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RTIH Top 100 Retail Technology Influencers List 2026

Recognising the people shaping retail technology

INFLUENCERS TO FOLLOW IN 2026

The latest edition of the RTIH Top 100 Retail
Technology Influencers List is here!

The list has seen a surge in popularity over the past few years, to the point that we've decided publishing it once a year is no longer enough. Here, then, is the second edition for 2026, with some names dropping out of the top 100 and some new names coming in (the latter are flagged as new entries for ease of reference).

Including the likes of retailers, brands, technologists, analysts, and consultants, the list celebrates individuals who are helping to redefine retail in a fast moving omnichannel age.

We use a variety of sources to select our top 100, including feedback from industry observers, research within our own networks, direct or third-

party nominations via our website, and social media tools.

In addition to social presence, we also take into account award winners and judges, event speakers, books published, media appearances, and people building innovative companies, solutions etc in the retail space.

We hope you enjoy reading through the top 100 and, as always, if you would like to give feedback or believe that there are some glaring omissions, please feel free to get in touch.

Many thanks to 3D Cloud, which provides 3D product visualisation software trusted by top furniture and DIY retailers, for sponsoring the list.

Scott Thompson, Editor and Founder, RTIH

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

VINETA BAJAJ

LinkedIn Bio Group CFO @ Holland & Barrett | Ex-Ocado | Ex-Rohlik Group | Chief People Officer | NED | Mentor | Advisor | Investor | Top 100 Retail Tech Influencer 2024 | Expert.

DAN MCGRATH

LinkedIn Bio JD Group Customer Operations at JD Sports Fashion plc.

PAULA BOBBETT

LinkedIn Bio Chief Data and Digital Officer @ Boots UK | Executive Director | NED.

ROB SMITH

LinkedIn Bio Technology Officer @ East of England Co-op | Technology Leadership.

MATT BRADLEY

LinkedIn Bio Director & Founder-Retail Technology Show.

MICHAEL GUZZETTA

LinkedIn Bio Product & Innovation Leader | Omnichannel Retail & Guest Experience | AI, Automation & Platforms | \$552M+ Impact | USAF Veteran.

GRAHAM BROOMFIELD

LinkedIn Bio Managing Director Austen & Blake | NED | Investor | CEO | Trustee | Advisory Board Member.

PHIL THORNE | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio COO at Quorso · Writing about retail ops, AI, & scaling enterprise tech.

LAUREN CLARK-ROUT | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Social Media Lead-Marks & Spencer.

CLAUDIO B. LANDSBERG | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio I help retailers win with technology—not just adopt it. | Retail Tech Veteran · 30 Years · 3 Continents · 500+ Retailers.



Matt Bradley

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

GLENN FAULKNER

LinkedIn Bio Product Manager | Spatial Intelligence & AI | Turning physical spaces into intelligent environments at AiFi.

MICHELLE GRANT

LinkedIn Bio Global Head of Consumer Industries Go-to-Market at SAP.

SJ GRABIEC | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Customer, Digital, Transformation & CRM Leader | CX | Customer Product | Paid Marketing | Contact Centre | AI Implementation | Post Purchase | DTC | Payments | Coach & Mentor.

SARAH HUGHES | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Co-founder & Director at Datitude | Get what you need from your data when you need it with Datitude's award winning Managed Data Platforms & Solutions.

MARTIN BAILIE

LinkedIn Bio Global Retail CEO | Multi-Award AI & Growth Expert | Founder MWB Advisory | Leading Retail Transformation via AI & Operational Excellence | Advisor PwC Strategy&, Vusion, Quorso | CEO Tesco/Tata, COO Lidl, Primark Board.

RICHARD NOON

LinkedIn Bio Implementation Engineer | Fintech & Technology | Payments Did you know i'm also a Retail Technology Innovation Hub 100 Tech Influencer for both 2024 & 2025 | Speaker at Retail Technology Show 2025.

KATE HARDCASTLE

LinkedIn Bio The Customer Whisperer™ partnering brands to delight consumers globally. Creating trust & growth | NonExec Director | Advisor | Broadcaster | Keynote Speaker | Author, The Science of Shopping | Award winning Maker of Joy.



George Hayworth



Dan McGrath

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

DEANN CAMPBELL

LinkedIn Bio Retail turnaround through optimising stores | Global Speaker | Rethink Retail Top Global Influencer | RTIH Top 100 Retail Technology Influencer.

NADINE NEATROUR

LinkedIn Bio Customer Centric Leader. Helping brands see through a customer lens to thrive. CMO. CCO. Advisory. Fractional. Consulting. NED.

MARSHALL KAY

LinkedIn Bio Strategic Advisor to retailers, global brands and investors. Speaker. Writer on Retail topics for Forbes. Named one of 2026's Top Retail Influencers by UK-based Retail Tech Innovation Hub and US-based RETHINK Retail.

JAMES PEPPER

LinkedIn Bio CEO @ Vista Technology Support | Charity Sector Trustee.

JUSTIN BRETON

LinkedIn Bio Marketing executive driving meaningful customer engagement through innovation; Recognised as Ad Age 40 Under 40, Event Marketer Watchlist, Brand Innovators 40 Under 40, & Business Insider Rising Star of Brand Marketing.

CHRIS DUNN

LinkedIn Bio COO & Co-Founder @ FoundIt! | Driving sales & revenue for retailers through innovative marketing technology.

GEORGE HAYWORTH | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Retail Director @ Bringg | Helping Retailers Transform Last-Mile Delivery | 8+ Years in Quick Commerce.

MATTHEW TAYLOR

LinkedIn Bio Global Technology & Delivery Executive | CTO / CIO | Cyber, Cloud & AI Platforms | Secure-by-Design, Data-Driven Leadership.



Kate Hardcastle



Justin Breton

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

SCOTT THOMPSON

LinkedIn Bio Editor and Founder at Retail Technology Innovation Hub and EdTech Innovation Hub. Organiser of the RTIH Innovation Awards and RTIH AI in Retail Awards. Member of the judging panel for EHI Retail Institute's retail awards.

CHRISTIANA HAWES | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Senior Director, Global Retail Technology at Warner Bros Discovery | CIO-Track Leader | International Growth.

YATHU KANAGARATNAM

LinkedIn Bio Head of Technology & AI Strategy | Award-Winning AI & Digital Transformation Leader | Retail Tech | E-Commerce | Building AI Systems That Deliver Real Business Results.

PETER MATTHEW | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Commercial Director | ex-Tesco | ex-Travellex | ex-Morrisons.

ORNELLA URSO | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio PhD | Research Director - Retail Tech & Business Insights Analyst and Advisor.



Christiana Hawes

STEVE COLLINGE

LinkedIn Bio Rethink Retail Top Retail Expert 2026, RTIH Top 100 Retail Technology Influencer 2025, Commentator, Content Creator, International Speaker and Expert on the Home & Garden Industry. Group Managing Director.

CAITLIN ALLEN

LinkedIn Bio RTIH Top 100 Retail Tech Influencer | PG 2025 Top Woman in Grocery | SVP of Market @ Simbe.

DR. ASTHA PUROHIT | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Director of Product Walmart | Ex-McKinsey | MIT Sloan MBA.

ANDREW BUSBY

LinkedIn Bio Senior Industry Adviser, BOXTEC | Retail Writer at Fortune | Founder, Redline Retail Consulting | Best-Selling Author | Bookmark Charity Ambassador | ReTHINK Retail/RTIH Top 100 | Speaking: Speakers Corner.

LEE ALLEN | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Marketing-Retail Technology Show.

DEAN D. MCELWEE

LinkedIn Bio VP of E-Commerce | Digital Transformation Leader | Expert in Digital Marketing & Strategy | Author of "eCommerce for CEOs" | Scaling Omnichannel Revenue & Brand Growth | Driving ROI through Data-Led Innovation.

JAMES USSHER-SMITH | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio MD @ TPP Retail Group-Technology Built to Power Frontline Workers.

DAVID POLINCHOCK

LinkedIn Bio Pres, Brand Experience Lab | Retail Innovation Strategist | RETHINK Retail Top Expert | RTIH Top Voice in Retail | Top AI In Retail | Mentor | Writing book on 3rd Place with Sydney Polinchock.

LINDA JOHANSEN-JAMES | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Global Keynote Speaker | Top Retail Expert | Retail Strategist | CEO & Founder, International Retail Group | Built \$1B+ in Retail Revenue | Author | Retail Voice 2026 | Publisher, IR Magazine | Consultant | Real Estate.

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

TED MCCAFFREY

LinkedIn Bio Omnichannel Champion | Rethink Retail Top Retail Expert 2024–2026 | RTIH Top 100 Retail Influencer 2026 | Retail Tech + RFID + AI | Strategic Partnerships • Store Intelligence • Data–Execution

MELISSA MINKOW

LinkedIn Bio Global Director, Retail Strategy & Insights at CIBT.

ELAINE PARR

LinkedIn Bio Consumer Products, Retail & Luxury Industry Leader | Recognised Industry & LinkedIn Top Voice | The CPG Geek™ | Gender Equality & Talent Champion | Proud Mum of The Firecracker | IBMer.

MARTIN NEWMAN

LinkedIn Bio One of the world's leading authorities on customer centricity, a global speaker, part time chief customer officer, author, creator of the Mini MBA in Customer Centricity and a trusted board advisor.

ASIF AZIZ

LinkedIn Bio Retail Director EE/BT Group | NED | BT Group Clinical Advisory Board Member.

MIKE CADDEN

LinkedIn Bio Transformational retail-focused IT Director/CIO/Programme Manager; RTIH Top 100 Retail Tech influencer.

CHRISTINE RUSSO

LinkedIn Bio Leading Industry Voice | Tech Scouting | Events | Believer in Converting with Content | Partnerships | Creator and Host What Just Happened Podcast on Spotify | Moderator, Advisory Board Member | Debate Winner.

CELIA VAN WICKEL

LinkedIn Bio Expert in eCommerce, Retail, CPG, and Marketing activation, insights, and trends | Creative and curious thought leader & storyteller | Thoughts expressed are my own.



Asif Aziz

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

GREG DEACON

LinkedIn Bio Commercial & Growth Leader | Quick Commerce, Retail Media & FMCG | Scaling Revenue, Partnerships & Market Expansion.

TOBY PICKARD

LinkedIn Bio Retail Futures Senior Partner @ IGD | Top Retail Expert from Rethink Retail and RTIH Top Influencer.

NICHOLAS FOUND

LinkedIn Bio Head of Commercial Content at Retail Economics.

TABITHA GAFENCU | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Project Manager–Stores Transformation and Ops Dev.

TREVOR SUMNER

LinkedIn Bio CEO of i-Genie.ai–Top 100 Retail And Top 50 RetailTech Expert–Entrepreneur–Executive–Advisor–Angel.

SHISH SHRIDHAR

LinkedIn Bio Global Retail Startups Lead | Top AI Leader 2024 | Top Retail Expert 2024 | Top 100 Retail Technology Influencers | Advisory Board | Public Speaker.

GARY NEWBURY

LinkedIn Bio Rapid Performance Recovery | Supply Chain Transformer | 25+ Operational Turnarounds | Mid-Market Growth Escalator | Speaker | Radical Strategic Thinker | Highly Focused | Empowering | Interim C Suite Leader.

SHARON YOURELL LAWLOR

LinkedIn Bio Global strategic consultant & keynote speaker, helping brands and retailers turn consumer & shopper insight into strategies for commercial growth. NRF Retail Voice | RETHINK Retail Top Expert | RTIH Top 100 Tech Influencer.

IAN RASMUSSEN

LinkedIn Bio Leading the Future of Convenience Retail | Trusted Advisor to Executives | Leading Business Transformation & Customer Success.

CHRIS CONWAY

LinkedIn Bio Chief Digital Officer | Ecommerce Director | Commercial Director | Operations Director | Global Tech Top 50 Retail Week 2024 & Board Adviser.

LEONID GLADILIN

LinkedIn Bio eCommerce & Omnichannel Growth Leader | Founder, HQ Portraits | Building Ai-native Phygital Client Experience | P&L, Automation, DTC, Top Retail Expert 2025, 2026 | Top 100 Retail Tech Influencer 2024, 2025, 2026.

MARK GLEESON | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio General Manager @ Auror | UK & Europe | Veteran.

BECKY LOMBARDO

LinkedIn Bio Helping fast growth global eCom businesses scale and grow profitably | Logistics | Supply Chain | Operations | SME | eCommerce | Omnichannel |



Toby Pickard

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

Glen Richardson



Tabitha Gafencu

Retail | Scale Up | Start Up | Growth Accelerator | Advisor | COO.

ALICE RACKLEY

LinkedIn Bio Chief Executive Officer @ Polytag Limited | Circularity Pays—platform solutions to power sustainable businesses. Digital Product Passports and more. ISO certified. Global Brand Clients. VC Backed.

DOMINIQUE PIERRE LOCHER

LinkedIn Bio 1st generation digital pioneer, early stage investor and Food—and RetailTech entrepreneur.

TONY D'ONOFRIO

LinkedIn Bio President @ Sensomatic | Recognised Global Top Retail Expert— 11,000+ Direct Contacts / 150,000+ Followers > Views my own.

RICHARD HAMMOND

LinkedIn Bio Uncrowd CEO & Founder | Expert in Experience Analytics.

VIRGINIA MARSH

LinkedIn Bio Top Retail Expert 2026, 2025 | RTIH Top 100 Retail Technology Influencer 2026 | AI Retail & CPG Data Strategist | Audience Activation & Data Monetisation | AdTech & Martech Leader.

OSKAR JAKOBSSON

LinkedIn Bio Director Customer Solution @ICA—Senior retail manager. RTIH—Top 100 Retail tech influencer. Rethink Retail—Global Retail Leader. Retail tech expert and speaker.

CARL BOUTET

LinkedIn Bio Available now! TheFlipBook.online → Keynote Speaker & Author | McGill & AIT Adjunct Faculty | Board Director & Advisor | Top 10 Global Retail Thought Leader.

HENRIK HÄLLBERG

LinkedIn Bio MD @ WAIR Nordic | AI native | Inventory Planning | Fashion.

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers



Melissa Moore

GILES SMITH

LinkedIn Bio CPO/CTO | Keynote Speaker | Technologist | Executive, Leader & Board Trusted Advisor @ Burberry, Unilever, Selfridges, John Lewis, Matalan, Arcadia, Walmart, Woolworths, Mondelez, Diageo, Kao, Kimberley Clarke, Waitrose+.

TOBIAS CATERER

LinkedIn Bio Microsoft Cloud & AI Specialist—RTIH Top 100 Retail Tech Influencer 2025 & 2026.

BELLA TRANG NGO

LinkedIn Bio Founder at Brarista—We make bra & swimwear shopping so much easier | Sifted's Femtech Startup to watch | Draper's Tech Innovator Finalist | Women in Innovation Awardee.

JO HICKSON

LinkedIn Bio Director of Strategic Initiatives Development at Specsavers.

MELISSA MOORE

LinkedIn Bio The Retail Advisor | The Retail Tea Break Podcast Host | Retail & Sales Lecturer | Conference Chair & Event MC | RETHINK Retail Top Retail Expert.

GLEN RICHARDSON

LinkedIn Bio Non Executive Director | Former COO @ The Range, CMO @ Fruugo.

ROY HORGAN | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Group SEVP Strategy, Marketing & Communications at Vusion Group.

OLIVER BAGGALEY

LinkedIn Bio General Manager, Autonomous Stores at Trigo.

MARTIN SCHOFIELD

LinkedIn Bio CEO at Retail247 | PIM and Stock SaaS Solutions.

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

NIKKI BAIRD | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Retail industry and technology expert, focused on the future and its implications for today and tomorrow.

WALTER HOLBROOK

LinkedIn Bio YODA RETAIL | RETHINK Retail Top Expert 2024/2025/2026 | Leadership Development | Merchant | Transformation & Change Coach | Retail Pioneer—Mad Man Era to Today | RTIH/3D Cloud Top 100 Retail Technology Influencers.

DAVID PERKS

LinkedIn Bio Experienced MD | Global top 100 Retail expert | Rethink Retail Industry Expert | ex Tesco | Sainsbury's | Kingfisher | BP | Accenture |

ADRIANA RIVAS | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Gold Stevie® 2026 · COO & AI Strategist @BIGWISE · AI in Retail · #7 Global Thought Leader in Retail · Top 25 Agentic AI · Award-Winning Author.

OLIVIA ROBINSON

LinkedIn Bio Global Strategy & Enablement Director, VoCoVo.

CATHY MCCABE

LinkedIn Bio CEO & Co-Founder—Leading Global Retail Clienteling Solution | Empowering Associates with Omnichannel Retail | Build Your Business By Growing Customer Engagement | Understand Interactions | Data-Driven Retail Marketing.

JESPER HOLME KALHAVE | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Chief Sales Officer (CSO) at GoFact. Supporting Lifestyle Retailers and Brands with Merchandise, Buying and Planning Management.

CAROLE KINGSBURY

LinkedIn Bio CIO | Technology Director | People-focussed Change and Digital Transformation Leader.

JOHN-PIERRE KAMEL

LinkedIn Bio Retail, Omni-Channel, RFID Technology Executive | Rethink Retail Top Retail Expert 2024, 2025, 2026 | RTIH Top 100 Retail Global Technology Influencer 2024, 2025, 2026.

YAZ HANLEY

LinkedIn Bio Head of Customer Success @ Strongpoint ALS.



Nikki Baird



Olivia Robinson

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers



Isabell Aakervik

ISABELL AAKERVIK

LinkedIn Bio Chief Expansion Officer at Sitoo | MACH Alliance Community Council Member | Women in MACH Ambassador.

MARK SIMPSON

LinkedIn Bio Retail / Technology Advisor / CEO / NED / Ex ASDA Exco-Chief Supply Chain and Transformation Officer.

CAMILLA YOUNG

LinkedIn Bio Chief Firestarter | Retail Transformation Leader | Connected Packaging Evangelist | High Impact Career Coach for Courageous Change Makers | DM me to talk future of retail or career reinvention.

OLIVIA (LIV) PARKES | NEW ENTRY

LinkedIn Bio Founder & CEO of Persi | Making personalisation actually personal!

GONEN GERSHUNI

LinkedIn Bio Unmanned Stores | Auto Pick & Pack | 24/7 Omnichannel | 100% Loss Prevention | Automation & Robotics Pro | Top Retail Expert @ RETHINK Retail | RTIH Top 100 Retail Tech Influencer | Entrepreneur & Mentor.

MERIEL NEIGHBOUR

LinkedIn Bio Global Transformation Director | Leadership-Delivery | Digital, eCommerce, Point of Sale, ERP | Award winning | Customer focused | Technology and Business Change portfolio strategist | Results driven | Mentor | Speaker.

CHRIS IGWE

LinkedIn Bio Award winning industry leader | Global Retail Authority | Retail Voices by NRF 2025 & 2026 | Top Retail Expert 2023–2026 | Keynote Speaker | Bestselling Author | C-Suite roles & Board positions | Mentor.

RTIH's Top 100 Influencers

ALEX BAKER

LinkedIn Bio Co-creating the new retail ecosystem.

ROGER DUNN

LinkedIn Bio Global Retail Media Lead | LinkedIn Top Voice | Keynote Speaker | The Drum Commerce Media Power 100 | Retail Media Leader of the Year | RETHINK Top Retail Expert | WFA & IAB Council | Marketing BSc & MBA.

STEVE DENNIS

LinkedIn Bio Transforming Retail QA | Giving Technology Leaders the Confidence to Launch at Scale. With Zero Surprises.

CHAMIAH DEWEY

LinkedIn Bio 24x Award Winning Petite Fashion Founder of DEWEY, Drapers 30 Under 30 | Top 10 Retail Disruptors & Innovators of 2026.

HARRY RIDLEY

LinkedIn Bio Head of Technology at Levy UK + Ireland.

NATALIE BERG

LinkedIn Bio Retail Analyst | Author | Host of the Retail Disrupted Podcast.



Natalie Berg



Chamiah Dewey

HOW DO WE IDENTIFY THE TOP 100?

We use a variety of sources to select our top 100, including feedback from industry observers, research within our own networks, direct or third-party nominations via our website, and social media tools.

In addition to social presence, we also take into account award winners and judges, event speakers, books published, media appearances, and people building innovative companies, solutions etc in the retail space.