



# IT Managers Connection

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## The Story: 2007 Global MVP Summit

I'm back from the MVP Global Summit and it was well worth the time. Kudos to Canada's MVP Lead, Sasha Krstanovic, for showcasing the Canadian contingent through the special red jerseys, his many fine efforts during the summit and throughout the year supporting MVPs.

A lot of effort went behind the event and this was clearly evident—a really professionally organized celebration and deep technical dive for MVPs worldwide. Bill spoke at the event and you can get a transcript from the Microsoft MVP Global Summit Virtual Pressroom: <http://www.microsoft.com/80/presspass/events/mvpsummit/default.aspx>.

One particularly interesting moment for me happened during the Q&A following Bill's keynote. An MVP spoke eloquently about his family learning computing on one of the first microcomputers, a MITS Altair, that came in kit form. The MVP brought in a BASIC language instruction manual for this MITS Altair Computer and Bill signed the manual. A particularly historic moment since Bill wrote the BASIC interpreter for the MITS Altair in 4K. Amazing when you think about it—the interpreter itself was 3.2K and the rest was for data. I'm old enough to remember this first computer kit for hobbyists since I had built a digital computer myself in the 70's though not a MITS.

I'm back on tour this week speaking about the need for alignment between IT and business strategy. During the MVP event, I was talking with two ASP/ASP.NET MVPs, Chris and Miles, and both spoke passionately about how they work to provide solutions that meet business needs and not to focus on the specifics of the technology—the technology elements are tools to ensure innovation and business performance. They also talked about the need to keep performing an environmental assessment or an organization could lose their competitive advantage. I thought—what an incredible conversation since it illustrates how leading IT experts have moved towards business goals, and objectives. This is also the theme for my talk on the [IT Executive Alignment Tour](#). It definitely put a smile on my face.

On Tuesday, I met an MVP and we chatted a bit. On Weds and Thurs, we chatted some more since we were on the same bus that took us to the MVP venues. On Friday, I was thinking about the week and thought I recognized the face from somewhere. Then it dawned on me after I was browsing through the MVP Global Summit Virtual Press Room. It's Barb Bowman, one of the five MVPs specially selected and profiled out of 3800 MVPs worldwide from 90+ countries representing more than 90 technologies—that are in turn nominated for excellence from 100-200 million ICT professionals. Small world indeed!

Cheers,  
 Stephen Ibaraki

Posted: Tuesday, March 20, 2007 8:00 AM by [cdnitmgr](#)  
 Filed under: [Stephen Ibaraki](#), [Events](#)

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