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JIM WOLFORD

CEO/Owner

Jim Wolford is not a typical CEO. Born in Nebraska as the youngest of five siblings, Jim did not have an affluent upbringing. Jim started a lawn care company at thirteen to fund himself through private high school and university. Today, Jim owns and is the Chief Executive Officer of three companies, employs over 300 people, and has brought in hundreds of millions in revenue over the past decade.

In 2001, Jim founded Atomic Data on his understandings of management of risk and leveraging IT to serve the needs of business. Today, Atomic Data is one of Minnesota's leading IT services providers and serves 600+ clients throughout the nation. In the mid 2000's Jim purchased Foundation Technologies and subsequently turned it into a highly successful IT services firm targeted towards the creative, Apple and Mac-driven businesses. His latest venture, a BBQ food-truck turned restaurant, was a passion project that enabled him to spread his love of proper barbecue to the residents of Saint Paul.

Jim does not serve on any boards--no board would be able to handle his blunt delivery or fast-paced decision-making. Instead, Jim assists a wide variety of non-profit organizations with technological consultation and strategic direction, also garnering fundraising for them in the process. Through Jim's companies, he has sponsored and supported more than 40 non profits, contributing more than 10% of profits to local and international causes. Jim's companies regularly support the community through organized volunteer projects, and Jim has striven to build the business culture around the fundamental principle of giving and volunteering. Some of the groups closest to Jim's heart are:

Prior to his entrepreneurial streak, Jim was the Chief Business Strategist at Visi.com where he grew the business-to-business client base to over ten thousand clients. Preceding Visi.com, Jim developed his foundation in sales and corporate risk management at Mutual of Omaha, Mass Mutual and Melnychuk Financial. Jim is a graduate of St. Johns University. When not working, Jim enjoys spending time with his wife and two children, traveling, cigar smoking, and building volunteer networks.

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Atomic Data is the largest of Jim's three companies. Employing 250 full-time staff in downtown Minneapolis, Atomic Data is an IT as a Service provider serving a wide variety of clients and industries.

MEDICA® DQ Great Clips® PrairieCare

MINNESOTA UNITED FC KEYSURGICAL® REVEL

MERIDIAN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BENTZ WHALEY FLESSNER HENNEPIN COUNTY MINNESOTA CANTERBURY PARK

Founded in 2001, Atomic Data orginally offered data center colocation services in the Minneapolis market. Shortly thereafter a clear need was identified around support, monitoring, networking, and other wrap-around services. Today the core offerings include: Professional Services, Enterprise Infrastructure, Implementation, Security & Compliance, Cloud, Support & Monitoring, and Architecture. As the company has continued to experience rapid growth, two key problems have arrisen: a lack of qualified talent in the Twin Cities market, and a need for physical space.

SUMMIT ACADEMY OIC

Through a unique partnership with Summit Academy, Atomic Data has developed a solution to aleviate the first problem and in doing so, blazed a trail for training and hiring underserved members of our community. The goal of the program is to diversify the Twin Cities' I.T. workforce and help address the staffing shortage issues within the field.

"With our region facing I.T. worker shortages, we have an incredible opportunity to train people for good, long-term career opportunities and bring diversity to the I.T. workforce," said Summit Academy President & CEO Louis King,II. "This exciting new program is a key part of building a better economy in our region and connecting new employees with long-term, sustainable jobs in the I.T. field."

The new program includes two sequential 20-week training programs to prepare graduates for employment as a Service Desk Technician or a Network Operations Center Technician. As part of the program, each student enrolled will be offered a paid internship at Atomic Data. As of December 2019, 74 students have gone through the program and 30 have been hired as full-time employees.

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 FOUNDATION
Technologies

Foundation Technologies is an Apple Authorized Service Provider offering hardware repair, on-site support, mobile device deployments, network assessments, and more. Currently headquartered in the North Loop at Atomic Data's former headquarters, The Foundation employs 30 and is also experiencing a growth surge. Foundation clients are generally Mac and iOS-heavy businsesses that lack their own IT staff. Some well known clients include: