



## Company Background for WTIA

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Founded in 1984 by volunteers from what, at that time, was a very small industry, Washington Technology Industry Association (then known as the Washington Software Association) was created with the idea that members would gather to share knowledge, helping both themselves and their young companies.

Those companies grew, in size and in number, into an industry providing software for business productivity, networking and telecommunications, education, engineering, healthcare operating systems, database and general business applications. With the growth of the Internet and the explosion of innovative technology products and services, Washington Technology Industry Association (WTIA) expanded along with the changing industry, to include all technology companies, to meet the needs of our members.

When the WTIA first opened its doors, the staff consisted of one part-timer and fewer than 100 members. Today we have a dedicated full time staff, numerous volunteers, a large board of directors that provides valuable strategic direction for our organization, and 1,000 members representing more than 125,000 technology sector employees in Washington state, and over one million employees worldwide.

The WTIA is the largest statewide association of technology professionals, companies and IT departments in North America. The WTIA exists to support businesses across all technology sectors and company sizes. Our members include established industry leaders, technology startups, IT departments, and companies who help the industry grow and thrive in Washington state. By providing connections, discounts and advocacy, we help you build key relationships, lower your cost of doing business, and make sure critical technology industry issues are addressed in government.

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