



kontek

Happy Holidays to all our wonderful clients, suppliers, & friends!

2014 – KONTEK’s 25th year and serious cause for celebration! With thousands of AV systems successfully designed and integrated for clients all across North Carolina, we took ourselves off to the Dominican Republic for some serious self-scrutiny and some well-deserved R&R. While there, JC proved that he CAN walk on water (if four pool floats are available). And we learned that Julian, who we thought was whittling down PTO, was in fact rocking the mic on a cruise ship. Lots of travel this year: Jonathan was on KONTEK sabbatical for 10 weeks, only to return and find that the aliens he heard on the Very Large Array had moved his desk. Brian optimistically packed a snowboard in the van on every trip to Lees-McRae (even in May!), **but it was DJ who actually skied in Banner Elk this year.** Though he doesn’t ever work in the field, Dan spent this year...working in the field. Sammy also spent a record number of days working out of town, coming home to find that his desk had been moved--to another building. **Michael made sure no one claimed his chair, dartboard, monitor, laptop dock, or headphones while he was on paternity leave—welcome Baby Logan!—but his desk got moved too.** Frank spent this year networking the Triangle’s architectural scene, and Wes spent it networking Duke Hospital’s emergency room--and has the pirate scar to prove it. Cameron got promoted to Lead installer, bought a new house, and traded in his ladder for a laptop. **Erik switched hats (and desks) to become our Client Outreach Guru and newest ice hockey player.** Pete took over the Support Team, which meant he rarely spent any time in his new house with his new wife (Dr!) Holli, but he did see a lot of Julian and Warren, our newest employee, who gave up fire dancing to learn AV. **We may need a doctor (Dr Holli?) on staff to tend to Bryan, who injured his foot, his hand, and his wrists in his first year at KONTEK.** BRENDA, FEELING HER OATS AFTER 15 YEARS OF SENIORITY AT KONTEK, FINALLY FELT EMPOWERED TO ENACT A DRESS CODE FOR INSTALLERS. The fellas all look great but now no one can tell them apart. Tim (we think it was Tim) worked his day job as Lead Installer, built a workshop in his backyard, and enrolled in seminary via night classes. Jeremy gave up racing his sports car back and forth from Pittsboro and finally moved to Durham to fulfill his Inner Hipster. Jan continued plotting her evil scheme to move the Kontek warehouse to Myrtle Beach. **Joel knows Jan means business, so he’s looking for a slip for his power boat at Myrtle.** SADLY, BILLY DIDN’T GET TO GO ANYWHERE THIS YEAR BECAUSE ALL OF HIS LONG-TERM CLIENTS WANTED UPGRADES. HE’S NOW THE MASTER OF KONTEK AV VERSION 2.0.014. **Gigi tried to go to the beach, but couldn’t find the NC QuickPass toll transponder for Van 1.** And Kim, when he wasn’t enjoying his new house in Southwest Durham, did his best to keep the lights on at the office (by secretly changing the lightbulbs while Monica wasn’t looking). Lastly, our new intern Sam has proven a quick study of both good KONTEK practices (doing whatever Brenda tells him to do) and not-so-good KONTEK practices (taking 4 day Hemler Weekends).

In 2014, we wrapped up AV projects within walking distance of our offices and in the far reaches of our state. We worked in the Carmichael Building (1 minute from our Warehouse), the 21c

Museum Hotel (1 minute from our Office) and at Lees-McRae College (3 ½ hours from Durham). Coming up in 2015: the Hotel Durham renovation project (just 10 feet from our front door).

Medical education continues to grow across North Carolina, and with it KONTEK's work. After integrating Campbell University's brand new medical school in 2013, we sent our crew westward this year to equip Lees-McRae College's new May School of Nursing and Allied Health in beautiful Banner Elk, NC—a project that included classrooms, simulation labs, and a board room.

Our largest project of the year was Duke Nursing's impressive new addition to the Pearson Building. The project was chock-full of AV, with a large classroom designed around collaborative small group learning, a 2x2 video wall, multiple conference rooms, and a video production studio with custom stage set and lighting. We also helped Duke Nursing expand into the Rutherford Street building and update its classrooms and meeting rooms.

Closer to home the Carmichael Building, a historic tobacco warehouse in downtown Durham, was renovated by Duke to house research labs, meeting rooms and collaborative areas. We're proud that our AV systems will be helping some of the smartest scientists around perform their work better and more efficiently (and in some cases louder), and we're happy that we can respond to service calls on foot.

Our Triangle-area university clients continue to be the backbone of our business. We were privileged this year to work on such cool and challenging projects as two elegant classrooms at Duke Law, the Faculty Hall at Duke's Fuqua School of Business, five standard-setting classrooms at NC Central University's Mary Townes Center, a beautiful re-design of the UNC Law School Moot Courtroom, major upgrades at the UNC Friday Center's Trillium Dining Room, and a new digital control room for Duke's Sanford School of Public Policy.

In 2014 we welcomed new staffers Bryan and Warren Martin and new KONTEK baby Logan Martin, and said goodbye and good luck to Linda Guzynski.

Amidst all the changes and the whirlwind of life, we are especially grateful for satisfying work, for tolerant families who put up with our passion for all things AV-geeky, and for great clients who become great friends. We wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a New Year filled with peace and joy.

This year's holiday card photo of the Northern Lights was taken by Jonathan while on his KONTEK sabbatical in Iceland.

Frank Konhaus, Wes Newman, Dan Sanville, Gigi Krapels, Brenda Pratt, Billy Morris, Sammy Truong, Tim Rabalais, Jan Stutts, Jonathan Danforth, Cameron Powell, Julian Milano, DJ James, Erik Benson, Kim Durack, Pete Rehm, Brian Peters, Monica Ellis, Joel Johnson, JC Stevens, Michael Martin, Jeremy Shaffer, Bryan Martin, Warren Martin

K O N T E K S Y S T E M S