

RUNKLE CONSULTING, INC.



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That's me in M16 class, bottom left corner. It was 1974, and I was 18 years old.

50 Years Ago This Week

This week is a special week for me. On July 15, 1974 I boarded a bus to Ft. Dix, NJ to begin a three year enlistment in the US Army. I had just graduated high school and I really didn't feel up to going to college right away. Instead, I figured I'd spend three years in Military Police in the Army, and then go on with my life. It didn't quite work out that way.

I did spend three years in Military Police, which was a very interesting job, and I really liked it for a number of reasons. However, I ended up serving 28 years on a combination of active duty and as a member of the Air National Guard and then in the Air Force Reserves. I visited 25 countries. I deployed to the Middle East and Central Asia 4 times. Most of my career was as an engineer in the military.

My service in the military brought me to where I am at today. As an engineer in the Air Guard and Air Force Reserves, I learned how to build things and do General Contracting type work, which helps with the work we do at Runkle Consulting, Inc. I learned Mechanical, Plumbing, and Electrical design out of necessity - when you are out in the middle of nowhere you can't always get on the phone and get an MEP engineer. Finally, I learned about building with modular buildings and yes, shipping containers.

A couple memories stick in my mind. On one important day in 1977, I was getting close to discharge from the Army. I was planning on getting out, and being done. I had a conversation with a guy in the New Jersey National Guard. What he did sounded like fun - one weekend a month and two weeks a year in the military would be kind of cool. I decided that would be the route I would take. I ended up with a good amount of my military career on active duty with the Air National Guard, so much for one weekend a month and two weeks a year. At the end, I was also called into the active Air Force more than a few times.

Further along in my military career, there was July 15, 1997. I was standing on the tarmac in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia waiting to catch a ride in the back of a C-130 to get to Abu Dhabi, UAE. I realized that ride on the bus to Fort Dix more than a few years back had brought me there. There was the work with shipping containers in Uzbekistan, and thinking how interesting it was to build with them. Also thinking that I probably wouldn't be working with them again.

It was quite a career, and it ultimately would lead to me starting [Runkle Consulting, Inc.](#) I'm glad I did it, I'm glad it's done, and I'm glad to be working with you all now.

George



Myself (George Runkle, President) and GW Runkle (Business Development) in 2005 at Camp Buehring, Kuwait. This was in 2005 the day before GW deployed to Iraq. The Bradley behind us was his track.

Embracing AI in Engineering: A Modern Business Necessity

A few weeks ago, while attending an engineering society meeting, I was struck by the prevalence of AI in our industry. Initially, I was unsure how AI could be applied to engineering, but then it dawned on me—AI is already integrated into many of the tools we use daily. For instance, QuickBooks uses AI to categorize transactions, streamlining our accounting processes.

Discovering AI's Potential

My understanding of AI's potential expanded further when I started using it to write proposals. With just a few notes about what I wanted, [ChatGPT](#) could generate comprehensive and polished proposals. This was a game-changer, saving time and improving the quality of our submissions.

Transforming Our Online Presence

Recently, I realized our website had been seriously neglected and needed fresh content quickly. Once again, AI came to the rescue. Using ChatGPT, I was able to produce high-quality posts and pages in a fraction of the time it would take me to write them manually. The results were not only efficient but also superior in quality. This experience, while a bit unsettling as it highlighted the AI's proficiency, allowed me to focus on more critical aspects of the business.

The Impact of AI on Business

This brings us to a crucial question: Will AI replace us? This concern has been associated with technology since the advent of the mills in England during the 18th century. Historically, technology has consistently created more jobs than it has eliminated. I believe this trend will continue with AI. Rather than replacing us, AI serves as a powerful tool that enhances our capabilities and allows us to focus on higher-level tasks that drive growth and innovation.

Looking Forward

As we move forward, it's essential to embrace AI and leverage its capabilities to improve efficiency and productivity. By doing so, we can stay ahead in the competitive landscape and

continue to grow our businesses. AI is not here to replace us; it's here to help us reach new heights.

For more insights into how AI can benefit your business and updates on our latest projects, stay tuned to our newsletter and visit our website. By the way, this article was written by ChatGPT, I input my thoughts and let it polish them up.

George

Feel free to reach out to us with any questions or for more information on how we integrate AI into our operations.

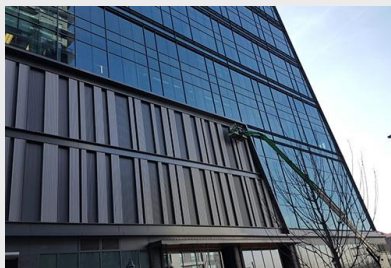


Structural Engineers

Runkle Consulting was founded in 2000 by George W. Runkle III, PE, SE. We provide structural design for structures fabricated from shipping containers, the structural design for building cladding, and forensic engineering services.

[Contact Us](#)

What We Do



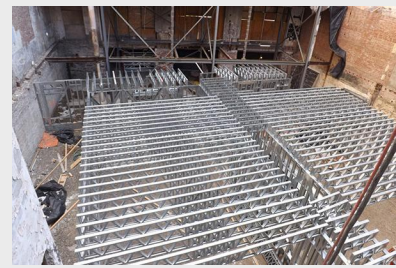
Building Cladding

We have 15 years of experience in the structural engineering of exterior building panels, store fronts, and curtain walls for commercial and government buildings.



Shipping Container Buildings

We provide design services for the design of buildings fabricated from repurposed shipping containers. Our services include the complete design package, architectural, structural, and MEP. Depending on the area, we may be able to help you find a fabricator to provide the containers.



Cold Formed Steel Design

We have extensive experience in cold formed steel design. We can provide structural design services and shop drawings for your project.

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