

# **CONNECTIONS** NEWSLETTER

**SPRING 2024** 

# **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Valued Clients,

Welcome to the Spring 2024 edition of our Connections newsletter. The sun is shining here in California, and I hope you and your families are enjoying great weather in your part of the country. Today, I'm excited to share the latest updates from Wescom Resources Group.

Our client roster is growing, and WRG is pleased to welcome five new UNITRI managed services clients to our family: Eastex Credit Union, SafeAmerica Credit Union, Affinity Credit Union, People First FCU and Niagara's Choice FCU. We also welcome our newest Tellergy branch automation client, EECU.

As we shared in the Winter newsletter, WRG continues to invest heavily in our infrastructure. In this edition, we're excited to announce a new partnership with TrustGrid, the provider of a next-generation SD-WAN designed for the credit union industry. You can find more details about how this partnership will benefit our clients later in this newsletter.

We're also growing our team! We recently promoted Martin Pham to be our new Product Manager. And make sure to check out our Employee Spotlight on Almaz Isakov, IT Solutions Consultant, who joined WRG this past fall.

In this edition, we cover all the latest happenings at WRG, including our upcoming conference appearances and a very special charity event that was made possible by our generous vendor, CDW.

At WRG, we're committed to serving you and helping the credit union movement remain strong and vibrant. Thank you for your ongoing loyalty and support!



Sincerely,

Dave Cerwinski

dcerwinski@wescomresources.com

# WELCOME NEW CLIENTS





Des Moines, IA \$142 Million Assets 13,596 Members



Evalde, TX \$116 Million Assets 10,981 Members



Niagara, NY \$255 Million Assets 10,981 Members



Allentown, PA \$859 Million Assets 72.277 Members



Pleasanton, CA \$527 Million Assets 37,057 Members





Fort Worth, TX \$3.5 Billion Assets 269,919 Members

## PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

# WRG PARTNERS WITH TRUSTGRID TO ENHANCE CLIENT CONNECTIVITY

After an extensive evaluation, WRG is pleased to announce our decision to move WRG client connections to Trustgrid  $^{\text{TM}}$  Connect, a next-generation SD-WAN designed to serve the unique needs of the credit union industry.

器 trust**grid** 

Trustgrid is already widely used by more than 1,200 credit unions and banks—including many of WRG's clients.

The solution maintains an industry-leading 99.99% uptime service level agreement (SLA) standard. Trustgrid Connect is also very cost-effective, as it leverages direct internet connections through diverse paths and providers to ensure optimum redundancy and failover.

WRG's Projects and Network team has already started working on the Trustgrid deployment, and we expect to enable our first client connections in the coming months.

Once the Trustgrid foundation is deployed, we'll seek to move existing client connections to the platform in order to provide better overall visibility and connections management. What's more, the Trustgrid architecture will allow us to rapidly activate new connections for our clients and business partners.

"The Trustgrid team is excited to welcome WRG on board and look forward to helping WRG deliver the best, most secure solution," said Joe Gleinser, President and COO of Trustgrid.

This investment reinforces WRG's ongoing commitment to providing our clients like you with industry-leading connectivity and technology infrastructure to meet your evolving needs.

# CONNECTIONS

### **EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT**

# **ALMAZ ISAKOV, IT SOLUTIONS CONSULTANT**

One of our newest team members, Almaz Isakov joined WRG as an IT Solutions Consultant in September 2023. He brings nearly 15 years of IT experience to the role, and has been a RedHat Linux Certified Engineer since 2014. This month, we asked Almaz to share some details about his career and personal journey.

### Q: Tell us about your career journey. What was your path to your current role at WRG?

Al: I started my IT career in 2010 as a System Administrator, focusing mainly on Linux and VMware. Throughout my IT experience I learned a lot every day and I still do. Considering all the new technology and solutions that are being added to the IT stack, I try to keep up to date with the latest and most relevant information.

### Q: What does the role of IT Solutions Consultant entail?

Al: My current role consists primarily of supporting new and existing WRG clients with Linux and VMware, along with other financial applications. We are in the process of a major migration project that is enabling our clients to transition to a more robust and simpler OS solution (RedHat Linux), while also giving them a performance boost with the applications.

# Q: What do you most enjoy about working at WRG?

Al: I enjoy being part of a team that really cares and supports your growth. Ever since I started here, I have felt tremendous support from everyone, and received prompt and straightforward communication. I am very happy with our company's culture and diversity, and I'm proud to be part of it!

### Q: What is your favorite aspect of working with WRG's client credit unions?

Al: I enjoy working with my fellow IT engineers from other credit unions who offer great support, and I'm proud to be able to help them solve their complex IT needs. The more I get involved in the processes the more interesting it gets.

# Q: What do you like doing outside of work?

Al: I like to spend time with my family. We hike, walk and jog and enjoy being outdoors. I am a bit of a handyman at home and there is always something to take care of, in addition to keeping my vehicles in working order.

# Q: Is there anything you'd like to share about your family and personal journey?

Al: I am a father of three boys! Our oldest was just two years old when we moved to the U.S. and he's now a sophomore at Irvine Valley College. He was just accepted to the University of California, Irvine! Our other two boys are still in high school and middle school. We moved to the U.S. from a small Central Asian country called Kyrgyzstan, which is one of the 15 former Soviet Republics. This move was a big challenge, to say the least, but I believe we made the right decision. My native tongue is Kyrgyz, and I also speak Russian (almost as fluently as Kyrgyz!) as well as English.

# Q: What advice do you have for your fellow WRG team members?

Al: So far, all I can say is keep up the great work and be proud to be part of Team Blue!

# **SEE YOU AT THE CONFERENCE!**

Spring conference season is well underway, and WRG is on the road again. You can catch us at these upcoming industry events. Please stop by our booth and say hello!

**Trellance EDGE Conference** May 6-7 | Nashville, TN

SymWest User Group Conference May 15-17 | Tacoma, WA

**Corelation 13th Annual Hybrid Client Conference** May 28-30 | San Diego, CA

# **CONGRATULATIONS, MARTIN!**



promotion of Martin Pham to Product Manager. Congratulations,

### A PEEK INSIDE WRG

# **GOLF EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUP**

CDW graciously sponsored the golf outing and group dinner. CDW provides IT systems Union partner for over 10 years.

Shakoya Green Long (pictured front center-right in the group photo). The organization's homeless and at-risk families with children to remain together while empowering them to become independent and self-sufficient." To support Thomas House and learn more, please visit www.thomashouseshelter.org.





