughout the health care continuum, ensuring they are informed and involved for each step of the patient journey.

INDIVIDUALS



Antony Galdi

Head of Delivery Leap Consulting Group Elmwood Park, Bergen County

Galdi's primary responsibility is leading the delivery team of project managers and software developers and overseeing the design and development of

client deliverables. He works closely with the executive leadership of Leap's specialty-telecom clients to understand their needs and objectives.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? I find that we are executing and delivering on client projects in a more rapid succession than earlier years. My role continues to consist of leading the delivery team to ensure timelines and client deliverables are met with high quality and premium value. I anticipate my role will continue to evolve as industry trends change and I will remain adaptable and flexible, always striving to deliver the best solutions to our clients while expanding my knowledge and skills.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation is the driving force behind all of Leap's client engagements, and key to delivering meaningful results for our clients. Our specialty-telecom clients continuously seek to develop new revenue streams, retain and grow their customer base, and offer innovative products to differentiate themselves from their competitors—it's what helps our clients stay ahead of the curve and grow their businesses.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? Being actively involved in helping to architect and turn our specialty-telecom clients' new ideas and concepts into fully-integrated and market-ready products is highly rewarding. Also playing a part in the products that are making an impact on the lives of the hearing-impaired and deaf population is even more satisfying.

INDIVIDUALS



Subramanian Esakki

Senior Vice President - Human Resources Virtusa

Piscataway, Middlesex County

Esakki is a digital technology leader who is forward-thinking and took Virtusa's Talent Acquisition Strategy to the next level meeting their

talent requirements by engaging digital technologies. He had a vision of what was required to implement digital technology to achieve success for a global company.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? My role has evolved from a more traditional talent acquisition leader to a change agent. This has been heavily influenced by market changes across people, processes, technology and the real time challenges of market competitiveness, wage wars, upskilling and more. These shifts have required me to elevate how my team and I see hiring for the future.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation is the only way to face the future and be more successful in business and to stay relevant. It keeps the businesses in check to be prepared for the future market trends. This has been my key agenda all along to introduce new platforms, processes and guidelines even before the market contemplates a shift. I believe in promoting work cultures that revolve around modern technologies for a robust diverse workplace.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? I have spent nearly 25 years working in the IT sector, and my career has been a good one. At each place I have worked hard, which has led me to an elevated path of growing responsibility. I often check in with myself mentally on my current focus, my team's and company's focus to ensure alignment to keep the balance.

INDIVIDUALS



Jeffrey Goldstein

Managing Director Queue Associates, Inc. Iselin, Middlesex County

A business and technology executive for over three decades, Goldstein developed an exclusive relationship on behalf of Queue Associates with

Microsoft in the early 1990s, which led to the company becoming one of the world's highest-certified and most important Microsoft partners.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Representing and supporting SaaS (Software as a Service) Cloud solutions has contributed to our company's growth within the digital/technology space. Our SaaS business is expanding quickly, growing over 200 percent because of the flexibility and costeffectiveness of our subscription-based models with Microsoft. During the COVID-19 pandemic, our team utilized these services and helped numerous clients adapt.

What do you know now that you wish you'd known earlier in your career? I wish I had understood earlier in my career that being an early adopter of new technology provides a competitive advantage over other companies that are less proactive and more reactive to the rapid pace of technology. I also wish I knew that just because technology moves quickly doesn't mean we have to; allowing ourselves time to rest helps us perform our jobs better than when we barrel ahead.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? Pushing my boundaries in knowledge about the technology industry and the world of Microsoft is the largest motivation in my inspiration to further my career. Despite obtaining the highest level of Microsoft accreditation and constantly achieving our goals in complex business projects, we know there is always room to grow.



Nicholas Gramuglia

Senior Digital Marketing Specialist Terrie O'Connor Realtors Ramsey, Bergen County

Gramuglia oversees the Google and social media ad programs for the brokerage, its school and for all agents and the properties they represent. He creates

the video content for all social media platforms, creates all email marketing campaigns and he executes marketing strategy on behalf of the marketing manager.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I believe my greatest contribution to my company's growth has been my dedication to developing and overseeing our company's paid digital advertising funnel strategy, which has helped us create a lead generation program utilizing social media and Google along with boosting our overall brand awareness.

Why is innovation so important to you? I have a deep desire to keep on pushing both what my company can do and also what I can do as their employee. I want to continuously prove to myself that I am capable of anything I put my mind to, which is what has kept my momentum going this whole time, whether that energy is put into our paid digital ads, lead generation, videography, email marketing or campaign development. I will never be the person who accepts the status quo on anything, ever.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? In all honesty, I find such a thrill in developing campaign ideas that have an impact on people or that motivate someone to perform an action. It's an incredible feeling to be able to find someone that may have never heard of your business and then eventually get them to convert into being a potential customer/client.

INDIVIDUALS



Sam Ishak

Chief Information Officer/Principal Langan Engineering and Environmental Services Inc. Parsippany, Morris County

With 30 years of experience in the industry, Ishak is responsible for technology strategy, development, and implementation across the firm, including

financial accountability and the incubation of creative, grassroots innovation. Since starting at Langan, his team has grown twentyfold, supporting the needs of more than 1,600 workers in 40 offices across 16 states.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I have had the pleasure of guiding the company through the journey of digital transformation. What started as a team of four has grown to a team of over 100. Together we have taken Langan from being an analog company to reinventing how we work, through digital transformation.

Why is innovation so important to you? I've always been passionate about how broadly technology can affect our lives and believe innovation is the pathway to get us there. It's crucial to keep an open mind about reimagining what we do and not just focus on the tech itself. Making us more effective and improving people's lives is a nice win, but doing things we never imagined we could do is the holy grail.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? Our team is always looking to challenge the status quo and explore new ways to solve problems. Thinking outside the box allows us to use a more creative approach to problem solving, instead of relying on the same tried and true methods. This requires keeping open lines of communication with each department to discuss where technology can improve their process. Our firm is filled with brilliant minds eager to bring their experience to the table, and we highly value their insights.

INDIVIDUALS



Tom Hasard

Principal in Charge of Technology WilkinGuttenplan East Brunswick, Middlesex County

Hasard is responsible for ensuring the security, performance and availability of technology at the firm, as well as driving innovation. Additionally, he

manages the firm's Technology Services practice, working with clients in the professional services and health care industries and consulting on operational, strategic and security matters.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? In 2018, I worked with some folks around the company to launch the innovation council, a collection of staff from around the organization who had a passion for technology. Our mission continues to be to look at emerging technologies and help the company make necessary adjustments now to position us to take advantage of those technologies in the future.

Why is innovation so important to you? One of the main reasons I got into technology was that it was a constantly moving target. What is considered cutting-edge now will be commonplace in a few years. In the business world, this means that organizations that can recognize and capitalize on innovation opportunities will be able to be more successful, but beyond that, allows everyone in that organization to elevate themselves and take on new challenges.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? Five years ago, I was an operational resource focused primarily on keeping things working, with a secondary focus on strategy and innovation. Since then, I have transitioned to a strategic role, with a heavy focus on innovation and operations. I am heavily involved in strategic planning and the organization's overall direction.

INDIVIDUALS



Xu Fei Jiang (Jay)

Software Development Manager Holy Name Teaneck, Bergen County

Jiang leads teams in designing, building and deploying next-generation software that improves health care delivery to an annual 300,000 inpatients,

outpatients, hospice patients and COVID-19 vaccine recipients throughout Holy Name's medical center, physician practices and sites in Bergen, Hudson and Passaic counties.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I believe my greatest contribution is transforming Holy Name's complex legacy IT systems to a modern and centralized system. Under the leadership of our executive vice president/chief information officer and vice president of software development, we built a strong software architecture foundation. This foundation allows us to build modern applications more efficiently and bridge the gaps between different systems. This is one of the biggest reasons why we were able to develop software and release it for use at record speed.

Why is innovation so important to you? Constantly advancing technology is the major driving force behind rapid changes in the health care industry. This is why innovation is crucial to Holy Name's continuing mission of providing high quality and compassionate patient care, education, community service, and research.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? I love to experience new tools, platforms and programming languages to solve problems and see my ideas come to life. I often find satisfaction in using my skills to solve complex problems. But most importantly, I like the positive impacts software development has on society, especially health care-related software that improves people's lives.



Ganes Kesari

Co-Founder & Chief Decision Scientist Gramener

Princeton, Mercer County

An entrepreneur, Al thought leader, author, adjunct professor and TEDx speaker, Kesari co-founded Gramener, where he heads Data Science Advisory

and Innovation, advising executives on data-driven leadership and helping organizations adopt a data culture. He contributes articles to Forbes and as an adjunct professor at NJIT's business school, he teaches guest lectures at institutions such as Princeton University.

What do you consider to be your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I possess a unique ability to strategize for startup growth and execute on the ground by leading data science engagements hands-on. My biggest contribution has been powering innovation through Al Labs and Story Labs. I set up innovation labs about seven years ago to focus on applied research.

Why is innovation so important to you? Today, disruption is the new order. In an age of constant change, innovation is crucial for companies not just to thrive, but even survive. One can innovate with small, incremental changes, not just big-bang transformations. What's key is to envision where the organization must reach, have a realistic self-assessment of where it is today, and understand the innovation needed to bridge the gap.

What have been the impacts/benefits of digital innovation to your company? While we've delivered tremendous enterprise impact from Al, I'm most proud of our Al-for-Good innovations. Our Al Labs work delivers immense societal impact: counting penguins in Antarctica, saving Elephants in Africa, addressing climate change issues in Canada, and saving millions of human lives from Dengue.

INDIVIDUALS



Sejal Lakhani

TechWerxe Livingston, Essex County

Lakhani is a powerhouse when it comes to architecting success and exemplifies what it means to be a leader in her businesses and in the world

of technology. She travels the country providing cybersecurity training to organizations and their employees. She also gives keynote speeches across the globe to teach business leaders the foundations for architecting their greatest achievements.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? My greatest contribution to my company's growth in the technology space is my commitment to having the best people. When it comes to information technology, you can have the most advanced security stack out there, but if you don't invest in the right team, you won't succeed.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? When my husband and business partner passed away unexpectedly in 2019, I became the sole owner of TechWerxe. He was the one who led our technology strategies, while I focused on sales and marketing initiatives. Committed to upholding our company mission of offering enterprise level security and IT services to SMBs, I spent two years restructuring TechWerxe to stay on course to achieve our strategic long-term goals.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation is the start of creating new concepts or making something that already exists better. This is a requirement in the digital technology space to succeed. I believe that if we are not innovating, we are basically moving backwards. Both personally and professionally, innovation has helped me move myself and my businesses forward.

INDIVIDUALS



Justin Lahullier

Chief Information Officer & Vice President Information Services Delta Dental of New Jersey, Inc. *Parsippany, Morris County*

Lahullier is an expert in cloud computing, data analytics and artificial intelligence and constantly seeks new ways to leverage these tools to drive

business results. In addition to his technical skills, Lahullier is a collaborative and inspiring leader who can bring out the best in his team.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? CIOs are now expected to be more strategic and focus on digital transformation to drive business growth. They play a crucial role in the company's overall strategy and decision-making processes and need a deep understanding of the organization's industry and customers' needs. CISOs have also taken on a more strategic role, identifying and mitigating cyber risks that could impact the organization's overall business objectives and aligning security efforts with the organization's business strategy.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation is more critical than ever today as it allows companies to stay competitive and adapt to the rapidly changing business landscape. Innovation allows companies to develop new products and services, find new ways of doing business, and create new revenue streams. It also helps companies to stay relevant to their customers by providing them with new solutions to their problems and creating a better overall experience.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? I am excited about the opportunities to innovate and positively impact my community and the industry. Keeping up with the latest technology enables me to introduce new solutions that enhance customer experience, efficiency and affordability. What truly motivates me, however, is the chance to improve access to quality dental care for underserved populations.

INDIVIDUALS



Gina Marie Mattei

President Revelation Creative Asbury Park, Monmouth County

A dedicated digital marketing specialist, Mattei took her expertise from managing Fortune 500 brands to help companies on a strict budget improve

their brand awareness, acquire new clients and nurture existing customer relationships through innovative digital marketing campaigns.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I've always considered myself a work-in-progress. With that mindset in place, I've dedicated myself to being a lifelong learner. My greatest contribution to my company's growth has been sharing that drive, humility and openness to collaborating with those on my team, and with the clients we represent. Being a leader is about understanding what you don't know and availing yourself of the talents of those in your circle to help you bridge those gaps.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? As leader of Revelation Creative, my role evolved from marketing diagnostician and implementation specialist to business development strategist. As we evolve, I envision that I will continue to become more of that asset to our customers—sharing valuable insight and leveraging technological outlets to help our clients not just market their existing products and services, but to diversify their revenue streams.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? I listen. When I hear a customer explain a headache that their current CRM platform causes, or a persistent issue they're having with their website, those 'problems' are actually opportunities-in-the-making. Engineering a solution to address the challenges my clients are facing in-real-life enables us to make choiceful, useful, and relevant innovation.



Michael McTigue

Vice President/Information Technology RWJBarnabas Health West Orange, Essex County

McTigue's accomplishments range from working on innovative projects such as the wireless transmission of images directly into the EMR for

burn surgeons to overseeing numerous digital implementations. He is also a member of the system governance committee.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Cooperman Barnabas is the only certified burn unit in NJ. Taking pictures of wounds and having them part of EMR is critical for burn surgeons. We worked on an application bringing up the patient lists on the phone, selecting the patient, taking a picture, and transmitting via wireless directly into a folder within EMR. The value to their workflow was significant. We also started a program to donate laptops to underprivileged during the pandemic and have continued this going forward.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? The function of IT leadership has become much more strategical. Understanding the entire health care environment is so critical. It is about adding value at leadership tables, medical executive committees, etc. I believe the role will continue to evolve as we move forward with advances in technology and the changing healthcare environment.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation is important because it can add value to the way health care is delivered. Whether it be through engaging the patient via telehealth or smartphone applications, enhancing workflow for providers of care, or adding insight into critical thinking. We must also make innovation the right innovation. This requires listening to patients and caregivers to get valuable feedback.

INDIVIDUALS



Joseph Sernio

Shoreline Media Marketing Asbury Park, Monmouth County

In addition to being an award-winning actor, Sernio has led the team at Shoreline Media Marketing for the past 13 years in successfully helping companies

get much-needed exposure and leads through web development, SEO, traffic analysis, social media marketing, and much more in the online space.

CFO

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I may have started this, but the team and our clients continue to build it. I am extremely fortunate for the both of them. My biggest contribution to the company are the resources I put in place for not only our growth but our team and clients' growth, too. During the pandemic I saw other agencies collapse due to poor management. I took that as a sign. Clients are going to need these services more than ever. So, I took over a 6,500-square-foot building, hired a few more people and helped clients come back from the loss they suffered.

How has your role evolved over the last five years? To be honest, nothing has changed and I do not want it to. I am not the CEO who sits behind a desk. I am hands-on. Every single client that comes through these doors I am in touch with. Any lead that comes in I speak to. I do not believe in salespeople who sell a service they are not actually doing.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? I research ... a lot. I study ... a lot. If there are tools out there that I can either build or partner with to not only help our industry but also help our clients, I will get it done. We review multiple surveys internally and make sure we know what each client is lacking and what they may need to enhance our service and their tools.

INDIVIDUALS



Anthony Mongeluzo

President PCS, LLC Moorestown, Burlington County

For almost 23 years, Mongeluzo has created the premier IT managed services company in NJ, helping more than 1,800 clients, 200 team members

and essentially leading efforts beyond shared services into cyber security prevention and critical response. He has also provided an unrivaled sense of charitable giving and community stewardship.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Over the past year we have implemented many new technology programs for both internal uses and for our clients. We are utilizing software that combines human interaction with Al to help with cyber security protection, ransomware cleanup, and more. Additionally, we have an automation department that is constantly updating what we do for our clients and the speed at which we can deliver. We have also created a strong partnership with AWS (Amazon Web Services) which is allowing us to strategically offer more offerings.

Why is innovation so important to you? Without innovation, you will cease to exist. I started PCS when I was 20 years old, and now 22 years later, it is impressive to see all of the changes in technology, management structure, services offered, and the evolution of our industry. If we didn't evolve our technology stack and how we operate, we would not be relevant in today's world.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? Typically, I find many of our opportunities to innovate by listening. When I hear something mentioned multiple times or hear different people talking about a similar problem that needs to be resolved, it usually presents an opportunity.

INDIVIDUALS



Sameer Sethi

Senior Vice President, Chief Data and Analytics Officer Hackensack Meridian Health Edison, Middlesex County

Sethi is a seasoned leader and expert in health care data and analytics with a proven track record of enabling use of data and analytical techniques to

drive distinctiveness and deliver transformative impact. He has focused his career on data, technology and innovation for health care providers.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? I view digital/technology as an essential support for clinicians providing care, researchers of medicine and disease, and operators running a health system. My contribution at Hackensack Meridian Health has been identifying, in part, where and how insights and Artificial Intelligence (AI), backed by data, can be most useful and effective—and then embedding its use into their ways of working.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? I have learned over time that if you listen to your customers while keeping an open mind, you can very quickly identify where they need help and create opportunities to innovate. The next step is to collaborate with them on drawing out the art-of-the-possible—and connecting that with how innovative technology has helped others in their field/space. Once you have this in order, you develop a flow of opportunities worth pursuing to advance care delivery and organizational efficiency.

How do you envision digital technology will affect your company in three to five years? More data is being digitized in health care than ever before. The demand in meaningful use of this data is also growing at an exponential rate. To meet this demand, digital technologies are going to be a key focus area for Hackensack Meridian Health.



Nominate Today!

The ICON Honors awards will recognize New Jersey business leaders over the age of 60 for their notable success and demonstration of strong leadership both within and outside of their chosen field.

Nomination Deadline: June 4, 2023



For more information or to complete a nomination, visit njbiz.com/events

Save The Date

Recognition program will be held August 22, 2023.

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

Contact AnnMarie Karczmit at akarczmit@njbiz.com or 732-246-5717



Steven W. Teppler

Chief Cybersecurity Legal Officer Mandelbaum Barrett PC Roseland, Essex County

Teppler focuses his practice on pro-active, preventive and remedial cybersecurity and privacy work, as well as advising on potential class action

and mass tort liability arising from security vulnerabilities and code defects in technology-enabled devices and services. He is a leader in the field of data privacy and cybersecurity, and regularly lectures and teaches on the subject.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Increasing the efficiency, speed and accuracy of responding to discovery in light of the increasing amount of digital data that is generated and stored by organizations, the rising complexity of legal proceedings, the growing adoption of cloud-based services, investigations, and the need to meet regulatory and compliance requirements. The need for eDiscovery tools has increased exponentially at the law firm of Mandelbaum Barrett PC.

What mistake have you made that you learned the most from? Developing patents on technology (with a startup) that was way ahead of its time. Going through the technology development/startup/pilot project phase between 1997 and 2008 fueled a contemporaneous interest in cybersecurity and electronic discovery.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? The cybersecurity field is dynamic, and the practice of cybersecurity law by implication must also be dynamic, and unlike much of the practice of law, is forward looking. Keeping up with this fast paced area of law satisfies my interest in keeping up with technology development in this arena (both good and bad) as well as my goal of helping clients deal with an increasing threat landscape.

INDIVIDUALS



Joshua Weiss

CEO TeliApp Corporation Linden City, Union County

With more than 20 years of computer software, computer hardware, computer infrastructure, cybersecurity and other critically-related technology

experience, Weiss leads TeliApp in delivering technology, IT and cybersecurity services to government clients.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? Focusing on one vertical enables a business such as TeliApp to truly hone in on the needs of our clients. One challenge we had earlier in the company's lifecycle is that our clients spanned multiple verticals, which never lent itself to deep dives into any specific vertical. Once we made the decision to focus on local government technology, we found it much easier to get into our client's headspace and understand what they need.

Why is innovation so important to you? Innovation is the vehicle through which we think creatively, recognize and solve challenges, communicate descriptively and critically articulate through problem solving.

What inspires you to continue in your current profession? I love solving puzzles and challenges. I also love to innovate and find ways to automate processes. The next technological evolution of technology is the security of technology and information systems. To that end, I am currently enrolled in the University of San Diego to obtain my Masters of Science in Cybersecurity Operations and Leadership, and will graduate in 2024. Over the next few years, we plan to launch a solution to help government entities better filter out nefarious incoming network traffic. It's seeing the challenge that requires a solution that inspires me to continue.

INDIVIDUALS



Ravi Vakacherla

Executive Vice President, Chief Digital and Innovation Officer Provident Bank Iselin, Middlesex County

Vakacherla is responsible for the bank's digital initiatives, including strategy, data analytics, innovation, fintech partnerships, information

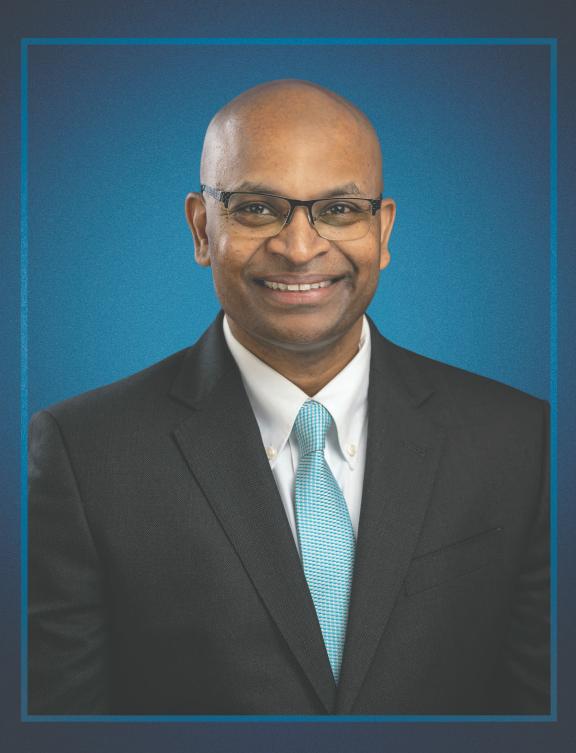
technology, and driving the core vendor relationships. As a member of the Executive Leadership Team, he helps strategize how the bank can continue advancing the customer experience through enhanced digital tools and platforms, product offerings, analytics, services and technologies.

What has been your greatest contribution to your company's growth in the digital technology space? My greatest contribution will be the foundation I am laying for its future success and making our growth exponential. As we prepare to merge with Lakeland Bank, creating a dedicated initiative to accurately assess current technological assets and the processes we use to manage data is pivotal to ensuring successful integration.

Why is innovation so important to you? A misconception people have about innovation is that it has to be disruptive at an enterprise level. Innovation can also be incremental. It means bridging the gap between what we are currently working with and what we need. Innovation, no matter how small, is a step in the right direction and enables us to create a better future as employees and for our customers.

How do you spot opportunities for innovation? It all starts with finding our "why." When bringing a group of people together to solve a problem, I feel we must first ask them what their job is, how they do their job, and finally, why they do it. Gathering this key information allows us to understand better the kinds of pitfalls, hiccups and roadblocks that an individual experiences while trying to do their job.





Congratulations to Ravi Vakacherla, EVP, Chief Digital and Innovation Officer, Provident Bank, on being selected as a 2023 NJBIZ Leaders in Digital Technology honoree.

