

MASSACHUSETTS
HIGHTECHNOLOGYCOUNCIL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 6, 2017

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**Mass. High Technology Council Marks 40th Anniversary
At 2017 Annual Meeting
Featuring Inaugural Ray Stata Leadership and Innovation Award,
CNBC “Top States for Business” Founder Scott Cohn and
Keynote Address by Governor Charlie Baker**

***Governor and Founder of CNBC Top States for Business Discuss Technology-Based
Economic Development and State Competitiveness***

The Massachusetts High Technology Council today hosted its 2017 Annual Meeting **presented by Analog Devices, Brooks Automation, Chelsea Clock, Kronos, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Parthenon-EY, People’s United Bank and PTC.**

The Council celebrates its 40th anniversary this year and to help mark the milestone it is bestowing the inaugural **Ray Stata Leadership and Innovation Award** on **Aron Ain, CEO of Lowell-based Kronos Incorporated.**

The Council will award the Stata Award from time to time to a technology industry leader who is currently active in Massachusetts and exhibits the key leadership qualities and commitment to philanthropy and civic engagement possessed and demonstrated by Massachusetts technology pioneer, **Ray Stata**. Stata, founder of **Analog Devices** and the co-founder and first president of the Massachusetts High Technology Council, has a global reputation as a dedicated and successful industry leader and ardent advocate for cultivating talent and investments in research and innovation. He is retiring this year after 40 years of continuous service as a member of the Council’s board of directors.

“It is humbling to accept an award dedicated to someone I respect as much as Ray Stata”, said Ain. “We have shared values dedicated to driving business, innovation, and education in Massachusetts. Ray has always set the pace by the way he built a family-first culture, valuing his team members and caring about their well-being and future. I carry these lessons with me each and every day, and these same core values are engrained in the Kronos culture. Inspired by Ray’s example, we have created our own magic at Kronos and it’s been key to our success. I am honored to receive this recognition, and will always cherish its meaning.”

“Our 40 year history of impact has been built on the active engagement of technology leaders like Ray Stata who commit their effort and expertise to the advancement of the technology economy in Massachusetts and provide leadership to civic and philanthropic causes beyond their own self-interest,” said Council President Chris Anderson. **“Aron Ain has an exemplary track record of just that type of true leadership and it is fitting that he was recognized as the recipient of the inaugural Ray Stata Leadership and Innovation Award today.”**

The event featured a keynote address on the Massachusetts technology sector and economic competitiveness from **Governor Charlie Baker**. Soon after the Council’s founding in 1977, Baker joined it as one its first employees, before leaving for business school and a three decade career in public service and the private sector.

“For forty years, the Massachusetts High Tech Council has played an integral role in making Massachusetts a highly competitive state,” said Governor Baker. **“We look forward to continuing our work with the Council on the economy, STEM education and advanced manufacturing to help ensure Massachusetts remains one of the most competitive states in the country.”**

CNBC Special Correspondent Scott Cohn, who founded the **CNBC Top States for Business** rankings in 2007, provided attendees with an in-depth look at how CNBC aggregates data, along with expert input and analysis, to assess and rank the economic competitiveness of states. CNBC will announce its 2017 Top States later this summer. Massachusetts was ranked 20th in both 2016 and 2015. Massachusetts was ranked among the top 10 states from 2009 to 2011, but has ranked no higher than 16th over the past 5 years.

Cohn urged Massachusetts and every state that seeks to ensure and improve its competitiveness to “close skills gaps, mind their infrastructure quality, balance business cost burdens with benefits provided to companies and citizens, and accentuate the positive aspects of their state.”

CNBC’s Top States for Business is one of four independent national rankings used to supplement the dozens of primary data points captured in the Council’s own 50-state competitiveness dashboard: the Massachusetts Technology, Talent and Economic Reporting System or “MATTERS”.

Under the leadership of outgoing Council Chairman **Bill Achtmeyer, Founder of Parthenon and Senior Managing Director of Parthenon-EY**, the Council made significant upgrades to MATTERS in 2016, adding an Executive Competitiveness Insight Survey and a brand new TechNAV feature that provides dynamic, deep-dive asset maps of the state’s key technology sectors and clusters.

“We know that continuously moving Massachusetts forward requires data-driven policies and initiatives and a clear-eyed assessment of our competitive strengths and weaknesses”, said Achtmeyer. **“That is why a dynamic data aggregation and assessment tool like MATTERS is so important.”**

The 2017 Annual Meeting was the last under the Chairmanship of Achtmeyer who will be succeeded by **Aron Ain**, the Council's Vice Chairman since 2015. **Udit Batra, CEO of Millipore Sigma** will replace Ain as Vice Chairman. Council members reelected **Jim Boyer (Executive Professor, Northeastern University)** as Treasurer and **Mike Kendall (Partner, Goodwin Procter)** as Secretary.

Members also re-elected 34 incumbent directors and the following 3 new directors at the Annual Meeting:

Darren Donovan, Office Managing Principal, KPMG LLC

Vincent Roche, Chairman, Analog Devices

Jane Steinmetz, Managing Principal-Boston Office, Ernst and Young

About the Massachusetts High Technology Council – www.mhtc.org

The Massachusetts High Technology Council is the oldest and only cross-sector association of technology, professional services, and higher education CEOs and senior executives in Massachusetts. As advocates for public policies and programs that create and maintain a healthy and competitive business climate, the Council has lead winning strategies for 40 years.

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