

## Tektronix Spirit

At its core, it is respect for the dignity of the individual.

- Everyone was on a first name basis, including with the senior managers. Not “Mr. Murdock” or “Mr. Vollum” – they were “Jack” and “Howard.”
- There were no reserved parking spaces.
- Generous profit share was established in 1949, and there was equity sharing through stock options and outright stock purchase programs.
- Tek had a progressive education system.
  - Employees could receive technical training, a B.S., or an advanced degree without leaving the Beaverton campus. Professors came to Tektronix.
- There were no time clocks. People were trusted.
- Employee longevity was celebrated.
  - By 1978 there were over 1,000 employees with 20 years of service.
- Tek offered great working conditions: the Beaverton and Wilsonville facilities resembled college campuses.



**Tektronix**



Jack Murdock and Howard Vollum examining a Tektronix Type 546 Oscilloscope, around 1964

## Tektronix Summary

- Tektronix was founded in Portland in 1946 by Jack Murdock, Howard Vollum, Miles Tippetts and Glenn McDowell. Miles Tippetts and Glenn McDowell left the company by 1953.
  - 2026 is Tek's 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- By 1955 Tektronix was the leading manufacturer of oscilloscopes in the world. This leadership was maintained through the 1990s.
  - Oscilloscopes are precision instruments, tools used by engineers to design electronic products and by scientists to study high speed physical phenomena.
- Tektronix has been a key contributor to the rise of television, computers, telecommunications, computer graphics, and medical and military technology during the meteoric rise of electronics in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
- Growth: from annual revenue at \$257k in 1950 to >\$1B in 1981
- Tektronix was the Oregon's largest private employer in the late 1970s and 1980s.
- Tektronix established facilities in the Portland Metro area in Beaverton, Portland, Wilsonville, Vancouver and Hillsboro. Overseas Tek has had manufacturing facilities in the UK, The Netherlands, the Island of Guernsey, Japan and China.
- In 2007, Tektronix was purchased by the Danaher Corporation.
- The Tektronix Creed, initiated in 1950:

### OUR CONTINUING CREED

*is that of serving Tektronix customers with products and policies that are unexcelled in the electronics industry and limited only by the current state of the art.*



**Tektronix**