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## Utah Technology Rocks!

by John Catalano

Technology related jobs are among the highest paying of any field. And Utah got some excellent technology news last week. We are indeed fortunate to have a state with a government and business support system second to none.

- Formed in 2006 by the merger of two related organizations, the [Utah Technology Council](#) exists solely to help grow Utah's Technology and Life Science businesses. They work with business and government together to fill [job openings](#), sponsor seminars (<http://www.uita.org/events/index.htm>) and generate funding (i.e. [USTAR](#)) High on the radar to those in the trade, the UTC is the pivot point for Utah executives, innovators, entrepreneurs and financiers to connect. You may not see their name in every press story, but they have a hand in nearly every one.

- The [Deseret News](#) and the [Salt Lake Tribune](#) reported that the Milken Institute has given Utah very high rankings in various criteria in technological concentration and dynamism. Translated, this is a reflection of our powerful tech and life sciences industry's growth history and prospects in incredible job growth, new high tech company formations, percent of companies in technology, etc. It means that if you're running a tech company today, you have one heck of a tailwind. Amazing.

- Life sciences got a well-deserved recognition with the recent Nobel Prize awarded to [Dr. Mario Capecchi](#) at the University of Utah. I cannot pretend to understand his work, but I can tell you that the Life Sciences at the U are on a roll. A friend who works in a related department tells me that they are about to publish a significant report on one of the most widespread diseases around. Still confidential, I can't even tell you the specific area she works in, but I can tell you that her department's many years of research are about to take a giant leap forward for thousands of people worldwide. They are really excited up there.

- Saturday's Salt Lake Tribune had a terrific article on Amy Rees Anderson, CEO of Mediconnect Global, Inc. She was recently selected as the MountainWest Capital Network's Entrepreneur of the Year. Her business is in the [medical informatics](#) industry, and will be hands-down one of the top growth businesses for the next few years. You may know medical informatics by one of its old names, such as medical records, then as medical computing. Now with Google Health coming online Mediconnect is poised to be a leader in the industry. Look for derivative companies in this exciting field.

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