

Presented by



Partner Report

May 2013

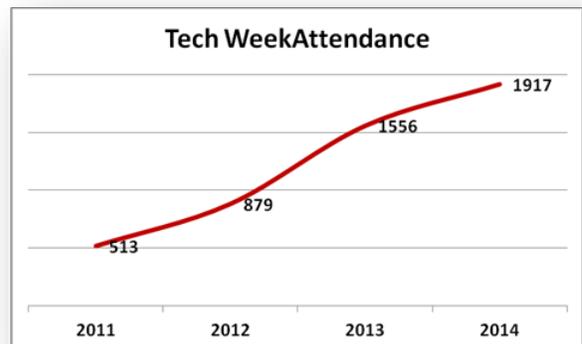
Summary

When we launched Tech Week in 2011, our objective was simple: to expand upon our Best of Tech awards and increase awareness of the IT industry in Northeast Ohio.

We accomplished our modest mission that first year and so sought to expand our focus: to celebrate, connect, engage and support the regional IT industry.

We continue to meet that expanded goal with new partnerships and by working to connect virtually all constituents in the regional IT ecosystem. Tech Week now includes programming and partnerships supporting entrepreneurs, executives, students, educators and other supporters of the IT industry.

Through these efforts, we're very proud to note that Tech Week participation has nearly quadrupled in just four years, from 513 attendees in 2011 to 1,917 in 2014. These results are an incredible testament to the growth, vibrancy and energy of the regional IT industry!



With the tremendous growth and community support for Tech Week, we wanted to provide our board, partners and key stakeholders with a summary of our programming and activities.

Thank you for your support. We're looking forward to another incredible Tech Week in 2015!

Sincerely yours,

Brad Nellis
Executive Director
NEOSA, The COSE Technology Network

Programming and Participation



This year’s Tech Week featured ten (10) events, two fewer than 2013; with attendance ranging from 15 to 340 individuals.

The high end of the scale was reached by TechPint, a new event to Tech Week in 2014 while the low end was the Space Apps Challenge. The NASA event was surprisingly low, but competition with other hacker events, a Yuri’s Night party and Palm Sunday may have

all combined to negatively impact that event’s attendance.

Final event totals, provided by our partners:

Event	Attendance	Event	Attendance
<i>TechPint</i>	345	<i>Start Up Weekend</i>	182
<i>Crain's CIO of the Year Awards</i>	300	<i>Co-Op Speed Networking (Tri-C)</i>	82
<i>NEOSA Best of Tech Awards</i>	286	<i>Pitch Night with SIM</i>	79
<i>Linking IT Talent to Opportunity (GCP)</i>	240	<i>NASA Space Apps Challenge (NEOSA/NASA)</i>	15
<i>Get IT Here! Annual Summit (R.I.T.E.)</i>	203		
<i>KSU IT Career Expo</i>	185	<i>TOTAL</i>	1917

Another key component of Tech Week is the Virtual Job Fair hosted by Global Cleveland. We don’t include those numbers in the above reporting since participation is virtual. However, given that talent is such a critical issue within the tech community, this job fair is an integral, important part of Tech Week.

This Virtual Job Fair was open from Friday, April 11 through Friday, April 18 and was promoted nationally through a variety of media. Participation consisted of **22** companies posting **77** open positions with more than **315** job-seekers participating. **Sixteen** states and **2** countries were represented by said job-seekers.

In addition to exceptional attendance results, a pair of other successes included integrating various elements of Tech Week with one and other and extending the Tech Week brand more effectively. The NEOSA Best of Tech Awards include recognition of our high school winners in the CoolTech Challenge, NEOSA’s annual scholarship contest. The top winners in this year’s Challenge, Team WeKan from North Royalton HS, also presented on their project at the Get IT Here! Summit on April 11 in addition to receiving recognition and scholarship funds at the Best of Tech Awards dinner on April 17.

Furthermore, Hotel Hounds, winners of Cleveland Start-Up Weekend on Sunday night (April 13), made a business pitch at Pitch Night w/SIM (Monday), spoke at Tech Pint (Wednesday) and spoke again at the Best of Tech Awards (Thursday).

Finally, Tech Week branding was extended throughout the week through signage, program books and speaking roles at every event during the week. Doing so helped anchor all of the events to the week, helping to raise the profile of the entire industry even further.

As one can see, Tech Week not only celebrates industry leaders and their accomplishments, it also supports the industry through active engagement with educators, students, entrepreneurs, executives and others while offering the opportunities to specifically address talent needs on an individual company basis.

Tech Week Awards

Significant components of Tech Week are the awards programs: CoolTech Challenge, CIO of the Year, and Best of Tech.



Four Schools, eleven teams and 27 students participated this year and shared in more than \$12,000 in cash and prizes; bringing our seven year total to more than \$65,000 awarded. Details can be [found here](#).

Forty-eight IT executives were nominated this year to be considered for the award. Fourteen finalists were selected and winners chosen in five categories, along with Dr. Martin Harris receiving the Terabyte award for career achievement. Editorial coverage is [here](#); awards dinner videos are [here](#).



More than sixty nominations were submitted across seven categories this year, including two new categories: *Tech Team of the Year* and *Best Dive/Application Innovation*. Our judges selected twenty-five finalists and eight winners: MCPc, American Greetings, SpearFysh and others. Details can be found [here](#).

Tech Week Moments

We've captured some great images from many of the events during Tech Week. *Click on the pictures below to access the photo galleries.*



Pitch Night: nine tech firms pitched to local IT execs, sharing why their product was great and why these executives should buy from them.

[Pictures are here.](#)

Best of Tech Awards: the 7th annual awards featured recognition for Best Software Product, Most Promising Start Up, Tech Company of the Year and more.

[Pictures are here.](#)



Get IT Here! Annual Summit: presented by the RITE board, this annual Summit featured inspiring keynotes by Joe LaMantia of e-Ventus and Bill Blausey, CIO of Eaton Corp.

[Pictures are here.](#)

Tri-C's Co-Op Speed Networking event featured more than 80 participants actively meeting with local employers looking to fill co-op and internship positions.

[Pictures are here.](#)



GCP's *Linking IT Talent to Opportunity* connected twenty-eight local tech firms to more than 150 job-seekers, record turnout for the GCP.

[Pictures are here.](#)

Crain's *CIO of the Year Awards* dinner, presented by NEOSA, featured awards for public companies, non-profits, mid-market private companies and more.

[Pictures are here.](#)



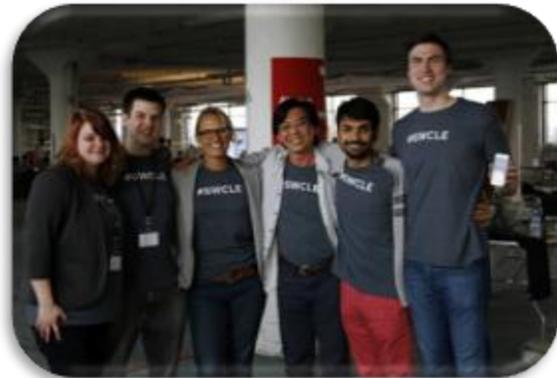


TechPint, a mini tech conference in a bar, attracted an enthusiastic crowd of early-stage tech entrepreneurs and supporters.

[Pictures are here.](#)

Cleveland Start Up Weekend featured high-energy tech entrepreneurs developing cool, start-up business ideas.

[Pictures are here.](#)



Special thanks to our partners and supporters

