



The Source

August 2011
WICT Greater Philadelphia Chapter Newsletter



Women in Cable
Telecommunications™
Greater Philadelphia

Mark Your Calendars!



- Aug 15 [Deadline to submit WICT Service Award nominations](#)
- Sept 8 [Tech It Out - Tech Camp 2.0](#)
- Nov 10 [WICT Philly Gives Back](#)

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Sponsor Profile: Cisco

Creating Leaders, Together. Our Sponsors are Vital to Our Success.



For more than thirty years, Women in Cable Telecommunications (WICT) has been dedicated to the education, support and advancement of women in the cable industry. WICT's professional development programs, scholarships and services wouldn't be possible without the advocacy of our valued sponsors. In this issue, we feature Cisco, a proud supporter of the Greater Philadelphia Chapter, ensuring that WICT is better able to deliver on its mission of creating women leaders.

Founded in 1984, [Cisco](#) has shaped the future of the Internet by creating unprecedented value and opportunity for their customers, employees, investors and ecosystem partners and has become the worldwide leader in networking - transforming how people connect, communicate and collaborate.

At Cisco customers come first and an integral part of their DNA is creating long-lasting customer partnerships and working with them to identify their needs and provide solutions that support their success. Cisco's diverse product portfolio includes security, digital video, web conferencing, voice, area networking, routing and wireless solutions.

Cisco has been a proud supporter of WICT and its mission to further women in cable, and the company recognizes the importance of networking and leadership development in the professional growth of their employees.

We recently met up with **Jane Taylor**, Client Services Executive at Cisco, to discuss her involvement with WICT and its impact on her career.

Meet Jane Taylor



**Client Services Executive, Cisco
WICT Member Since 2006**

Background

Jane Taylor is a Client Services Executive managing a team of four to support Comcast as their sole client. Prior to her role with Cisco, Jane spent 10 years with Sun Microsystems, where she held various roles in marketing communications and field enablement, partnering with a variety of cable and telecommunications companies including Time Warner, Cox, and Brighthouse Networks.

While Jane has only been with Cisco for a year, she has enjoyed her tenure with the organization. *"For me, it's the team and the people I work with,"* Jane says. *"Every organization has its challenges, but if you have a really strong team supporting you and you've got the people you can go to when it's crunch time, that's one of the keys to success, especially in the sales world. Cisco is a great organization."*

WICT Involvement

A WICT member for the past five years, Jane is currently the Membership Co-chair for the Greater Philadelphia chapter. Jane has also served on the WICT Philly Gives Back 2010 committee and she participates in mentoring opportunities and the Leadership in Life series. Jane is also an active member of SCTE and NAMIC.

Jane's involvement with WICT started when she was living in Colorado. *"When I was getting into the industry, I started attending WICT functions,"* she says. *"When I moved to Philadelphia, I became more involved and I'm a member of both chapters - Philadelphia and Rocky Mountain - where I still have ties having lived there for 10 years."*

Jane shares her enthusiasm for the organization and encourages her fellow team members at Cisco and her partners at Comcast to learn more about WICT and to get involved. *"The networking, the mentoring and the personal friends I've made from WICT are incredible,"* she says. *"The programs WICT offers - personal and professional development opportunities, seminars, and awareness of what's top of mind for executives - have helped me understand where my customer's focus is. In turn, I can put that to work in my own business when determining how best to support my customers."*

Industry Outlook

"It's been really exciting to watch the industry develop over time," says Jane about the constant change nature of telecommunications.

"I think about my dad and what he would do to watch three football games on a Sunday afternoon. He would have the big console TV that sat on the floor, and the small black and white 13 inch TV with rabbit ears, and a bud in his ear from the radio, so he could follow all three games at once," Jane recalls her father's multimedia approach with a smile. *"Now you can easily switch between multiple games with the touch of a button, take advantage of picture-in-picture technology, even a channel that does the switching for you."*

While she can't reveal proprietary information, Jane alludes to Cisco's exciting, innovative technology on the horizon that will change the way people consume entertainment and connect with each other.

Personal and Professional Development

When asked what advice she would give to someone who is just entering the telecommunications industry, Jane shares three key elements for success:

Get involved. *"WICT is a great organization to be involved with because you network with people from all over the industry and you build relationships. Then when you need advice, you have a great network of people to ask. I think it's really important in any career choice to have a network of people you trust."*

Find someone to mentor you. *"When I first started at Cisco, my VP connected me with a mentor who had been with the company for ages and he supported me, provided guidance, acted as a sounding board and helped me navigate the culture of a new company. I've been very fortunate throughout my career to have some incredible mentors who really guided me and gave me constructive criticism. And that's another thing..."*

Be open to feedback. *"Don't take things personally. Take it as good solid advice about how you can do better and how you can be better at what you're doing. If you're really open to that feedback it can help propel you through your career."*

Maintaining Balance

Jane believes there is such a thing as "work / life balance;" however, she confesses it's hard to achieve and maintain it. She stresses the importance of setting boundaries to help manager her time between work and personal commitments.

When Jane isn't working or promoting WICT, she enjoys spending time with her family, and trips to her home away from home - Avalon, New Jersey.

If you're interested in a sponsorship opportunity, please contact [Sarah Strobach](#). Thank you to our sponsors!

WICT Members Tech It Out with Tony Werner and John Schanz

On June 23, **Tony Werner**, EVP and CTO, Comcast Cable and **John Schanz**, EVP National Engineering & Technical Operations, Comcast Cable shared their thoughts on industry trends, challenges, and opportunities to a rapt audience of over 100 WICT members and guests who attended the WICT Speaker Series Breakfast.



The two industry leaders were interviewed by **Leslie Ellis**, analyst, author and columnist, who asked questions on topics ranging from the latest technology buzzwords and customer care, to career and leadership advice. The lively banter and casual flow of the conversation made for an engaging and interactive exchange with the audience chiming in with questions. By the close of the program, it was clear attendees not only gained valuable insight into the cable industry, but also learned about two of its top technology leaders.

Register for Tech Camp 2.0

The New Cable Customer - How the Evolving Needs of Our Customers Are Changing the Industry.

Tech Camp 2.0 will expose 75 WICT members to the technical side of cable and the future of cable technology, as well as provide access to thought leaders in the industry.

Topics will include Mobile & Web: Cable of the Future, Business Services Products, Show 'N Tech with CPE and Communication Devices, How MSOs Are Building Network Capacity, and an Executive Round table on the topic "IPTV, Mobile - Where is the Future of Content Delivery Headed?" Each session will feature different industry leaders including:

- **Charlotte Field**, SVP, Network Infrastructure, Comcast
- **Mark Muehl**, SVP, Product Engineering, Comcast
- **Aljit Joy**, SVP, Technical & Product Development (T+PD), Comcast
- **Matt Zelesko**, SVP Web Services, Time Warner Cable
- **Gary Koerper**, SVP Product Development, Comcast
- **Kevin O'Toole**, SVP Services Strategy, Comcast
- **Maggie Suniewick**, VP Programming, CIM, Comcast
- **Tracy Pitcher**, VP Business Services, Comcast
- **Tara Dunning**, Executive Director, New Product Introduction, Comcast

WHEN:

Thursday, September 8, 2011
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM EDT

WHERE:

Four Seasons
One Logan Square
Philadelphia, PA 19103

COST:

\$100 per member; includes breakfast, lunch, and refreshments
Tech Camp 2.0 is an exclusive, WICT members-only event.

[Click here](#) for more information or to register.

WICT Philly Gives Back



Mark your calendar for WICT Philly's signature networking charity event and join us for an evening of great food and conversation, all while helping two great causes!

Save the Date!

WICT Philly Gives Back is a charitable networking event whose goal is to give back to the community and honor those who demonstrate the essence of giving back in both their professional and personal lives.

WICT Philly Gives Back
November 10, 2011
Union League in Philadelphia, PA
6pm - 8pm

This year, WICT Philly is partnering with United Way in support of their signature program - Girls Today, Leaders Tomorrow.

Girls Today, Leaders Tomorrow provides support to adolescent girls (grades 6 and 7) through community and school-based activities that focus on helping girls build self-esteem, honor their bodies and maintain healthy relationships with their peers while developing core values that will protect them from negative influences and support their success as adults. [Click here](#) to read more about Girls Today, Leaders Tomorrow.

Nominate a Deserving Colleague for the 2nd Annual WICT Philly Service Awards

During the event, WICT Philly will also honor two exceptional cable professionals who have contributed meaningfully to the telecommunications industry and the greater service community. **Nominations for the following awards are being accepted through August 15.**

Seasoned Professional Service Award - This award recognizes an industry professional who has contributed significantly to his/her company or organization as well as the cable and telecommunications industry. As a leader, the recipient is a respected team member, one who coaches and develops others. He/she is considered a "change agent," whose strategic thinking continues to move the company forward. In addition to professional attributes, the recipient is an avid volunteer who has made significant charitable contributions to a national and/or local Philadelphia service organization.

Rising Leader Service Award - This award recognizes a professional who is a newcomer to the industry, his/her organization or role. Professionally, this person continues to demonstrate successful career advancement, whether through promotions (up to manager level) or changing career paths (e.g. marketing to engineering). The recipient is regarded as an "out-of-the-box" thinker and a meaningful contributor to the success of the team. In addition to professional attributes, the recipient is an avid volunteer who has made significant charitable contributions to a national and/or local Philadelphia service organization.

[Click here](#) for more information and to download an application.

Member Connections

Congratulations to the following WICT members, scholarship recipients for the Tech Camp 2.0 program in September:

- **Amanda Garcia**
- **Cassandra Hunnicutt**
- **Elisa Stagliano**
- **Gayle Erdosy**
- **Katherine Tudisco**
- **Melinda Yablonski**
- **Neha Gadkari**

Congratulations to **Tina Waters**, Senior Vice President Human Performance - National Customer Operations for Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. for being recognized by the National Diversity Council as one of the "2011 Most Powerful and Influential Women of Pennsylvania."

Congratulations to **Jane Taylor** who was recently promoted to Client Services Executive for Cisco.

Lace Up Your Networking Sneakers

Do you find yourself working through lunch at your desk? Then take a break and take a weekly stroll with WICT.

Each Wednesday, WICT members in Philadelphia meet at noon in the Comcast Center lobby for a 20 minute walk around the city. The group has met several times since the impromptu program began in June, and it's a great way to get some exercise, enjoy the weather, and meet fellow WICT members.



Pictured above: During the inaugural walk on June 15, WICT members **Margaret Rickard**, **Sarah Stroback** and **Gina Wagner** discovered the opening of the Horticulture Society's "Ecolibrium" garden on Market Street.

Stay Connected



Update Your Contact Information

Have you moved office locations, changed companies or roles? Please let us know!

1. Go to www.wict.org
2. Select "Log In" (in the upper right corner)
3. Your User Name is your email, your Password is your last name (unless you have logged in and changed it)
4. Select Edit Profile (under "My Links" on the right side)
5. Update the information and select "Save"

Share Your Feedback and News with *The Source*

Have a happy announcement to share in the next newsletter? Send promotion, award, marriage, baby and career news or suggestions for the newsletter to Katie Patterson.

And don't forget to check out WICT Greater Philadelphia on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn!



www.wict.org

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