

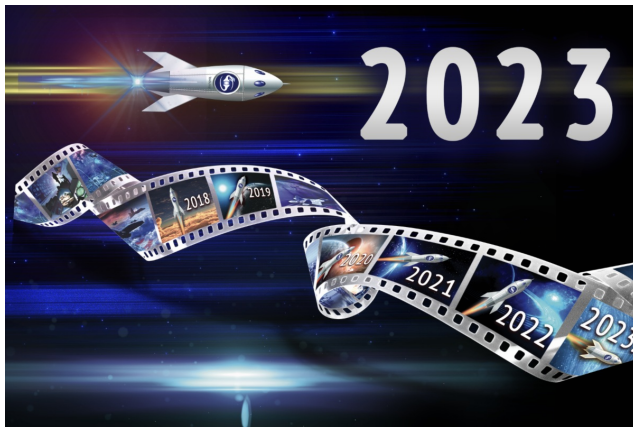


TECHNOLOGY MOVING AT THE SPEED OF THOUGHT®

Newsletter Issue No. 82

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Shaping Futures



In 2016, we started a tradition of depicting a rocket in the first newsletter issue of the year. Over the years, the rocket has been illustrated lifting off, then leaving earth's gravity, entering the atmosphere, and moving into an orbit around the earth. The rocket headed towards the outer planets orbiting our solar system. As it approached the edge of our solar system, the rocket jumped to a solar system beyond. As the TekSynap rocket boldly goes where no company

has gone before... what's next and where are we going?

I often use Sci-Fi as a metaphor in my speeches, public articles, statements, conversations with employees, and pep talks with friends – even my kids have suffered my favorite Yoda quote, “Do or do not. There is no try.” Fiction is the idea of dreaming about the impossible -- and making it possible. The science part comes from my love of technology. A few years ago, I was asked by an employee, “What does TekSynap’s tagline, ***Technology Moving at the Speed of Thought***, really mean?”

Several seasons ago, Star Trek hosted a series about a race known as the Borg; it was big news in Sci-Fi land. The Borg are known as a race of altered organic beings who have been retrofitted with advanced technology prosthetics and capabilities – capabilities beyond those of their original organic bodies. As a Borg, assimilation is not voluntary, and you become part of a collective. The concept of Borg both frightens and fascinates me, the idea that technology can and already has become very much part of our everyday lives. It is conceivable that cell phones could someday be integrated into our bodies. Answering the phone could be as simple as saying “answer.” A Bluetooth-activated sensor embedded into the rear molar of our mouth will detect those common sound waves, and connect to a cellular-embedded device neatly tucked under our skin. These devices could draw power from body heat (no batteries necessary!) and voila, you are talking to your bestie on the phone! Scary, but no longer a wild Sci-Fi concept. We used to think Dick Tracy with a wristwatch cell phone was crazy. Folks laughed at Captain Picard carrying around a tablet computer no thicker than a nickel, thinking that could never really happen. Yet here we are –

someone dared to dream and brought their imaginative ideas into our future.

Why do we have such a fascination with technology? What is *Technology Moving at the Speed of Thought*? How can we measure the speed at which an idea becomes something brand new? Can thought move faster than light? Physicists believe the universal speed limit is the speed of light traveling through a vacuum, exactly 299,792,458 meters (186,282 miles) per second. According to Albert Einstein's Theory of Special Relativity, on which much of modern physics is based, nothing in the universe can travel faster than light. The theory states that as matter approaches the speed of light, matter's mass becomes infinite. If a person could travel faster than light and carry information with them, say in the form of an idea, their notion of time would render a different outcome. Our imagination drives ideas, and new ideas change the trajectory of our existence. When we imagine, we dream; and who can stop a dreamer? Those who dare to imagine can change the world. For me, *Technology Moving at the Speed of Thought* is more than just a company tagline. It is the concept that thought, imagination, and ideas open the door to infinite possibilities.

TekSynap was simply a dream in 2007, and on August 4, 2023, we will celebrate TekSynap's 15th anniversary. At the end of 2022, we reached 968 employees and an additional 262 subcontractors. Each year I wonder aloud how we can possibly top the year before... and then we do. It humbles me when I see what God has done in my life. It brings me back to what drives our growth – people. You. When we dare to think of new ways of solving our personal problems or solving our customers' challenges, we have the power to change the future. Dream, dare, imagine, and never limit yourself.

TekSynap is daring to change yet again. In 2021, we emerged as a Large Business. Our future is bright and full of promise. Please join me in continuing to build TekSynap's future, fueled by the imagination in you. Let's make 2023 the year we challenge the status quo. Thank you for all you do to make this company great.

Kam Jinnah, CEO

Sail Away is Set!

TekSynap is excited to announce we've achieved our referral goal for the Sail Away Program with an outstanding total of 104 hired referrals. Eligible employees will be emailed with details in the coming week. Thank you to everyone who submitted a referral.



W-2s and Tax Reporting

Please be sure to audit your personal profile information in ADP.

Confirm that the spelling of your name, SSN, address, and

date of birth are accurate. Remember to also check the information on your dependents.

The address in ADP is used for mailing benefit items, W-2s, and other tax-related documents. The mailing deadline for W-2s is February 1, 2023.

A digital version of the W2 will be available via your ADP login by January 31st.

To find your W2:

1. Continue to the [employee portal](#)
2. Click the "**ADP employee & managers**" icon
3. **Myself > Pay > Pay & Tax Statements**



TekSynap's 2022 Winter Sock Drive (Warm Their Soles)

was incredibly successful as almost 500 pairs of socks were donated. David Bourgeois and Sara Thompson (pictured) delivered the socks to the New Orleans Mission which is dedicated to the rescue and recovery of people facing homelessness, addiction, human trafficking, abuse, or mental illness.



Mackenzie Fisher completed the JPA Sales Professional curriculum and exceeded the milestones for the year. Congratulations on being recognized as a Juniper Legendary Sales Champion for 2022!

Spotlight on DTRA

Dr. Steven Draper wants to recognize and extend his congratulations to the 15 TekSynap employees and subcontractors that received a certificate of achievement award from DTRA. In his history of supporting the government, he has never seen the government issue a certificate of appreciation to a contractor. To him, this means that the team did such outstanding work that our customer felt it paramount that they be recognized. The following

employees that received Certificate of Appreciation are:

- **Christopher Hill**
- **Sandra Wright**
- **Rico Latney**
- **Matthew Hileman**
- **Christopher Woodard**
- **David Brunner**
- **Jordan Singmore**
- **Anthony Erwin**



Caught in the Act

Joe Herbert, Karen Billingsley, Ernest Sanford, Joshua Smith, Quincy Mays, and David Crumm were all recognized by new employees for being helpful in the onboarding process.

A customer recognized **Jeff McQuate** for playing a major part in spearheading the discovery of what could be an unmeasurable amount of cost savings.

Ryan Hagan was praised for his organization and leadership skills.

A VA WIFI customer recognized **Nichole Bishop** for her attention to detail and efficiency on a call.

LeTonya Love was thanked for being a great coworker.

Tom Wulff was recognized for being a team player and doing an excellent job.

A customer thanked **LaTasha Johnson** for taking the time to help and being an amazing Communications Technician.

Anthony Erwin, Jordan Singmore, David Brunner, and Christopher Woodard were praised for their outstanding support.

Matthew Hileman and **Rico Latney** were recognized for their help on a large task.

Kathy Lincoln was praised for always providing a quick response and effective solution to computer issues. She is an IT all-star!

Both **Dave Johnson** and **Charles Nesbitt** were applauded for their speed and helpfulness by a customer.

A customer gave **Brianna Corbett** kudos for going above and beyond.

Joshua Boose, **Alexander Taylor**, and **Daja Pattman** were the top three performers for one of our contracts! They represented more than 27% of the helpdesk calls handled by the contract as a whole.

Don't forget to let your Quality team know about all the good things going on at TekSynap by submitting your Kudos on the ***Employee Portal***. We use these to recognize TekSynap greatness in the monthly Newsletter.

The holiday pictures from TekSynap's Great Gatsby Gala are on the employee portal, [*click here*](#) to view them.



TekSynap Gives Back

For years, TekSynap employees and friends have provided new coats and toys to the Lacombe-Mandeville Head Start program. Head Start provides early childhood education, health, nutrition, and parent involvement services to low-income children and families. TekSynap delivered 88 coats before the cold weather set in and then went back in mid-December and set up a “toy store” for the children. Each child was able to select a toy of their choice and the “toy store” was restocked in between classroom visits!

(Tami Devitt is pictured below)





TEKSYNAP TRAVELS

Sam Fisher

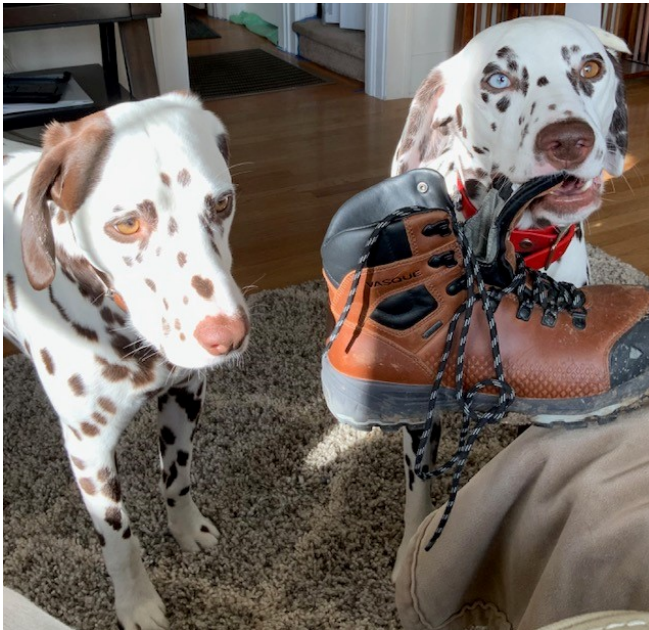
decided to use his 5 year travel anniversary gift on a trip to the Amazon Rainforest in Peru! He spent most of his time in the jungle and waters searching for anacondas and other wildlife and actually managed to save a heron (pictured) that was stuck in a fishing net. A few cool finds were the Black Caiman (pictured) and Fer-de-lance viper. Outside of his 9-5 with TekSynap, he works with Reptiles and is mostly known for his work with anacondas and other rare snakes so this trip has been on his bucket list.



Please send your travel anniversary stories and photos to news@teksynap.com to share



Florence Guerra has two blue nose pitbulls. They were dressed to impress for their Christmas photos. Tito (left) is 2 years old and Stella Rosa (right) is a year old.



Christina Myers has two Liver Dalmatians; three-year-old River (left) and five-year-old Montana (right). They are her pride and joy and keep her as busy as her daily customers do. They are both considered unicorns on the coast where they live.

Sherry Kneitz is coming up on the one year anniversary of her adoption of Pacino!



Feature your pets in the next newsletter!
Send pictures of your companions to news@teksynap.com



Certification Corner

Bret McQueen

CWNA
CWDP

Tracy McEntyre

CWT
BICSI Installer 2 Copper

Ahmed Ibrahim

CWT

Valerie Fronczak

AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner

Bethany Gauldfeldt

AIRS PRC

Christine Schemmel

AIRS Certs

Ryan Hinkle

ITIL v4 Foundations

TraNiece McElvaine

BICSI Installer 1

Arielle Gick

SHRM-CP



Employee Learning Program

Employees are encouraged to use the Employee Learning Program (ELP) Benefit. [Click Here](#) to access the form.

If you have earned a new certification please add it to your ADP profile. Remember to include the effective date.

ADP > Myself > My Information > Profile

And email a copy to HR@teksynap.com

Updating your certifications in ADP will help us identify you for career advancement opportunities.

Open Positions

DARPA – Arlington, VA
Network Engineer

METOC – Monterey, CA
Software Engineer

USARC – Fort Bragg, NC
Network Services Manager

DOS CONUS – Washington, DC
Sr. Core Network Engineer
Wireless Engineer

NOAA SBITS – Silver Spring, MD
Tier II Support Technician

NOAA NMFS – Silver Spring, MD
SharePoint Developer

FDA – Silver Spring, MD
Tier I Call Center Support
Deskside Tier II Technician

NRC BPA MAS
Senior Data Analyst
Business Analyst

NRC SNCC
Sr Active Directory Administrator
Tier I NOC Technician
Disaster Recovery Specialist Lead (Arlington, TX)
Splunk SIEM Security Engineer

VA NSOC/NEDIIS
WAN Systems Network Engineer
WiFi Systems Network Engineer

DLA ASOC – Ft Belvoir, VA
VTC Facilitator

DLA IOEE – Springfield, VA



DLA WAN – Columbus, OH or New Cumberland, PA

Telecommunications Network Engineer - Senior

ESD II – Warner Robins (Tues - Sat 10:00 PM - 6:00 AM)

Computer Operator

ESD II – Philadelphia, PA, New Cumberland, PA, Oklahoma City, OK, Ogden, UT

Computer Operator

AFNCR – Arlington, VA

NMCC – Continuous Monitoring/POAM Management

ACAS/HBSS System Administrator Lead

AFNCR – Joint Base Anacostia Bolling (JBAB), Washington, D.C.

Senior Windows System Administrator

Senior Network Engineer

Sr. VMware Systems Engineer

AFNCR – Joint Base Andrews, MD

Network Operations Watch

Solarwinds Engineer

Please email your referral resumes to careers@teksynap.com



SECURITY

With the beginning of a new year, it is important to stay informed about new cyberattacks that may cause serious and costly damage to companies. These attacks can lead to issues with restoring data, sending notifications, potential legal issues, and reputational damage. Below is a review of some of the information that can help keep you up-to-date and aware of potential threats.

Ransomware became a popular target in 2022 focusing on Government, Academia, and healthcare. Over 200 organizations across the US were victims of these attacks resulting in over half of these companies falling victim to stolen data. Reports have shown that some of the key factors to stolen data are caused by Opening email attachments that are unknown, clicking on online ads, clicking on a link that is unknown, and visiting websites that are embedded with malware.

As we go through this new year, remember to stay informed and to always remain alert for any potential threats. If you would like further information, [*please click here.*](#)



Congratulations to **Jared Shapiro, Valerie Fronczak, and Dennise Shally** for reaching 5 years with TekSynap!

Your \$5,000 vacation is right around the corner

Anniversaries

Eight Years

Julie Ennis

Seven Years

Pearl Prince

Six Years

Robert Elmore

Sarah Keiper

Five Years

Jared Shapiro

Valerie Fronczak

Dennise Shally

Four Years

Christopher Schuster

Gregory Paly

Three Years

Jean-Pierre Blouin

Josephine Fleming

Zachery Gardner

Tim Carreras

Charles Kirkham

Ernesto Ventura

James Satterfield

Damien Gibson

James Carnill

Tyler Payne

Paul Humm

Joseph Nelson

Adam Craig

Welcome, New Employees!

Kevin Juarez

Eric Kuvinka

Christina Bentley

Ramon Maldonado

Tadesse Woldemariam

Cordell Mitchell

Wesley Brunson

Tim Fisher

Henrik Janum

Xue Zhao

Keyonte James

Jay Khatri

Stephanie Martin

Chamel Sewell

Ryan Thomson

Jaimie Samuels

Maurice Matthew

Alexander Schramm

Sherrell Murphy

Avrin McGinnis

Bryan Matthews

Koran Coffey

Matthew Greenberg

Amy LaBruyere

Julius Chavez

Blaine Spencer

Christine Saccarino

John Bailey

Isaiah Pelt

Sam Nelson

Cory Brown

Michele Daigle

Michael Picanso

Blair Gershenson
Rhett Richoux
Matthew Davies
Dana Martin
Trung Uong

Two Years

Stephen Partin
Mysha Rouzard
Dominick Massino
Jerry Harrington
Bret McQueen
Christian Varela

One Year

Jami Fourcade
Dominique Mayo
John Meadows
Thomas Morabito
Lawrence Goffney
Galen Jones
Jay Hollins
Beresford MacAuley
Ian Barbier
Keith Thomas
April Ann Fischbach
Allison Solomon
Thais Price
Toni-Ann Rattigan
Kevin McAllister
Marc Johnson
Viat Gaidamakov
Adam Cruea
Crystal Greene
Wesley Beverly
Kayla Duguid
Amy Doak
James Ten Eyck
William Kile
Robert Carlton
Joseph Herbert
Douglas Lutz
Charlotte Solomon
William Minor
Deborah Harkness

Matthew Thrune
David Crismond
Karla Dishun
John Kirk
Belisa Paulino
Hannah Kramer
Romie Sigmon
Christopher Yoder
Rachel Lewis
Isabelle Chahpoori
Tiffany Lents

