2023 Annual IT and Innovations Conference

Thursday, October 26, 2023
8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
The Alloy King of Prussia
301 W. Dekalb Pike, King of Prussia, PA

Agenda

8:00 a.m.  Registration/Continental Breakfast/Exhibits Open

8:30 a.m.  Welcome
– Neal Lesher, Director of Government Affairs, PA Chamber of Business and Industry

8:35 a.m.  AM Keynote
Confronting Cyber Threats
– Darin Murphy, Special Agent, Cyber Crime Unit, FBI

9:35 a.m.  Creating A Culture of Innovation Panel
– John Astfalk, Chief Information Officer, S&B Construction USA
– David Brantley, Product Manager, Flashfood
– Neal Lesher, Director, Government Affairs, PA Chamber of Business and Industry — Moderator

10:30 a.m.  Refreshment Break/Exhibits Open

10:45 a.m.  Cybersecurity
– Kathleen Hohenadel, Director, Cyber & Analytic Solutions, Lockheed Martin Space
– Jeremy Young, CEO, Federal Resources Corporation
– Shena Tharnish, VP, Secure Networking & Cybersecurity Solutions, Comcast Business Solutions
– Bill Miller, Senior Member Executive, PA Chamber of Business and Industry — Moderator

11:45 a.m.  Lunch

12:00 p.m.  Autonomous Innovations
– Matt Blackburn, Senior Manager, Government Affairs, Aurora
– Ted Dengel, Managing Director of Operations Technology and Innovation, FedEx Ground
– Jon Anzur, Vice President, Public Affairs, PA Chamber of Business and Industry — Moderator

1:00 p.m.  PM Keynote
– Prasanna (Sonny) Tambe, Associate Professor of Operations, Information and Decisions at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania

2:00 p.m.  Adjourn
Speakers

Darin Murphy, Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia, FBI

Darin Murphy is an FBI Special Agent assigned to the Philadelphia division's criminal cyber squad. He has 20 years of experience investigating a variety of cybercrimes for the FBI and has a Bachelor's and Master's degree in computer engineering.

John Astfalk is the Chief Information Officer of S&B USA Construction. With 15 years of experience in both the business and technology sectors, John leads the design and execution of technological strategy with the company's business approach in mind. He is responsible for network and storage infrastructure and partnering with business leaders to streamline business processes to maximize software solutions. Additionally, he is responsible for the adoption of industry methodologies across current and emerging technologies.

David Brantley is a Product Manager at Flashfood, an app-based marketplace that strives to eliminate retail food waste by connecting consumers with discounted food nearing its best-by date. In this role, David oversees development and innovation for improving the experience of the company's retail partners.

Prior to Flashfood, David worked in Belgium as a Product Manager at Delhaize, the country's leading grocery retailer. Other previous roles include project management, competitive strategy and operations management at brands like UPMC and The GIANT Company.

In 2019, David founded a small business loyalty app and continues to have a deep passion for supporting locally owned and operated small businesses.

David serves as an independent director on the boards for The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education Foundation and The Grotto of York. He holds degrees in marketing and international business from Shippensburg University and currently resides in York, PA with his loving wife, Yajaira.

Matt Blackburn, Senior Manager, Government Affairs, Aurora

Matt Blackburn joined Aurora as Senior Manager of Government Relations in March 2021, after spending nearly 15 years working in the U.S. Congress. Matt's career on Capitol Hill began in March 2003 when he began working for then-Congressman Pat Toomey in his DC office.

In January of 2005, Matt began working for the late U.S. Senator Tom Coburn M.D. of Oklahoma. Matt supported the Senator's role on the Senate Judiciary Committee, covering topics such as intellectual property, international trade, and visa and immigration reform. In 2010, Matt served as the Policy Director for Pat Toomey's successful U.S. Senate campaign. After the campaign, Matt returned to Pittsburgh to become the Senator's Western PA Director, a post he held for nearly 11 years. During this time, he served as a Senior Advisor to U.S. Senator Toomey on issues including economic development across the Commonwealth, Pittsburgh's unique infrastructure challenges, and oversaw the process for the selection and placement of United States District Judges across Pennsylvania.

Matt is a proud native of Erie, PA and a graduate of Gannon University. Matt resides with his wife Christy and their three children: Emma, Matthew, and Hannah in Saver, PA.
Ted Dengel, Managing Director of Operations Technology and Innovation, FedEx Ground

Ted Dengel is the Managing Director, Operations Technology and Innovation, for FedEx Ground. In this role, Ted leads a team of technology professionals responsible for the research, development, implementation, and support of field-based technologies at FedEx Ground. These technology areas include automated parcel sortation, mobile and fixed automated data collection (scanning, imaging, weighing, and dimensioning), robotics, and artificial intelligence.

Ted also chairs a FedEx enterprise-wide technology council focused on identifying common technology solutions across all FedEx operating companies and ensures collaboration and consistency in the application of new technology.

Ted has more than 28 years’ experience at FedEx Ground in operations technology and other operations engineering functions. He holds a bachelor’s degree in industrial management from Carnegie Mellon University and a master’s degree in industrial engineering management from the University of Pittsburgh.

Kathleen Hohenadel
Director, Cyber & Analytic Solutions (CAS)
Lockheed Martin Space

Kathleen serves as the Cyber & Analytic Solution (CAS) Director supporting the Lockheed Martin Space Mission Solutions line of business. In this capacity, she is responsible for the development of the cybersecurity growth strategy focused on cyber resiliency and defensive and offensive cyber operations across numerous customer sets across the DoD.

Kathleen’s prior positions within Lockheed Martin include Network Defense Portfolio Senior Program Manager within Rotary & Mission Systems (RMS) Cyber Solutions business area where she was responsible for bringing together collective cyber capabilities to solve complex cyber challenges. Her portfolio included Global Information Grid (GIG) Services Management Operations cybersecurity effort supporting DISA; United States Postal Service support; and the Cyber Inside Program providing experts across the business areas. She was also the Security Engineering Defense Cyber Operations Sr. Capability Manager. In this role, she was responsible for 300+ FTEs, staffing leadership of 60+ programs, and staffing technical support, requisitions for over 100+ proposals/year. During this time, she supported the program management office of the Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center (DC3). Before that role, she was a Bid Manager as part of an IDIQ Task Force to review, disposition, and generate proposals for 10+ IDIQ contract vehicles, reviewing 300 task orders a month.

Kathleen joined Lockheed Martin in 1996 as a software engineer and has spent a large portion of her career in capture and program execution. She has supported both domestic and international roles in Germany, Japan, Australia, and all over US. She has a passion for cybersecurity, process improvement, team building, and high-quality deliverables. She is a graduate of the Program Management Development Program (PMDP) and was awarded the prestigious RMS Team Excellence Award for cyber workforce development and awarded the Enterprise Operations Team Excellence Award for Cyber Program Resiliency.

Kathleen holds a bachelor’s degree in Mathematics & Computer Science from Immaculata University and a master’s degree in Engineering Science from Pennsylvania State University. She is an avid volunteer supporting Junior Achievement of Southeastern Pennsylvania chapter where she was awarded the Centennial Volunteer Award. In addition, she spends her time with the LM Women Impact Network (WIN) efforts focused on organizing events with schools to encourage more girls into engineering.

Jeremy Young is the Chief Executive Officer of Federal Resources Corporation, a Mission Focused Cybersecurity and Privacy company headquartered in Downtown Erie’s West Bayfront neighborhood. He is a Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of The Year Finalist, seasoned technology and consulting executive with 25 years of experience leading organizations inside Fortune 500 Companies, Small Medium Businesses, and Private Equity focusing in the Public Sector marketplace.

As the CEO of Federal Resources Corporation, Jeremy leads an organization that was recently ranked #235 in the Inc. 5000 list of the top 5000 “Fastest Growing Privately Held Companies in America”. Additionally, FRC was awarded a spot on the prestigious “Great Place to Work” List of Global Companies.

Along with his role at FRC, Jeremy is a Managing Partner at Vector Resources, Incorporated, a leading professional services provider to the National Nuclear Security Administration inside the US Department of Energy.

You will also see Jeremy’s name with JYOUNG Enterprises, LLC, which is an impact holdings company focusing efforts on real estate and economic redevelopment projects and ventures.

Originally from Erie, Jeremy is extremely passionate around the opportunity to drive economic and community growth in his hometown, home state, and surrounding region. This entrepreneurial journey has offered many experiences and lessons that he takes pride in sharing with professionals as they navigate their careers and personal missions.
Shena Seneca Tharnish joined Comcast Business Services as VP2, Cybersecurity Product Management in late February 2017 and now has responsibility for Secure Networking & Cybersecurity solutions. She joined after serving as SVP, Enterprise Network Infrastructure at PNC Bank for 5 years in Pittsburgh, PA, and as a Senior IT leader at The Home Depot, Inc. for 12 years in Atlanta, GA.

Shena leads a team of product and program management professionals that address common network and security challenges with targeted solutions and services for businesses of all sizes. She has an unwavering commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and serves as the National Champion for Comcast Cable’s newest Employee Resource Group, Indigenous @ Comcast.

Shena has over 25 years of experience in IT – leading and managing engineering, development, and product management organizations. Prior to joining The Home Depot, Shena worked as a Network Consultant with carriers MCI WorldCom and Concert Communications (BT/AT&T), designing wide area networks for businesses.

Shena Seneca Tharnish earned her EMBA from the Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University, and her undergraduate in Telecommunications Engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in New York.

When not working on Secure Network & Cybersecurity solutions, Shena enjoys the outdoors, listening to music, exercising, and attending sporting events with her husband and three sons.

Sonny Tambe, Associate Professor Operations, Information and Decisions and Co-Faculty Director of AI at Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania

Prasanna (Sonny) Tambe is an Associate Professor of Operations, Information and Decisions at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. His research focuses on the economics of technology and labor. Recent research projects focus on 1) understanding how firms compete for software developers, 2) how software engineers choose technologies in which to specialize, and 3) how AI is transforming HR management.

Much of this research has uses Internet-scale data sources to measure labor market activity at novel levels of granularity. His published papers have analyzed data from online job sites and other labor market intermediaries that generate databases of fine-grained information on workers’ skills and career paths or on employers’ job requirements. He is a co-author of “The Talent Equation: Big Data Lessons for Navigating the Skills Gap and Building a Competitive Workforce,” published by McGraw Hill in 2013.

His research has been published or is forthcoming in a number of academic journals including Management Science, Information Systems Research, MIS Quarterly, The Review of Financial Studies, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, Communications of the ACM, and Information Economics and Policy and it has been supported by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. His research has also won a number of awards, including the Best Published Paper in Information Systems Research and two papers have been nominees for the Best Published IS Paper in Management Science. He currently serves on the editorial board of Management Science and in the past, has served on the editorial board of Information Systems Research.

Professor Tambe received his S.B. and M.Eng. in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and his Ph.D. in Managerial Science and Applied Economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Neal Lesher, Director of Government Affairs, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry

Neal Lesher joined the PA Chamber as a Government Affairs Director in October of 2022.

Prior to joining the PA Chamber, Lesher served in senior leadership positions with the state House of Representatives, including serving as Chief of Staff to the Speaker of the House and as the Director of Policy and Communications for the Appropriations Committee Chairman. He also has executive branch experience, serving as the Legislative Director for the Governor’s Budget Office under the Corbett Administration. Lesher also worked for the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) as their Legislative Director.

Lesher has lived his whole life in central Pennsylvania and graduated from Susquehanna University in 2008 with a bachelor’s degree in Political Science.
Bill Miller, Sr. Membership Executive, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry

Based in the Pittsburgh area, his responsibilities include developing relationships with current and prospective Investor members, including membership sales and retention, member relations and serving as a liaison for the business community throughout the western counties. Miller’s twenty-year career includes public affairs and strategic communications for a diverse set of clients and employers within the health care, energy, financial services, housing, non-profit, and manufacturing sectors. Miller’s community leadership includes serving on the board of the Network of Hope and volunteering with the Boy Scouts of America. He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Communication from Ohio University and is a graduate of the Public Affairs Council’s Public Affairs Institute.

Jon Anzur, Vice President, Public Affairs, Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry

Jon Anzur is a Mechanicsburg native with a decade of experience managing communications and political campaigns at the state and federal levels. Anzur most recently served as chief of staff and campaign manager to Congressman Fred Keller (PA-12). As Congressman Keller’s top political and legislative aide, Anzur managed Keller’s successful special election campaign—the first of the 116th Congress that attracted involvement from both national party committees — and successful re-election effort, as well as his Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania legislative offices.

Anzur also previously worked as a top aide to former Congressman Lou Barletta, managing Barletta’s U.S. House re-election and U.S. Senate campaigns and serving as communications director in his Washington, D.C. office. At the state level, Anzur worked in both the legislative and executive branches in Harrisburg in a variety of communications roles for Gov. Tom Corbett and the Pennsylvania General Assembly. He graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pittsburgh.