

CIO

OF THE YEAR

AWARDS



MICHIGAN CIO OF THE YEAR
ORBIE
AWARDS



MICHIGANCIO

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FROM OUR CHAIR

Brian Shield tells how Michigan's CIOs enabled the largest remote work experiment in history. P. S3



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

To Fran Dramis, the role of the CIO is less about technology and more about being a change agent. P. S4



LEADERSHIP AWARD

Melanie Kalmar of Dow says the CIO has a responsibility to know all aspects of a company's organization – not just information technology. P. S6

The inaugural MichiganCIO of the Year® ORBIE® Awards program honors chief information officers who have demonstrated excellence in technology leadership. Winners in the Super Global, Global, Large Enterprise, Enterprise and Nonprofit/Public Sector categories will be announced virtually on Dec. 11 at the 2020 MichiganCIO ORBIE Awards. For more information and to register, visit MichiganCIO.org/awards.



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CIOs Enable Largest Remote Work Experiment in History



2020 CIO CHAIR

BRIAN SHIELD
VP IT
Boston Red Sox

At the beginning of 2020, no one could have imagined the enormous change we would all experience in the first year of this new decade.

By mid-March, Chief Information Officers everywhere realized their systems and teams would be stretched beyond belief in the largest work-from-home experiment in the history of the world. Thanks

to cloud-first systems, tools and services created by technology innovators we have held virtual meetings, had food and goods delivered to our doors, and remained connected to colleagues, friends and loved ones. We have adapted, survived and adjusted to our new abnormal.

CIOs are leading this overnight virtual transformation from office-based to remote work. Without their planning and implementation of the systems and services to support remote work, conducting business would be impossible under these circumstances. Thanks to Covid-19, there's greater appreciation for CIOs and the technological sophistication required to provide secure, available and scalable systems to enable digital business.

MichiganCIO is an executive peer leadership network focused on helping CIOs

maximize their leadership effectiveness, create value, reduce risk and share success. Convening Michigan's leading CIOs in member-led, non-commercial programs, CIOs build meaningful professional relationships with colleagues facing similar challenges, solving problems and avoiding pitfalls.

From the beginning of this crisis, MichiganCIO members have participated in regular local ZOOM collaborations and national ZOOM calls featuring CIOs from industry, higher education, healthcare and technology. In any gathering of CIOs, the answer is in the room. The challenge one CIO is facing has likely been solved by another CIO. What was their experience? What did they learn? What would they do differently? How could other CIOs benefit from sharing their experiences?

Peer-based leadership groups have incredible ROI when

leaders share a common problem set. The vertical/industry and size/scale may be different, but similar approaches to effective leadership and problem solving are transferrable. Every leader's perspective is valuable and contributes to the conversation - and everyone wins when leaders engage and share ideas, experiences and best practices.

For over 20 years, InspireCIO has been inspiring CIO success through the annual CIO of the Year ORBIE Awards - but this is just the tip of the iceberg. By joining MichiganCIO, technology executives take their leadership to the next level through year-round, member-led programs and interaction. The power of CIOs working together - across public and private business, government, education, healthcare and

nonprofit organizations - creates enormous value for everyone.

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

Sincerely,

Brian Shield
2020 National Chair,
InspireCIO

Tackle what's next

Anticipation. It can uncover new opportunities and solve challenges sooner.

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER - FRANCIS “FRAN” DRAMIS

Beyond technology, CIOs can be ‘instigator of transformation’

Keynote Fran Dramis to address the role of the CIO as a change agent within a company.

By **LESLIE D. GREEN**
Crain’s Content Studio

In his 50 years in the tech industry, Francis (Fran) Dramis has discovered his passions: investing in startup and emerging businesses and helping leaders give meaning to people who work for them.

In addition to comprehending the technical, financial and logistical aspects of running a technology business, the author, investor, retired CIO, and change agent understands what fuels morale and aids employee retention and innovation.

For his keynote address at the Michigan CIO of the Year ORBIE Awards program, Dramis, the former CIO of BellSouth, plans to present the importance of CIOs becoming meaningful interveners in the lives of their employees.

“They need to go beyond the task of just producing output and help the people working for them get meaning from their tasks,” Dramis said.

THE CIO CHALLENGE

“The only way to help an employee get more meaning from their tasks is to know the employee’s endgame. Be an end-of-career facilitator, and you’ll get more employee retention.”

Dramis, who also judges CIO-related awards, is attune with what makes an effective and innovative leader.

While CTOs are purely technically focused, he said, CIOs take what the CTO has and blends that with

their business knowledge. CIOs must convert businesspeople into accepting that technology will change their business processes.

“That kind of nudging is really tough,” Dramis said. “A good CIO will be the instigator of the transformation of a major business. I was always on the cusp of a transformational event that allowed me to do work in a different way.”

As senior vice president, CIO and chief security officer of BellSouth, which AT&T acquired, Dramis was responsible for technology in the company, software connected into public network switches, data and physical security. In other words, he helped BellSouth evolve from being just a phone company to becoming a more connected, technology company.

Long before COVID, Dramis convinced the business leaders he worked with that salespeople didn’t need offices. As long as they had technology, they could work remotely and be more flexible.

“Today, change is upon us because of COVID and other things, and working remotely is the norm,” he said. “A good CIO would have known that’s where it was going in advance and been capable of capturing important information and social

interaction prior to COVID to make remote work happen.” A good CIO also realizes that changes need to be implemented in “digestible chunks,” he said.

“If they implement technology too fast, Bob or Joan, who have been handling it the same way for 10 years and doing it well, may not be able to keep up,” he said.

THE CIO PATH

Dramis, who authored three books, including “The Four Secrets

of Retention: Holding Mindshare in a Transitional World,” has decades worth of advice for seasoned CIOs as well as for those just beginning post-secondary education and considering careers in information systems management.

He said the latter need to begin with a technical background, or platform, to which they add an MBA or MBA equivalent.

“The biggest issues are in the translation process. You need to

speak the language of the business,” he said.

This knowledge is crucial because many leaders don’t know the systems, or assets, supporting them, and good CIOs value their assets.

“If you were running an oil rig, you would know the life of the assets,” he said. “A company’s most important assets are its people; yet, many leaders don’t understand their value.”

Acknowledging the value of one’s technical staff is why when Salomon Brothers Inc. approached him about being a managing director and CIO, Dramis told them he wouldn’t take the job unless he could make the technology portion of the company a separate entity.

“When you treat technology people like back office people, that’s what you get.,” he said. “By making technology a separate company, the tech people could be treated like front-office employees. By making them front-office employees, you attract more skilled workers.”

TRANSFORMING A LIFE

Dramis was mentoring someone in his architecture group at Salomon Bros. when he learned the man wanted, at the end of his

career, to make a presentation to the national science foundation. So, the pair looked out for the credentials needed to do so and Dramis mapped out an incremental plan that could get him to that point.

The plan included becoming a consultant, joining a venture capital group, earning his Ph.D. and becoming a notable scholar, all of which required skills the man didn’t yet have. But the man started by learning to write and make presentations.

Dramis left Salomon and the men lost touch. But four years later, he picked up a magazine and saw among a list of the four hottest technical consultants a photo of his former mentee. Years later, Dramis learned he was lead technical person at a venture group. Years after that, Dramis discovered the man had become a professor and liaison between his university and all government entities.

“As I walked into the office, we celebrated that he was there based on the plan that was put together so many years before,” Dramis said.

If people get only one idea from his keynote address, Dramis hopes it’s that leaders are intervening in people’s lives every day. That intervention can be task- or meaning-focused, but it’s the latter that’s truly consequential and transformative.

“The only way to help an employee get more meaning from their tasks is to know the employee’s endgame. Be an end-of-career facilitator, and you’ll get more employee retention.”

ABOUT FRAN DRAMIS

- Fortune 500 senior executive
- Corporate board member
- Angel investor
- Author, mentor, speaker

“A company’s most important assets are its people; yet, many leaders don’t understand their value.”



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CIOs should speak in terms of value, impact – not technology

By **LESLIE D. GREEN**
Crain's Content Studio

Successful business leaders understand that IT strategies are foundational elements to corporate strategies and their tech workforce are critical strategic partners to leadership and clients.

“Unlike just five years ago, CIO’s now need to know all aspects of a company or organization, such as traditional manufacturing, supply chain operations, how financials in the company are run, security and the latest in technology, not to mention customers’ tastes and demands,” said Melanie Kalmar, corporate vice president, CIO and Chief Digital Officer for The Dow Chemical Company.

“At Dow, we’ve changed the narrative within our teams to talk about technology as business drivers and value creators for the company, customers and employees. ”

Kalmar is the 2020 recipient of the Michigan CIO of the Year ORBIE Leadership Award. She earned a degree in management information systems from Central Michigan University and took on roles at Dow that helped her understand how technology could solve business issues on a large scale.

CIOs and their teams touch every part of a company every day, “putting them in a unique position to accelerate collaboration across an organization and get alignment on where best to invest in digital resources that will drive the most value for the company and customers,” she added.

More often, companies are looking to CIOs to help improve

employee and customer experiences.

“Gone are the days of pushing out the latest new capabilities and then moving on,” Kalmar said. “Here to stay is business-aligned prioritization with shared ownership for change management and adoption to ensure we get the value and continuous improvement needed.

Among other initiatives, Dow also gathers data through market-listening capabilities that, integrated with machine leaning and advance modeling, allows it to develop products faster.

Looking to improve performance in sustainability, the company developed a mobile friendly, web-based lifecycle assessment tool to provide information regarding

the environmental impacts of associated products and services and digital technology to reduce its carbon footprint and improve compliance.

A CIO’s biggest challenge, Kalmar said, is helping an enterprise understand that digital isn’t just an IT thing but a crucial corporate function. She said this requires CIOs to speak in terms of value and business impact and not in terms of technology.

“At Dow, we’ve changed the narrative within our teams to talk about technology as business drivers and value creators for the company, customers and employees. The more we’ve linked digital to outcomes in business terms, the more employees understand what’s in it for them, and the more we’ve been able to get them excited

about playing a role in our digital acceleration,”

Just as IT strategies shouldn’t be limited to information systems functions, tech employees shouldn’t be relegated to being backroom service providers, she said.

“Members of our CIO teams are now embedded into functional and business teams. They’ve

taken on new, ‘hybrid’ roles where they become fluent in business drivers and can translate those into digital strategies. But that is just the start,” Kalmar said. “These teams represent all functions and businesses, and by working together have become key in delivering the right capabilities and getting the right engagement to deliver successfully.”



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network would like to recognize our own Bill Fandrich, senior vice president and chief information officer, for being named a 2020 Michigan CIO of the Year® ORBIE® Awards finalist. With more than 30 years of experience in health care and information technology, Bill brought his expertise to Michigan following similar roles in Boston at Beacon Health Options and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts. Bill’s work providing critical IT operations and strategic technology leadership within our company has played an invaluable role in bringing excellent service to our members. From processing more than 44,000 health care claims every hour to paying more than \$72 million per day for our members’ care and benefits, our IT team is the backbone of our daily work. We are grateful for Bill’s leadership in advancing strategic and secure technology solutions to serve our members and customers.



MAMATHA CHAMARTHI

CIO & CDO, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles

Chamarthi is leading Fiat Chrysler Automobiles' transformation from full-line automaker to a customer-centric mobility services company. She has made it her business to turn the conventional approach to technology on its head. Previously she was responsible for ZF Friedrichshafen's digital strategies and helped transform Consumers Energy/CMS Energy into a customer-value driver.

SUCCESS STORY

"In my current role, I am redefining the role of technology with the key objectives of customer centricity, employee centricity and technology leadership, to position our company from a traditional full-line automaker to a customer-centric mobility company. I have accelerated this transformation in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis by creating a north star for Fiat Chrysler to be a "Customer Centric Mobility Company", and brought together our cross-functional executive leadership to strategize and accelerate execution of the transformation.

In addition to my professional accomplishments, my personal passion is to close the leadership gap with women in technology."



FIAT CHRYSLER AUTOMOBILES



MATT FAHNESTOCK

SVP & CIO, Dana Incorporated

Fahnestock oversees Dana Incorporated's enterprise IT and cybersecurity strategies and global IT operations. He chairs the cybersecurity steering committee, serves on the digital strategy committee and is leading the company's journey to the cloud initiative. Previously Fahnestock held positions at Columbia Pipeline Group, Rolls-Royce Energy, Ford Motor Company, Johnson Controls Automotive and Ernst & Young.

SUCCESS STORY

"As I reflect on the past several years of our journey, I believe what has changed the most is our team's ethos. Together we have transformed ourselves into a team that is committed to excellence, innovation, learning, strategic risk-taking, and a partnering approach to delivering IT and serving our partners and customers. This evolution in team ethos has been the critical success factor for developing transformational and digital strategies that are changing DANA. Perhaps our motto is a quote from Mother Teresa, 'I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things.'"



MICHELLE GREENE

VP IT, Masco Corporation

Greene is responsible for aligning the IT strategies and initiatives supporting Masco's corporate functions and overall business objectives. She also directs the planning and implementation of corporate IT solutions and oversees and develops the company's IT shared services and information security policies and guidelines. Previously Greene held roles at Johnson Controls Inc. and Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications.

SUCCESS STORY

"Since taking this role during March 2018, I partnered with my IT leaders to restructure the organization and transform the way we 'show-up' ensuring we were building a high-performing IT team focused on strategic alignment with our business. Strategic IT Business Partnership has established a clear role within our global enterprise and this has earned us a 'seat at the table'. Historically, Masco IT has operated in a very decentralized manner. I have been successful 'influencing without authority' ensuring we are moving our global enterprise in the right direction and centralize where it makes sense for our enterprise."



STEVEN ZERBY

VP & CIO, Owens Corning

Zerby leads the Global Information Services organization which includes all Owens Corning information and advanced manufacturing technology. He is a leader in driving change to deliver business alignment and results. Previously he held roles at Marathon Oil Company and NCR Corporation. Zerby was recognized by Computerworld as one of the 100 premier IT leaders in the U.S.

SUCCESS STORY

"The evolution of our IT team and as a great place to work is the accomplishment I am most proud of... Beginning in 2013, we began to build a culture and mindset focused on teamwork and connection of people; in 2019 we were named as the #1 Best Place to Work in IT, in America, by Computerworld. We have the benefit of industry top quartile retention, including retaining 100% of our college hires for the last 6 years, with a single exception. Building an organization of accomplishment, humility, and a total focus on teamwork has been a terrifically satisfying accomplishment."



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Paul Blowers, thank you for keeping us at the forefront of technology change and digital innovation.

We're proud you were named a finalist for the Michigan CIO ORBIE Awards. We appreciate your contributions to our staff, our firm, and our long-range vision for excellence.

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**CONGRATULATIONS
STACY CARRON**

for being named a 2020
Michigan CIO ORBIE® Awards Finalist

This recognition is well deserved. Thank you for your leadership in driving innovation and #RelentlessExcellence at Stout.





THOMAS FARRINGTON

EVP & CIO, Perrigo Inc

In addition to his roles at Perrigo, Farrington serves as President of the Perrigo Foundation. Previously he served as Senior Vice President and CIO at Perrigo, CIO at F. Dohmen Co., and as a director of the American Lung Association, Midland States.



SUCCESS STORY

"Perrigo's mission is 'To make lives better by bringing Quality Affordable Self-care Products that Consumers trust wherever they are sold'. What a privilege it is for myself and my staff to be part of Perrigo's success story, seeing first hand how the work we as IT leaders in support of the digital enterprise is making lives better. There is no greater professional reward."



JOHN HILL

CIO & SVP, Business Planning, Carhartt

Hill works with Carhartt's senior leadership team to define its technology strategy for the company's growth objectives. He leads the teams responsible for planning and executing initiatives to meet the company's technology vision while ensuring that informational systems are available and secure.



SUCCESS STORY

"Recognizing a competitive opportunity, Carhartt continued to accelerate its digitalization journey in 2020 despite the pandemic. We simultaneously embarked upon replacing our ERP systems, our point of sale system, our eCommerce platform, and our planning system while at the same time migrating our data center and adopting a cloud first approach. This digitalization effort includes a re-imagining of all key business processes as part of the ERP implementation. This effort culminates a five-year journey in which all of the key applications and infrastructure within Carhartt were either developed or replaced."



RAMAN MEHTA

CIO & VP, Visteon Corp

Mehta leads all facets of global information technology, including designing, developing and implementing global IT platforms and business processes to increase performance and help Visteon leverage technology as a competitive advantage. He is passionate about connected and autonomous vehicles and applying emerging AI technologies for Industry 4.0.



SUCCESS STORY

"Enabling a new way of Digital Native thinking plays a big role in creating the IT architecture that transcends from traditional IT to product IT. As Visteon products become much more configurable and complex; we needed to shift from mechanical and electrical engineering to software engineering. Raman is spearheading DevOps to enable the global product development organization to deliver high-quality software at lower cost, higher velocity and improved quality. As we bring AI into our products, our industry 4.0 hybrid-cloud enabled smart factories; IT is also leading with AI/ML/RPA tools that enable self-healing infrastructure to improve resiliency & cyber-security."

DTE

**READY FOR 2020.
THANKS TO
STEVE AMBROSE.**

Over the years, our CIO has been a leader for DTE and Michigan—engineering a better customer experience, inspiring young Michiganders' passion for science and more. And this year, it was Steve who powered DTE's virtual-work transformation. So, congratulations for being a 2020 MichiganCIO ORBIE® Awards finalist. It's well-earned.



**Dana congratulates the finalists for the
2020 Michigan CIO of the Year® ORBIE® Awards**



We applaud the talented individuals who were named as finalists for the 2020 Michigan CIO of the Year® ORBIE® Awards. And a special salute to Matt Fahnestock, Dana's chief information officer, for being selected as a finalist in this year's class. Congratulations, Matt!



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STEVEN AMBROSE

VP & CIO, DTE Energy

Ambrose is responsible for securing, operating and applying the company's information technology assets. Prior, he was director of enterprise performance management and chief of staff to the CEO. He joined DTE in 1998 and has served in a variety of roles.

SUCCESS STORY

"As CIO, I am proud to lead an organization that is committed to delivering on our company's aspirations and is a solid business partner. With our top quartile Gallup employee engagement scores, the team has substantially improved operational performance of our critical systems and delivered a consistently high quality portfolio of projects. These achievements are a testament to the hard work of DTE's IT professionals. In addition, this team has been recognized three consecutive years as the highest volunteer hours by employees demonstrating the connection our team has to the DTE aspiration to be a 'force for good.'"

DTE



JASON BRESSLER

EVP & CTO, United Wholesale Mortgage

Bressler leads a team of more than 850 IT employees; his work involves the development of intuitive technology platforms that help independent mortgage brokers grow their businesses.

SUCCESS STORY

"I am proudest of building out X-programs. Like our company culture, I don't care what you studied in college, we look for team members that want to excel. UWM has given me the opportunity to invest in whom we hire, enabling me to bring in people that know little about IT allowing them to explore career paths like Software Developer, Business Analyst, Data Services, or Quality Assurance. After a 12-week training, they're placed on teams working in the field they studied – a distinct model from other businesses. They grow in skill sets and mature by having seasoned team members as mentors."

UWM
UNITED WHOLESALE MORTGAGE



ANITA KLOPFENSTEIN

CIO, Little Caesars Enterprises

Klopfenstein is responsible for the strategic direction, development, deployment and maintenance of technology across the organization. She is known for her track record of developing software products and team management in internet, enterprise and manufacturing operations.

SUCCESS STORY

"Over the past three years we have been developing a world class digital customer experience. Little Caesars has launched the Pizza Portal, the world's first heated self-service mobile order pickup station for our customers. Delivery drivers use the Portal, resulting in some of the fastest, hottest deliveries in the industry. Our redesigned POS system provides an easier graphical interface; reducing errors and training time while improving efficiency. We have developed some 'secret sauce' machine learning tools ensuring customers get what they want, when they want it. Keep ordering Little Caesars to see what exciting innovations we come up with next!"



SANGY VATSA

EVP, Global CTO & CDO
FIS (formerly Comerica)

Mr. Sangy Vatsa is the EVP, Chief Technology and Digital Officer of FIS Global. As a seasoned Chief Information, Technology and Digital Officer with a track record of accelerating growth and maximizing value, Vatsa has delivered such value in progressive leadership roles at Fortune companies like American Express, Ford Motor Company and Comerica Bank. He is currently responsible for digital transformation at FIS Global.

SUCCESS STORY

"I am humbled and grateful to several people for making this industry recognition possible for me. It is a testament to my former team at Comerica Bank, invaluable experiences from American Express and Ford, and industry leaders who unconditionally invested in me. The recent digital transformation at Comerica was immensely worthwhile and Two-in-a-Box Model played a vital role. I was able to partner with my tech team, colleagues across the bank and technology suppliers to co-deliver exciting new business capabilities. In my new role at FIS, I am thrilled to collaborate to deliver new capabilities for our colleagues and customers."

FIS

MASCO CORPORATION CONGRATULATES

Michelle Greene

Finalist for the 2020 Michigan CIO of the Year Orbie® Award

This recognition is a testament to your experience, professionalism and leadership. Thank you for driving innovation every day and for your dedication to our culture of excellence. We are proud to have the best-of-the-best in Michigan technology as part of our team!

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**Congratulations to the 2020
Michigan CIO of the Year
Award Winners and Nominees**



DAVID BEHEN

VP & CIO, La-Z-Boy Incorporated

Behen is responsible for IT strategy, cybersecurity, enterprise architecture, ERP deployment, network optimization and procuring new technologies at La-Z-Boy, ensuring optimal technology performance and cybersecurity in support of growth and success across manufacturing and retail operations. Previously, he served as CIO and Director of the Department of Technology, Management and Budget for the State of Michigan.



SUCCESS STORY

"The name of this project is the La-Z-Boy IT Reinvention. The goal is to change the way we perform IT at La-Z-Boy and to transform the company using technology and innovation. We are reinventing how we look at people, processes, technology, organization and innovation with a major focus on customer service and cybersecurity. Our mission is to create a culture of accountability that is empowering, responsible and fun; to build partnerships that are credible, collaborative and business focused; and to thrive on innovation, creativity, and customer service!"



PAUL BLOWERS

CIO, Plante Moran



Blowers oversees Plante Moran's strategic technology vision, delivering secure digital services on demand and enriching client relationships with new digital capabilities. Since he became CIO in 2014, Plante Moran has successfully begun implementing its five-year technology vision, been recognized with CIO 100 Innovation and InformationWeek Elite awards for digital progress, and named one of ComputerWorld's 100 Best Places to Work in IT.

SUCCESS STORY

"Amid the pandemic, technology has been our secret weapon. Our IT team transitioned our firm (more than 3,000 staff in 25 offices) to a remote work environment over just one weekend. We've supported leadership townhalls, social communities, and parents navigating virtual schooling, all while delivering client service productively and securely. In one example, we created nearly 10,000 portal sites for our tax clients in mere hours. This digital agility and speed didn't happen by accident; it's the intentional result of doubling the size of our IT and technology investment over the past five years. And it's why we're thriving today."



JENNIFER CHARTERS

EVP & CIO, Flagstar Bank



Charters leads IT organization and technology strategy for Flagstar. Previously, she served as CIO of Corporate Technology at Ally Financial and in consulting at Accenture, where she led strategic projects in support of Fortune 500 companies in the telecommunications and financial services industries.

SUCCESS STORY

"My greatest accomplishment was leading the IT team through the early days of the pandemic. Almost overnight, we migrated 3,300 people to a fully remote environment, ensuring that every employee could work safely and effectively from home. We quickly deployed equipment, such as laptops, desktops, mobile hotspots, and headsets. We also expanded our network bandwidth and increased VPN server capacity to support our remote teams. Then when Flagstar needed a system for small businesses to apply for loans through the Paycheck Protection Program, in 36 hours we built a portal to take applications and process the loans."



Congratulations!
Matt Spivey

Mission Veterinary Partners

*Finalist for The Michigan CIO
of the Year ORBIE Award.*

"Matt has implemented systems to increase efficiency, accountability, and customer service in our hospitals and home office. He has been an invaluable member of the MVP team and we congratulate him on this accomplishment. Thank you, Matt, for all you do at MVP!" — Michael Aubrey, CEO at MVP

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MICHIGAN CIO OF THE YEAR
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YOUR TEAM**



InspireCIO is launching the first cohort of a new talent development program called Next Gen Leader, an exclusive benefit of MichiganCIO membership.

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Up to \$500 million annual revenue



STACY CARRON
CIO, Stout

Carron oversees management and planning for the firm’s internal technology assets and infrastructure, as well as the assessment, implementation and delivery of client technology solutions. She led Stout’s infrastructure migration to a cloud-first platform and implements security systems and platforms to combat and scale the firm and its clients along the ever-changing security landscape.



SUCCESS STORY

“Leveraging IT to solve business problems excites me most. For instance, in 2018, we moved our entire infrastructure to Azure cloud. The intent was to save money and drive efficiency but we’ve also prevented significant business interruption and unplanned costs. During COVID, we have seamlessly supported a 100% remote workforce without any productivity losses. We’ve also quickly scaled in response to frequently changing business needs, which has allowed us to increase revenue while managing costs to a greater degree than ever before. I’m confident that we’re well positioned for the future and eager for the next challenge.”



ANDREW FREY
CIO, OneMagnify

Frey works with technologically advanced Fortune 100 corporations providing enterprise solutions. His speciality is optimizing big data applications. Frey has honed his knowledge as a leading technologist. He is the chairperson of Experience IT, a nonprofit technology training program, and also a member of the Wayne State University Big Data and Analytics Advisory Board.



SUCCESS STORY

“OneMagnify is proud to be a Finalist for Michigan CIO of the year in addition to being recognized by CIO magazine with the CIO100 award as one of the top 100 global IT organizations for 2020. The awards recognize our technology innovation as well as our cultural and community contributions. All OneMagnify team members have participated in our success and enable our IT organization to be one of the best. I am grateful for the great team we have, who work hard but find time to volunteer hundreds of hours to help the communities in which we work and live.”



ELIZABETH KLEE
CIO, Urban Science

Klee balances driving new technical capabilities with business values. She is responsible for providing internal technology needs with relentless drive and industry insight. Klee leads the delivery arm of the Power of 4th products and services. Previously she was a Managing Director at Accenture, creating methodologies to mobilize, manage and deliver complex contracts.



SUCCESS STORY

“Technology is a huge part of Urban Science’s history and success. Partnering with the business, I am proud to lead our awesome global IT organization in the transformation of Urban Science’s Best-in-Class, analytical technology products to the next generation. We have driven efficiency to develop new analytical and data driven technical products, while reducing time to market; optimizing our infrastructure; supporting our people’s growth; and significantly enhancing existing product business capabilities ultimately increasing client value.”



MATT SPIVEY
VP IT, Mission Veterinary Partners

Spivey oversees all aspects of technology for Mission Veterinary Partners. His nearly 20 years of technical leadership in the healthcare industry also include IT Operations at Rainbow Rehabilitation Centers and Director of IT at Great Expressions Dental Centers. He has served on Eastern Michigan University’s College of Technology advisory board for 10 years.



SUCCESS STORY

“The greatest accomplishment in my current role encompasses the development of a department that did not exist before my arrival, the management and quick but thoughtful decision-making for IT alongside of 328% company acquisition growth, and the strategic dissemination of dealing with the myriad of issues that plagued the company as a result. In less than 18 months, a team has been established to support 125 hospitals (2500+ employees), dramatically improve cost savings, while simultaneously deploying and unifying innovative hardware and software, problem solving, and using strategic insight and technology to plan for the future.”

Congratulations
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Congratulations to our CIO Andy Frey for being named a Michigan CIO of the Year® Orbie® Award Finalist.

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ONE LEADER COMBINES TECHNICAL WIZARDRY WITH OLD-FASHIONED HEART.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ELIZABETH KLEE ON BEING A MICHIGAN CIO OF THE YEAR ORBIE AWARDS FINALIST.

At Urban Science, technology helps keep us at the top of our game across a global network. But it’s our people who make us an industry leader.

Elizabeth Klee embodies the best of both.

Elizabeth heads the team driving Urban Science’s technology development to make our next generation even more effective. Her uncanny ability to quickly understand clients’ business needs and create an aligned, relevant technology roadmap has made an impact since her first day, and it’s just one of many reasons she’s such a worthy nominee for this award.

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CIO OF THE YEAR AWARDS

NONPROFIT/PUBLIC SECTOR FINALISTS

Government, Education, & other Nonprofit organizations



WILLIAM FANDRICH

SVP & CIO
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Fandrich provides critical IT operations and strategic technology leadership, enhances the connection between business strategy and technology and develops strategies and plans to transform BCBSM's IT operations to meet future demands. He has more than 30 years of experience in health care and information technology.



LESLEY MA

VP, CIO & CDAO
NSF International

Ma leads strategic initiatives enabled through digital technology innovation. These programs have included global insourcing and outsourcing, large-scale system implementations in sales and marketing, purchasing, supply chain, finance, and infrastructure functions. In her current role, she is VP, CIO, CDAO and MD of a commercial unit at NSF International.



NSF International



BETH NIBLOCK

CIO, City of Detroit

Niblock was tapped by the Obama Administration to serve as part of a team of technology officials to support the City of Detroit. It was her first introduction to the city. Today, Niblock is managing significant upgrades to infrastructure and all major systems (financial, HR, 911 and dispatch, police, fire and EMS) across the city.



RAVI PENDSE

VP IT and CIO, University of Michigan

Pendse provides university-wide leadership and strategic direction for information technology. He is also a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. He has secured more than \$21 million in external research grants and published numerous scholarly articles co-authored with students. His research interests include Internet of things, cybersecurity and future of work.



SUCCESS STORY

"Over the past few years, the Blue Cross business operating model has evolved significantly with IT's transition from a reactive solutions provider to a key partner in the ideation and creation of enterprise and business strategies that encompass a full integration of IT programming. I'm proud of how we've been able to work more collaboratively to enable new process methods related to agile, customer-designed thinking, analytics, etc. My team doesn't just manage IT – we focus on how to engage with the business to develop more efficient practices that meet the unique and ever-changing needs of our customers and members."

SUCCESS STORY

"NSF International has been dedicated to protecting and improving human health for more than 75 years. In 2020, NSF's Board of Directors recognized the escalating importance of technology to advance this important mission. They hired Lesley Ma, as CIO, to create a global IT vision and drive digital transformation within the organization. In a short eight months, Lesley helped create a data-driven culture within IT, enabling IT to further influence overall business operations during the pandemic. The success of this initiative has led our Board of Directors to invest in a multi-year data strategy."

SUCCESS STORY

"Since moving to Detroit in 2014, Niblock has transformed the way Detroiters interact with city government. Visible to most citizens are new apps that make it easier to interact with government. What is not always seen is the work it took to get the city ready for easy-to-use applications like the DDOT Bus App or an easy to navigate website. Starting with a complete refresh of city computers, Niblock has led the systemic update or replacement of systems and pushed to create the city's first Open Data Portal, giving city residents more information about how their local government runs."

SUCCESS STORY

"Being a servant leader, I believe my greatest accomplishment has been to affect culture change and help our organization work collaboratively as one team. It is important to listen, learn, and understand culture. Leveraging the passion everyone had for this amazing institution, we set a sticky yet simple goal, 'University of Michigan will be the leader in appropriate use of technology among our peers and in the world.' When we had to move 100,000 faculty, staff, and students to remote work and learning for the pandemic, we delivered. We enabled this seamless transition as one ITS team. Culture matters."

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