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THE CONNECT 25



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THE CONNECT 25

2007 Connect Readers' Choice Awards

25 People Who Most Influenced Business in Utah

This past year has been a period of astounding growth for Utah's economy, driven by politicians, entrepreneurs, CEOs, educators and philanthropists, among others. These men and women – in industries ranging from banking to film – are the 25 most influential business leaders in Utah this year, as ranked by Connect's readers.

This year's additions include individuals, such as Josh James, the youngest CEO of a U.S. publicly traded company (Omnicore), Jason Perry, the governor's economic executor, and Jill Miller, who has turned Sundance into a premier U.S. film festival.

Though these leaders may differ drastically in terms of industry, age and style, we found a few common traits. For example, "Good to Great" was the most frequently cited book that has had the greatest impact on their leadership style. Listening, many of them told us, is the trait that has helped them most succeed. Nearly half are natives of Utah; the others come from Africa, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, India, Minnesota, and one nomad who grew up in several Eastern states and overseas said, "I guess I'm not really from anywhere!"

At Connect, we rely on our readers to help determine the movers and shakers in Utah business. In the end, it all comes down to their opinions. So without further adieu, here's our readers' choice list of the 25 men and women whose influence most helped to transform business in Utah during 2007.

By Kathryn Peterson

Photos by Kevin Kiernan



**President and CEO,
FatPipe Networks Inc.**

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In June, Ragula Bhaskar added another line to his already long list of accomplishments. He became chairman of the Governor's Office of Economic Development. In this capacity, his main mission is to grow the economy by retaining and attracting Utah companies.

Bhaskar's nearly two decades in the high-tech industry has garnered much respect among community leaders. FatPipe has five times been ranked in the top 25 of MountainWest Capital Network's 100 fastest-growing companies in Utah. The Salt Lake-based company, which holds multiple patents related to Wide Area Networks, was founded by a Bhaskar and his wife, Sanchaita Datta.

FatPipe has a worldwide customer base of 1,000, including hotel chains, law firms and software companies. This year, FatPipe ranked No. 36 in Inc. 5000's "Top Companies in Securities," and No. 2,127 overall. Deloitte Technology Fast 500 also ranked FatPipe as the 381st fastest growing company in North America in 2006.

Which book has had the greatest impact on your leadership style?

"The Age of Discontinuity," by Peter F. Drucker.

Which trait has helped you most succeed?

Hard work and helping others.

What's your favorite thing to do in your leisure time?

Gardening and dining with friends.

What's your favorite TV show?

"How It's Made."

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