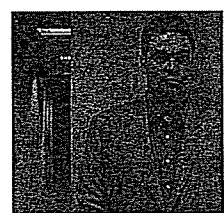


2008 CIO OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS AND FINALISTS

Each year, the Pittsburgh Technology Council recognizes the innovation and creativity of individual technology executives regarding the planning and deployment of enterprise systems, setting goals for the future of IT within their organizations, and establishing a philosophy and culture of service.

Descriptions of the winners of the Pittsburgh CIO of the Year Award for 2008 appear below, along with acknowledgements of the finalists in each category.



CATEGORY: GROWTH
Winner: Mark A. Ohlund,
Pittsburgh Logistics
Systems, Inc.

A shared challenge among CIOs is adequately explaining and reinforcing the value of what their IT functions represent to an organization. Mark Ohlund has met and overcome that challenge, gaining the respect of the Pittsburgh Logistics Systems team.

He has implemented development processes, including prioritization and continuous deployment to add structure to software change requests and the order in which they're processed. These processes concentrate on those efforts the organization believes will have the greatest value to the organization, deploying the functionality as soon as it becomes available – rather than waiting for “big bang” deployments.

The migration at Pittsburgh Logistics Systems to a service-oriented architecture provides the ability to offer a la carte services to customers, more effectively manage development and repurposing services for different workflows, and increase the use of business intelligence systems.

Finalist: Donald Decorte, TeleTracking Technologies, Inc.
Donald Decorte implemented the vision to utilize outside expertise while expanding the size and capabilities of TeleTracking Technologies' in-house IT staff to execute a multi-million-dollar redesign and redevelopment of its patient flow and capacity management applications.

Finalist: Christopher F. Hayes, Net Health Systems, Inc.
Among his many other responsibilities at Net Health Systems, Christopher Hayes has driven the requirements gathering, prioritization and underlying product roadmap efforts to make the firm's products available to currently underserved markets.

Finalist: Laurie Pemrick, McCrory & McDowell, LLC
Working in an atypical fashion, Laurie Pemrick reaches out to co-workers to help them feel more comfortable around technology, providing solutions and building consensus. She has succeeded in cutting costs while creating an efficient and IT-centered environment.

Finalist: Mark Prucnal, Carol Harris Staffing, LLC
Centralizing all company data and revising an entire networking infrastructure represented Mark Prucnal's chief accomplishment over the past year. Once completed, the new centralized system eliminated unnecessary downtime and labor costs.



CATEGORY: ENTERPRISE
Winner: Stacey A. Fedorka,
Union Switch & Signal, Inc.

The successful on-time and on-budget implementation of SAP software across US&S within a 12-month period marked Stacey Fedorka's major achievement last year. It was recognized as the most successful deployment within US&S's parent company.

Under her leadership, a new department was added to the IT organizational structure that never existed before, Business System Analysis.

The in-house business/technology experts serve as “consultants” to the US&S business process owners, helping them to evaluate their operations and to listen and understand their business challenges and opportunities and then subsequently make improvement recommendations to these business leaders.

If the improvements have technology implications, these analysts are responsible for ensuring that the technology changes or additions are planned and implemented correctly. Another newly created role is the manager of IT projects. Creating a culture of “running IT like a business” is important and instituting project management discipline (cost and schedule) and accountability for results is an important element in maximizing the business value generated by the IT organization.

Finalist: Steven Bugajski, Unison Administrative Services
Over the past year, Steven Bugajski employed several emerging technologies to create and maintain business value for Unison and its customers – all while overseeing the logistics and IT support of a major corporate move from Monroeville to Pittsburgh.

Finalist: Suzanne M. Lindahl, Atlas America, Inc.
The rapid growth of Atlas America required critical support from the IT organization. Suzanne Lindahl led this transformation, moving from a focus on application development to a wider view of the entire IT infrastructure.

Finalist: Dr. Ronald Meisberger, Pine-Richland School District
Technology continues to transform education, and Dr. Ronald Meisberger is at the heart of that process, managing the constant influx of technology and the ever-changing environment, while keeping a fiscally sound budget and always placing students first.

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CATEGORY: GLOBAL
Winner: Raj Datt,
Kennametal, Inc.

Raj Datt has effectively aligned Kennametal's Global IT efforts with its various business units to deliver value, enable growth and unlock the potential of information technology.

Datt has accomplished this alignment by restructuring the organization, instituting a winning strategy pertinent to key performance indicators and implementing proven business methodologies such as Lean and Six Sigma. The results demonstrate a 20 percent improvement in the annual IT customer survey. More than 80 percent of all respondents now see the global IT organization as responsive, delivering high-quality solutions, enabling productivity and directly helping to meet the business goals.

As one of the three key strategies for Global IT at Kennametal, innovation is fundamental to delivering increased value and creating a competitive advantage. Datt has actively encouraged a culture of innovation in the areas of people, process and technology. The DRIVE methodology, which incorporates best practices from Lean, Six Sigma and CMMi, was implemented to ensure repeatable processes and has yielded positive results.

Finalist: Kimberly M. Clougherty, Black Box Network Services
After Black Box acquired NextiraOne, a large voice services installation provider, Kimberly Clougherty led the conversion of IT applications, systems, infrastructure and a technical call support center. A concurrent Web site incorporation has since become the template for other similar projects.

Finalist: Louise Lowrey, First National Bank of Pennsylvania
Louise Lowrey helped lead a cultural shift at First National Bank of Pennsylvania where IT was no longer seen as a silo but as an integral part of the banking business, ensuring confidence, reliability and control while not restricting business needs or end-use simplicity.

Finalist: Gary F. Piganell, ANSYS, Inc.
With the continued success of ANSYS, it has become important to reinforce the idea of a team concept where no single individual “owns” any technology, but that there are “leaders” of technology expertise. This critical philosophy drives Gary Piganell's approach to IT at the company.

Finalist: Steven Rowe, LANXESS, Corp.
Steven Rowe is responsible for all of LANXESS' IT activities. His IT responsibilities include strategy and alignment with global initiatives, staffing, personnel development and training, budgeting, capital expenditures, security, communications networks, systems, servers and support/development. ●