



TPC Architects, Inc.

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TPC Architects, Inc. Newsletter

Planning Pulse

You may remember my initial prompting last month. How are you doing? Is your church actively planning? Remember that beginning with the Master Planning process you'll need at least 18 months before you can begin construction (June 2012). Wouldn't January 2011 be a great time to plan for your needs in 2012? Remember to take into account the time to plan, the issuance of a Use Permit, the preparation of construction documents, and the time necessary to process a building permit.

Take your "Planning Pulse" again before the year ends!

Ground Up or Adaptive Use?

Many churches are finding value in the adaptive use of existing space verses "ground up" construction. Even if you own land you should carefully evaluate the full development cost against the completed facilities before going down this path. A future TPC newsletter will discuss this further.

Construction Costs Report

Construction costs, which were flat last year, are now up 2-3%, with increases in both labor and materials. 'Sounds like a good time to plan before our market returns to normal.....

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SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GREETING

When we began our company in 1977 it was with the determination to bring glory to God in all that we do. We declared, "We want to be an excellent example of a God-led company". By His grace the years have allowed us to serve Him and His church in this way. As we celebrate this Christmas season we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and encourage you to join us in praising Him for His work in our midst.
Merry Christmas to you! Dan Kinnoin, AIA

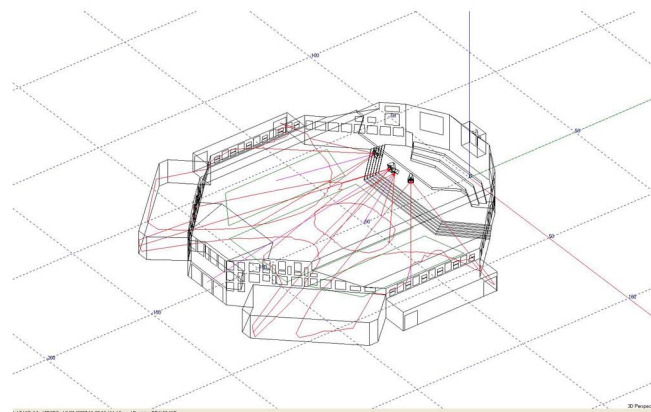
How to Begin An Audio Visual Lighting (AVL) Project

This month's feature article has been written by Travis Nie
Owner of Sound Decision Audio & Acoustics

Your ministry has been blessed and is growing. It is time to make improvements to your existing AVL or you are planning on new facilities. A critical element to your ministry and your congregation is how well your message is delivered. The purpose of your assembly is to deliver your message with impact and clarity. Whether you are remodeling an existing sanctuary or are planning new construction, it is paramount that AVL be included early in the design process. As technologies advance and the demand for sophisticated systems integration increases, how does one begin the process?

First you must select your design team early and get the collaboration started. Too often many projects proceed with AVL as an afterthought and consequently have inherent problems that will plague the project completion and suffer performance for years to come as you play catch up fixing these problems. Your design team should consider or be capable of: architectural and geometric shape of the space, acoustic performance, loudspeaker selection and placement, video imaging and placement, theatrical or key lighting, architectural lighting, mechanical electrical and structural requirements, and finally systems interface, workflow needs, and efficiency.

The time to get your systems designer involved is just after your conceptual design plan with your architect. The architect will interpret the general building needs and provide concept drawings or floor plans. Once this is basically agreed, it's time to meet your awarded AVL designer in a preliminary consultation. This consultation is to help the designer determine the scope of work and the requirements of the AVL design. This is where budgets should be discussed for the project to help the designer determine appropriate strategies. Often many churches cannot accomplish all of their AVL objectives within their initial budgets. If this is the case, the designer can be a great asset to help determine strategies that compliment future objectives and suggest advanced infrastructure or equipment selections to keep you focused as you grow into your vision.



Your designer should be capable of providing a 3D acoustic model. With this model, the room shape and acoustic characteristics can be evaluated. Often simple material selections or surface alterations can avoid acoustic difficulties. The designer should be able to make suggestions to the architect in a CAD format, detailing wall or ceiling surfaces that may need altering for optimal performance, within reason to the initial floor plan concept.

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