

STORIES /

Ocean State Update: The Biggest Rhode Island Tech & Startup News From December

Email

Facebook

LinkedIn

Twitter



Photo Credit: kickstand, Getty Images
kickstand

By Courtney Gabrielson

December 28, 2018, 01:10am EST

At the end of every month, we recap the biggest tech and startup happenings in Rhode Island. We have an archive of past roundups [here](#). To get this info weekly (Tuesday afternoons, to be exact), sign up for the Rhode Island Inno Beat [newsletter](#).

Let's take a look.

1. Rhode Island-based CAI Software LLC has acquired Casco Development LLC, a Portland, Maine-based developer of ShopVue (“a manufacturing execution system”), the Providence Business News [reports](#). Casco will keep its offices in Maine, and CAI Software will add 22 new employees to its team through the move.
2. Inc. [has named](#) Providence as No. 44 on its “These Are the 50 Best Places in America for Starting a Business” list. Topping the rankings? Austin, Salt Lake City and Raleigh.
3. More like innovation alert? A 9,400 solar panel array replaces Johnston’s former A Street landfill, the Providence Business News [reports](#). The panel will help power both Providence and Johnston. Now that’s what I call driving change for the better.

4. Not everyone is exactly thrilled about the CVS and Aetna merger. Pharmacy groups [have spoken out](#), and they're not alone in their wariness. "While Americans have radically different views on how to bring down skyrocketing health-care costs, there seems to be a bipartisan consensus that increased consolidation among remaining health care behemoths is not the answer," writes doctors Ken Fisher and Marion Mass [in an op-ed for The Hill](#).
5. Providence-based Virgin Pulse, "the largest global health and and wellbeing company," announced that it acquired Dallas, Texas-based Viverae. The latter company, which specialized in wellness management, recently rebranded as SimplyWell [after acquiring the Nebraska-based company in 2017](#). While terms of Nov. 27-announced deal were not disclosed, a release on the move said that together, the two companies will "deliver the technology, live services, partner ecosystem, analytics, personalization, global reach and scale required to engage employees every day and help them achieve their health and wellbeing goals."
6. The U.S. Navy has selected Rite-Solutions, a Middleton-based software and IT development company, as one of 23 companies participating in its five-year, \$561.2 million contract, [the company announced](#) in a statement. Together, these 23 organizations will work with the Navy to create "future generations" of Unmanned Undersea Vehicle Family of Systems.
7. Deborah Godfrey-Brown, a University of Rhode Island graduate who also served on staff as a nursing professor, has announced a pledge of \$1 million in scholarships for the College of Nursing, Providence Business News reports. Dubbed the Deborah Godfrey-Brown Nursing Scholarship, it "will target state residents – particularly undergraduate minority [students]," the report [states](#).
8. That's not the only URI money move. In fact, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Acer Access and Development program [has given the school](#) a three-year, \$499,427 grant. Its use? Studying whether maple syrup has any health benefits.

Keep Digging



Rhode Island Inno Approved: September tech & startup events



The biggest Rhode Island tech & startup news from August



Ocean State Update: The biggest Rhode Island innovation news from July



Rhode Island Inno Approved: August tech and startup events to know abo



Ocean State Update: June's Biggest Rhode Island Tech & Startup News

SPONSORED CONTENT
by JLL

[What are the cost implications of 2022's top](#)

SPONSORED CONTENT
by Principal Financial Group

[Grow your small business with these 5 strat](#)

Spotlight

[More](#)



10 Rhode Island Startups to Watch in 2021

[See More >](#)



Ecosystem Guides

[See More >](#)

Want to stay ahead of who & what is next? Sent weekly, the Beat is your definitive look at Rhode Island's innovation economy, offering news, analysis & more on the people, companies & ideas driving your state forward.

Share the Beat

Sign Up

[Back to Top ▲](#)

RHODEISLANDINNO

[User Agreement](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)
[Your California Privacy Rights](#) | [Ad Choices](#)

© 2022 American City Business Journals. All rights reserved. Use of and/or registration on any portion of this site constitutes acceptance of our User Agreement (updated as of 1/1/21) and Privacy Policy and Cookie Statement (updated as of 1/1/21). The material on this site may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, cached or otherwise used, except with the prior written permission of American City Business Journals.

