A monthly newsletter tracking Tennessee Tech's progress toward implementation of its new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.
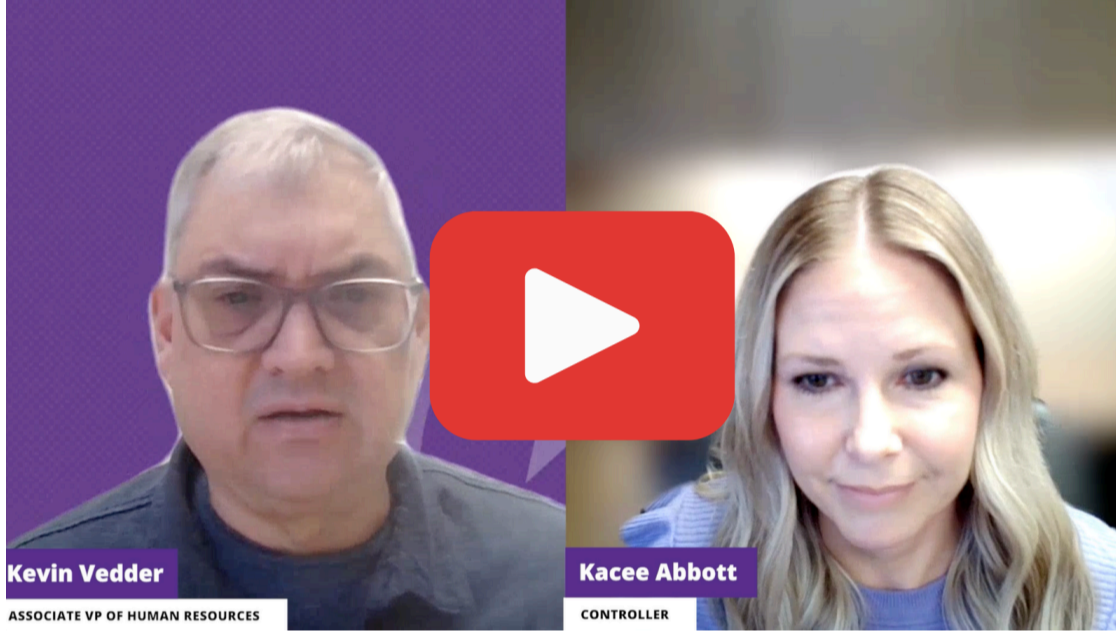
2024 Year in Review

As we turn the page on 2024 and enter the start of a new year, we want to provide a summary of the key Talon project activities that have transpired in the past year, including:

- Establishing a partnership with Huron Consulting as the Talon implementation partner.

- Kicking off the project in September of 2024.

- Developing a monthly newsletter, Talon Tracks, and a video chat, Talon Talks, with project team members.

- Forming the Business Partner Network (BPN), comprised of over 40 employees, to obtain department-level involvement and input from business, finance, and HR users.

- Completing the foundation and define phases of the project with substantial progress in the design phase, including the completion of the first Conference Room Pilot (CRP), which includes:

  - Buildout of the new Chart of Accounts, Project Portfolio Management (PPM) for grants and capital projects, procurement functionality, enterprise reporting, and human capital management (HCM) functions for recruitment, onboarding, time and leave reporting, benefits, and payroll processing.

Talon Talks: Kacee Abbott, University Controller and Talon Functional Lead for General Ledger/Assets

In the first edition of "Talon Talks" for 2025, Kevin Vedder, associate vice president for human resources, sits down with Kacee Abbott, controller, to discuss her role in the implementation of Talon and what she is most looking forward to as the project moves forward. **Watch here** or at the link below:

What's ahead in 2025

This year is already shaping up to be very busy with a variety of project-related activities that will require significant time, effort and focus from the project team members, with heavy involvement from the business, finance, IT, and HR areas.

These activities will include final design work, system testing, data integration and conversions, developing and providing user training and system validations. These activities are essential to achieve the system go-live date of Jan. 1, 2026.

Given the high level of resource requirements and the strategic importance of this project, we remind our campus customers that while we will strive to maintain and provide support and assistance to ongoing campus operations, there may be some delays as a result of project-related activities, and we appreciate your continued patience and understanding.

Talon Testimonial: Kacee Abbott-Controller: Each month, we provide a short message from a member of our university community with their perspective on the importance of our transition to Talon and how it will benefit our students, faculty, and staff.

Find this month's message below:

"I can't wait for campus users to see the autonomy they will have with Talon. The system introduces a greater level of flexibility and empowers users to manage and track their departmental needs on their own.

This initiative will not only streamline processes but also provide tools that truly meet the diverse needs of our campus community.

Two of our main objectives with Talon include efficiency and user empowerment. I'm particularly excited to see meaningful transformation, and I'm proud to be part of this journey to elevate our campus operations."

-Kacee Abbott, University Controller and the Talon Functional Lead for General Ledger/Assets

Don't forget

Visit the Talon project website at **www.tntech.edu/talon** that contains project information, news, and resources, and please reach out to the Talon team members anytime with questions or feedback at **erptalon@tntech.edu**.

You can also stay apprised of our implementation timeline **here** and find a list of frequently asked questions **here**.