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100 Most Promising Technology Companies

Entrepreneurs across the globe are regarded as key drivers of economic and social progress. The current scenario has evolved and carries quite a lot of untapped potential, which if utilized strategically would result in successful outcomes. The evolution of technology has led to fundamental changes in the way organizations used to function. With the urgent need to adapt to these technologies, organizations worldwide are forced to deviate from the conventional ways of doing business. Along with incorporating new technologies, business leaders have to tackle the centuries-old challenges of limited budget, finding the right strategies, hiring and retaining talent and others. In short, current entrepreneurs have the tough task to take an organization through these challenging times, which require out-of-the box strategies.

However, it should be noted that these challenges are potential opportunities in disguise. For instance, the emergence of cloud, big data, mobile, Internet of Things and other technologies have been instrumental in enhancing business growth at all levels. The global economic dynamic

calls for strategic use of these technologies to maintain an edge over others in the highly competitive world. Therefore, the focus should be on unearthing the potential hidden in these challenges.

In order to help enterprises across the globe gain useful insights into the latest technologies, keeping pace with these trends, the critical challenges, overcoming these roadblocks, future-oriented approach and other vital aspects on running an enterprise, CIOReview presents the 'CIOReview 100'. This is an annual honor for the best 100 technology companies in the U.S.

To address the burning need of CIOs to find cost-effective and flexible solutions, the CIOReview100 list brings successful companies together at one place. These companies have gained momentum, beating the current challenges, and would be sharing helpful information on how they achieved it. A distinguished panel comprising of CEOs, CIOs, Analysts and CIOReview editorial board scrutinized several companies to finalize the 100 best technology companies.



Company:

Open Systems International, Inc.

Description:

A provider of an advanced set of software for electric utilities

Key Person:

Bahman Hoveida,
CEO

Website:

www.osii.com

Open Systems International, Inc. (OSI): Empowering an IT-centric Automation Strategy for Utility Operations

By Benita M

Power grids have become the most critical aspect of infrastructure for modern society. It is difficult to calculate the economic and societal cost of disruption to the energy supply chain that encompasses a complex set of processes and resources that requires being monitored, controlled and optimized. Materializing this requirement is Open Systems International, Inc. (OSI), by offering an advanced set of software for electric utilities to securely and efficiently operate their production, transport and supply of electricity to customers. Traditionally, these systems have been technologically antiquated and very expensive to implement, operate and maintain. Alleviating this concern, OSI has successfully developed several modern software platforms for utilities that enable an IT-centric approach to implementing these controls and monitoring systems. The software from OSI can be used by any firm involved in management of networks belonging to various domains such as electricity, gas, water or transportation.

Since its inception in 1992, OSI has served clients in all verticals. These include major airports and transportation companies who are amongst the users of OSI software along with traditional electric utilities, to name a few. OSI's products are used worldwide to manage renewable energy. OSI hosted services are used by a number of renewable companies and smaller utilities to manage their assets. Larger utilities tend to host and own the software at their own facilities due to stricter security and performance requirements. In addition, OSI software has been in use for managing large campuses such as universities or large institutions. Some of the companies forming a part of their remarkable client list are Pacific Gas & Electric, Portland General Electric, Constellation Power, Calpine, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, Consumers Energy, First Energy and others. In addition, utilities from Chile, Mexico, Peru, Colombia, New Zealand, India, Vietnam, Australia and several other countries comprise their foreign client list.

"Many of our clients realize the benefits of OSI's advanced technology from the start. The lower cost of implementation and maintenance, along with lower platform costs are the immediate differentiators that OSI customers can realize," points out Bahman Hoveida, OSI's president and CEO.



Bahman Hoveida,
 President & CEO

The Key Strategy

The standout approach incorporated into OSI's strategy is defined by better technology, customer support and reduced ownership cost. Currently, well recognized as the industry leader, the firm is poised to be the only dominant supplier of automation software to more than 80 percent of the market within five years. OSI products are exclusively made in the U.S. and the far-reaching network of international partners effectively deploys these products.

OSI products include Energy Management Systems for Transmission Utilities, Generation Management Systems for Generation Utilities and Distribution Management Systems and Smart Grid applications for Distribution Utilities. The software systems offer advanced analytics for monitoring and controlling the flow of electricity. Further, the advanced situational awareness tools enable vital information for exceptional power grid management.

Going forward, OSI's main strategies revolve around large investments in Big Data and Cloud, as they believe that private clouds operated by electric utilities are the future-defining trends. A single automation cloud in a utility company could manage all of its automation needs from generation, transmission, distribution to customer outage management and many others. 