



Kenny B in the recording closet.

“Closets are for clothes,
not for production studios.
I've been cramped in this
closet producing *The Global
Groove* for 15 years. I need
some elbow room.”

*Ken Brott, KSUT Operations &
Program Director*

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Four Corners Public Radio

Durango & La Plata County
90.1/89.3 FM

Pagosa & Farmington 88.1 FM

Cortez & Mancos 100.1 FM

Dolores 91.9 FM

Silverton 91.1 FM

Southern Ute Tribal Radio

Ignacio & Bayfield 91.3 FM

Aztec & Farmington 89.7 FM

Phase I Modern Broadcast Facility

KSUT
public radio





**Matt Taylor, CEO
Mercury Payment
Systems**

“At Mercury, we understand the importance and the challenges that growing businesses face in providing adequate space and modern facilities for employees. Let’s join together to help promote the vision of public radio and the mission of our local partner in KSUT. They are an important part of our cultural landscape delivering content that is relevant and inspiring.”

The Need for a New Facility

Originally designed as a medical clinic, KSUT’s existing facility that houses two FM radio stations and 11 staff members has always presented significant challenges from both a space and technology standpoint. As a result of outgrowing the facility more than 15 years ago, desks and workspaces are currently located in closets and hallways and the equipment used for programming is situated in a basement that is prone to flooding. In short, the quality of programming one hears as a listener is in stark contrast with the space that creates it.

While KSUT has done a yeoman’s job in producing programming of exceptional quality in spite of its inadequate space, the vision of serving the Four Corners for the next 30 years and beyond is not possible in the present facility. The new facility will provide a healthy work environment that will promote staff wellness, increase productivity and enhance programming in a number of ways: boost the station’s ability to create public affairs programming, host in-studio interviews and musical performances, maximize the sound quality of KSUT’s broadcasts, create a modern multi-media recording and performance studio and provide a 200 seat outdoor venue for concerts and presentations.

The Need for Updated Technology

KSUT’s broadcast equipment is more than 20 years old and relies on obsolete technology with replacement parts no longer in production. The Internet streaming relies on re-purposed desktop computers, which create tenuous and unreliable delivery of the web-based signal. There is an entire new world of modern broadcast technology that KSUT will employ guaranteeing clear and reliable service for years to come.

The Southern Ute Tribe Leads the Cause

The Southern Ute Tribe has a long history of supporting KSUT and has once again taken the lead through a generous and significant gift of a 5,000 square foot building located on the tribal campus in Ignacio, Colorado. Based on a no cost, 30-year lease, the facility will be renovated to provide KSUT with the capacity to continue to grow its service to the Four Corners community.

Benefits of a Modern Broadcast Facility

On the donated, one-acre site just a block from the existing studios, KSUT will create a flexible, easily-maintained broadcast facility and community gathering place with the following design elements:

- Green construction including sophisticated and environmentally-friendly systems.
- ADA accessibility with indoor and outdoor spaces that are safe and pleasant for employees and visitors alike.

- Modern, acoustically-treated and ergonomically designed on-air studios conducive to live interviews and production of public affairs programming.
- Multiple production rooms capable of recording live performances as well as producing local public affairs and news programs.
- Smaller production spaces for special projects by the community, volunteers and staff.
- Multi-media production and recording capabilities.
- A comfortable and spacious 200 seat outdoor performance venue.
- A combination of individual and open office spaces including flexible storage options and adequate kitchen and break facilities for staff and guests.

Key Functional Elements:

- **Space Planning:** The building and site spaces will be designed with primary consideration to health, safety, comfort and flexibility.
- **Sustainability:** Sustainability practices will be integrated relating to site, water, energy, materials, indoor environmental quality and transportation as is practical within the constraints of costs and schedule.
- **Minimizing Operational Costs:** Durability, ease of operation and maintenance will be foremost considerations in inclusion of products and systems. Highly efficient heating and cooling systems will be designed and installed, as will other self-generating and energy saving alternatives. Building design will include a super insulated shell/building that meets building specifications.
- **Minimizing Capital Costs:** Donated and discounted building products and pro-bono services will be used when possible to reduce overall capital costs.

The facilities are projected to serve the needs of KSUT staff, listeners and the community for an estimated 30 years. Additionally, in the coming 10 years, the facility will house a one-of-a-kind tribal media center for recording, archiving, training and promoting Tribal Radio excellence for tribes throughout the Americas.

In a rapidly changing media environment, the opportunity for new facilities comes at an ideal time. KSUT is well positioned to respond on behalf of its listening friends and audience.



Our current home, long outgrown.



Antiquated on-air console.

Phase I: Modern Broadcast Facility

Goal: \$1.8 Million

Timeline: Spring 2013-2015



KSUT broadcast studio.



“We love KSUT. It is an integral part of our daily life, especially having no TV.”

Frank Denisch, Durango, CO.



Tom Bartels, co-host
videographer, co-host
Good Dirt Radio

Great Programming Means Little if KSUT is Not on the Air

We at KSUT understand there is nothing worse than getting in your car as you head to work, expecting to hear *Morning Edition*, and hearing dead-air instead. Unfortunately, transmission and equipment problems are an all too often occurrence at KSUT and are the result of decades of old equipment.

Even with the challenges of aging and obsolete equipment, KSUT diligently strives to stay current with the rapidly improving technology that allows for programming distribution. We do this both regionally with a traditional, terrestrial radio broadcast signal, and nationally via technology that allows for Internet streaming, mobile device reception and social media-based connectivity. But, as a non-profit organization with stretched resources, our capacity is limited.

In the new facilities, you, the listener, will benefit from a robust radio transmission system that is state-of-the-art, well maintained and easy to troubleshoot.

“Much like our community is progressing from coal to solar, KSUT is updating its systems to create a cleaner, more resilient and reliable resource for the listening audience. When we all step forward to help with this effort, we get to enjoy a new phase in community strength and resilience with a radio station that’s there when you need them. Please join me in supporting KSUT’s bright future.”

The overall advantages mean cleaner and better sound, reliable coverage and improved access, instilling confidence that KSUT will be there every time you tune in.

The New Facility: Programming and Technical Advantages

- Advanced ethernet wiring that allows for use of new and modern networked audio equipment, back-up generators and multiple signal delivery options.
- An on-site transmission tower that directs radio signals to remote transmitters, reducing the number of “jumps” the signal must make before reaching a listener’s ear.
- Digitization and archival of the KSUT vinyl and CD library.
- Modern back-up power system capable of supplying the entire facility with enough power to continue to not only broadcast programming, but also to stay connected to the Emergency Broadcast System.
- Multiple studios providing redundant broadcast capabilities, so in the event that a component fails in one studio, there are at least two other back-ups.
- Climate controlled studio, office and equipment areas ensuring longer life of broadcast components.
- Advanced surge protection throughout the entire facility protecting it from the frequent lightening storms that affect the area.



“Don’t know what I would do up here in Silverton with out KSUT!”

Nicole Bellman, Silverton, CO.