

Welcome to the Event Tech Podcast, where we explore the ever evolving world of event technology every week. This show is brought to you by Endless Events, the event AV company that doesn't suck. Now, let's talk tech.

Brandt Krueger:

Hello everybody, and welcome to another episode of the Event Tech podcast. He is the historical Will Curran of Endless Events.

Will Curran:

I said you'd like this one, but you are the heartbreaking Brandt Krueger.

Brandt Krueger:

I am a heartbreaker. This type of Adonis leg body doesn't happen on its own, so you know.

Will Curran:

Lots of stouts, Hefeweizens, and-

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, exactly.

Will Curran:

... technology.

Brandt Krueger:

Yep. Got to do the 12 ounce curls to stay in shape. But that is not what we're here to talk about today.

Will Curran:

No, never. Never it is.

Brandt Krueger:

No. My fitness regime is not what we're here to talk about today. What we're going to talk about today is kind of an off shoot of an episode we did not long ago, where you and I talked about hardware.

Will Curran:

Hardware.

Brandt Krueger:

Hardware and events. We kind of did the run down of iPad versus laptop versus tablet versus Surface versus iOS; iPhone versus Android. We told our personal stories about our personal journeys of tech. But after we did that episode, you and I were talking a little bit, and we realized that we'd left out a lot of stuff. Specifically, we thought we could zero in a bit on tablets.

Will Curran:
Tablets, yeah.

Brandt Krueger:
And these kind of two-in-ones and things like that. We kind of dusted over a few things in that episode in an episode to broaden the conversation. So what we kind of wanted to talk about is how often you and I are seeing people on site, seeing planners on site with these big, bulky, old-

Will Curran:
Dell laptops.

Brandt Krueger:
... Dell laptops, and how much nicer their lives could be by getting into the world of tablets and two-in-ones.

Will Curran:
Absolutely. I can't tell you how often that I see it, where it's the show office or whatever it is; their laptop is set up and it's just ... set up plugged into the charger, with a mouse and a keyboard. It's basically a desktop computer, and then you have to go run and solve a problem. "Oh, but I have to get to my computer in order to email this file off," and things like that. I think what we talked a lot about is how much we're loving our Surface devices and things like that. I felt like this is a great topic for us to talk about how these devices are the perfect fit, I feel like, for our industry, specifically planners but also I think this can go for AV teams, florists, caterers, everyone in between.

Brandt Krueger:
Yeah. As soon as the iPad really hit ... As I said on the last show, when generation one came out, I was kind of, "Meh." But as soon as they went to that iPad two, where it was already immediately half as thick and screaming fast, that right then was when I went, "Oh. Oh, yes. Yes." That was when the light bulb started to click off, "This would be fantastic for events."

Will Curran:
Totally. I tried the Android tablets for a while. Obviously again, I wasn't a big Apple user probably post iPad. But I tried Android tablets out, and I tried ones that connected to keyboards so you could turn it into a laptop. There's always this desire, I think, for me to have a device that converts into another device. But I never found it was just as productive to be able to do, but then when I walked to the Surface ... when I got the Surface Pro, that was, oh my gosh, life changing as well. So maybe do we want to talk about the benefits and maybe some specific use cases of where we can see it being really beneficial?

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, I think. I think an effective way to do that would be to kind of talk through the life cycle of an event. Right? Because really, these types of devices can be beneficial and helpful throughout the event, even in the time leading up to it. So starting right out with how difficult it is, especially these days with airplane seating ... I don't know, you probably haven't done it in a while because you ... Yeah, you've got your Surface, so yeah, you're pulling out-

Will Curran:
Yeah.

Brandt Krueger:
So when you put that tray table down and try and open up a full laptop-

Will Curran:
Fifteen inch Surface Book 2.

Brandt Krueger:
Yeah, 15" laptop, it's crazy. Right? God forbid the person tries to put their seat back down.

Will Curran:
Oh, then I hate my life because my laptop has to tilt down at like a 10 degree angle.

Brandt Krueger:
Right, right, right. So for me, as soon as I made that switch to an iPad, even an iPad with a type cover, that made all the difference in the world.

Will Curran:
For like, email-

Brandt Krueger:
Yeah, just being able to bang out-

Will Curran:
Pre-production.

Brandt Krueger:
So yeah. So in that time leading up to the event, it's easy, it's mobile. We're frequently dealing with the next event while we're on an event, and so being able to grab the iPad, grab the Surface, any one of these tablet-type devices, and ... Even just I want to go have a drink in the lobby bar but maybe bang out some emails, not having to bring the full brick of the laptop down is huge.

Will Curran:

Yeah. I mean, you sit in the lobby bar and go get drinks and get some work down, that sounds like a really good time. Can we go do that?

Brandt Krueger:

I think we should probably do that right after we're done with this episode.

Will Curran:

No, I was going to say though, I think you bring up a good point about the productivity of it all. Yeah, it just allows you to get work done anywhere. Let's talk about this, too; it also allows you to do it when you're standing up.

Brandt Krueger:

Yes, yes.

Will Curran:

Imagine holding a laptop and trying to answer an email. You always occasionally see it, but it's always the one hand type to type three words.

Brandt Krueger:

Well, and then, yeah. Yeah, so on the way to the event, on the airplane, you're at your current event. Then once you start getting into rehearsal land-

Will Curran:

Before you even get to there, I got another one. Imagine you're on a site visit and-

Brandt Krueger:

I should've started there. I can't believe I skipped that.

Will Curran:

Yeah, yeah. So let's bring in, for example, the vet. Let's bring in the site visit. I think this is the perfect case example of this, too. They give you obviously the layouts and the maps and everything like that, and you start to walk through them. Well sometimes those maps don't quite make sense until you actually get on site and on space. But imagine that you're like, "Okay yeah, we should put a step and repeat here, and we should put registration here." Imagine to be able to draw right on that plan as you're doing it. Just a rough example of where everything's going. We usually end up doing it by pen and doing it in person. But then you can't take ... I mean, maybe you can take a picture of it or scan it. God, do we even ... I think you own a scanner.

Brandt Krueger:

I do own a scanner.

Will Curran:

But you know, that could be incredibly beneficial, just to be able to draw on maps. I think the drawing cases are going to get brought up over and over again on this, but that's a great example.

Brandt Krueger:

It is. That was very opening as soon as I started bringing originally an iPad. Then once I got into the two-in-one, the flip over laptop where the screen flips all the way over and you're able to kind of use it as a tablet, and then now with the Surface devices. Immediately that was something that, once you're on site, being able to bring up those diagrams ... Like you said, just say, "Okay well, what if we put it over here?" And then you kind of draw it in. "Okay great, and then we can put this over here. Nah, I don't like that," quick scratch it out. Or if you do go, "Yes, that's brilliant," and quick do a screen capture or something like that and save it, it's huge. You've talked about being able to do that on site with things like cab diagrams and things like that.

Brandt Krueger:

So that initial site visit is absolutely is huge. I'll give you another one, and this was one of the stories that I left off of my personal journey in the other hardware episode, is that for me, handwriting recognition is something that I've always desperately wanted. I was a handwritten notes guy for a long, long time. I've got literally a box full of notebooks, spiral notebooks, from notes from events that I just can't bear to throw away. There's no real good reason to keep them, but it's just kind of fun to go back and look every now and then. As soon as the iPad Pro, the original iPad Pro, came out with the pencil, that was the first device that was ever actually able to take my chicken scratch and turn it into text. So actual handwriting to text. That was then transformational as well. So going on those site visits and being able to chicken scratch notes and then easily translate that into physical typed text was huge. I mean, enormously huge. And people would see me on site and be like, "Oh my god, what are you doing?" They'd watch me do it as it's actually translating my handwriting into text as I go. They're like, "Oh my god, I want that so bad."

Will Curran:

That's so nice.

Brandt Krueger:

It was a really fun moment.

Will Curran:

Well, the benefits of that too is that some people might say like, "Well, I don't need my handwriting to be digitized." But here's the great things about it; two things. First is the obvious; you can share it with someone. Right?

Brandt Krueger:

Exactly.

Will Curran:

So you can say, "Oh hey. Okay, I just got done with this site visit. Let's give all my notes to the AV company, to the caterer, to this person." Or the people who attended the site visit, like, "Let's get them all and share." But here's an example that most people don't think about too, is a searchability of it. So then that way, when you go back and you do all your site visits of all the different cities and locations, you can say, "You know what? Oh, man. What was that name of that person that I wrote down their contact information for the Sheraton?" or whatever it is. Boom, you can turn to text and it's searchable. I'm finding even handwriting; some systems are now doing handwriting recognition.

Brandt Krueger:

OneNote. So, OneNote, which comes free with Office. If you have Microsoft Office subscription on 365 or just the full package thing, you get OneNote. OneNote is a great place to store event stuff. So I literally will just create a page for each event that I'm working on. Then like you say, you've got those handwritten notes in there. If I haven't already converted them to text by the time it hits OneNote, anything that is handwritten can be scanned in or take a picture of it, and that's searchable as well.

Will Curran:

OneNote, definitely a kind of mini pro tip. Definitely recommend it. That's my note taking app of choice. But it's free for iOs, Android, Windows, Mac, everybody.

Brandt Krueger:

Absolutely. So, anything else on the site visit? It's great to be able to draw over things. Again, the handwriting is huge for me.

Will Curran:

Totally. I got a good one. So for example, let's say you're taking pictures. A lot of times we take pictures at site visits, right?

Brandt Krueger:

Yes.

Will Curran:

"Oh hey, this is where the stage is going to go." Imagine ... I'm not promoting that you should take pictures with your tablet. But you can take a picture with your tablet, and then again, draw on it instantaneously. I think far too often, we're like, "Oh yeah, it can go in this spot and this spot," and we're always doing 2D relayed maps. But keep in mind, you have all these pictures. I'm sure there's an app that does this, but I'm sure there's some way to annotate video as well. I don't know an app off the top of my head; maybe we'll go try to find a good one and link it down below. Or maybe if you know one, you know where to hit us up, #eventtechpodcast, eventtechpodcast@helloendless.com. But I'm sure there's a way to annotate video, too, so you

could also walk through the guest experience and draw over it as you go along. I think that could really help.

Brandt Krueger:

And usually at that stage in the process, you don't need high definition, awesome photos. You just need to remember what it looked like and, "Oh yeah, we're talking about moving this lamp over there and this lamp over there," with arrows. So it doesn't have to be high end, so yeah, you can still take pictures with your tablet-

Will Curran:

Totally.

Brandt Krueger:

... at that point in time.

Will Curran:

That's the example, but not at a concert.

Brandt Krueger:

No, not at a concert. That's never okay.

Will Curran:

Never okay.

Brandt Krueger:

That's never okay.

Will Curran:

But yeah, I think that's all I got down for site visits. So what's the next step in the process? So, solidify the venue. I think you were trying to move in towards rehearsals. I mean, obviously a lot of the site visit stuff and drawing stuff can be related to the planning rehearsals, you wanted to kind of jump into.

Brandt Krueger:

And already, one of the key factors here should be not only the things you can do with tablets, but the fact that they're so much lighter and that the battery life ... Especially, the iPad battery life is phenomenal. I mean, you can just absolutely get a full day of site visit in and then just charge it over night. The Surface, I've been happy with, but that's still maybe about six hours of full-time, always on battery life at that point.

Brandt Krueger:

But yeah, as we start to get into rehearsals and things like that, that's where it's huge to be able to just have that in your hand so you're not having to run back to the tech table to look something up on the show flow. Or like you said, you're not having to run back to the office-

Will Curran:

To print something.

Brandt Krueger:

... every time you need to check on something. Right, so being able to carry that with you in a way that's not going to feel like you're carrying a 10-pound weight around with you is enormously helpful once you're engaged and on site.

Will Curran:

Yeah. I think you bring up ... You kind of like teased at it a little bit, is a show flow aspect of it. I know yours and my ... One of my favorite softwares is the Shoflo software; shoflo.tv. It's basically a glorified amazing Google spreadsheet that allows you to basically put in cues and updates and things like that. But I know that the app looks, because I've used it on my Surface, looks incredible on tablet. It's definitely designed that someone could be at the tech table rewriting cues, making changes, doing the show calling. And then you as a stage manager could be walking around the room, walking through cues or walking on stage to reenact awards grabbing, all with this tablet right in your hand and you have all the cues right then and there. I think that can be really, really powerful, for sure.

Brandt Krueger:

You still see a lot of planners running around with the binders. I mean, it's kind of become a little bit of a joke now at this point, of like, "You can have my binder when you pry it from my cold, dead hands," kind of thing. But also just think about how much paper you're printing out, all that kind of stuff. All of that, at this point, can really easily be done with tablet, whether it's keeping your stuff in OneNote or you're still using spreadsheets. There's still plenty of life left in spreadsheets. So being able to have easy access to that information in a lightweight form factor is huge.

Will Curran:

Totally, totally. I think that everybody will find eventually what their exact system will be doing. Some people will say like, "Hey, I really miss having a file structure." But I think we'll talk about maybe specific devices we like at the end. I think we're teasing a lot of them so far right now. But there's definitely a lot of really good use for it. But I agree, let's get rid of paper. Events are changing so fast. Why do we not have living documents that are constantly changing, that are constantly updated? I can't tell you how many times I've been on site where someone decided to print off a show flow that was old, and then they go, "Oh, blah, blah, blah. Then there's this cue," and I'm like, "No there's not." They're like, "But it's right here," and I'm like, "Dude, we made those edits a long time ago. You're using an old version." And they're like, "Oh, well I have to bust out the laptop anyways."

Will Curran:

So yeah, rehearsals I think is really, really key. Also, I mean, things to keep in mind, too. When it comes to you having this sort of stuff too, is I think a lot of the event tech apps now too have tabletized versions of it. They give you a little bit more data on one page. So imagine if, for example, you're using an event software to be able to manage your registration, to be able to see more data about your registrants on that tablet versus just on your phone or having, again, to bust out of the laptop, which is probably just staying in the office the whole entire time. But you can have all this information right then and there on the spot.

Brandt Krueger:

That's another fantastic point, is as we 're using more of the event technology that has these data points and things like that, so your registration system portal, your audience engagement technology, being able to add polling and add stuff on the fly quickly and easily while you're running around ... I was working an event for an audience engagement company. At one point, I kind of just stopped and was like, "Holy crap, I'm running all of this from my iPad." Being able to actually run from room to room, keep an eyeball on this, I was monitoring ... Bless you.

Will Curran:

Thank you.

Brandt Krueger:

I was monitoring one room while I was in another room, and I could see, using their software, that the other machine was online and that people were still able to get their connectivity going. So it was really an amazing and insightful moment for me to say not only can I use this tablet as kind of master control for the software, but also to be able to control rooms that I wasn't in thanks to internet connectivity and things like that. Someone would say, "Is the poll up and running in breakout C?" I'd look down and be like, "Yup, yup it is," even though that's down the hall and around the corner, because I could see people answering the questions and get that data live as it was coming in.

Will Curran:

You always feel like a little bit of an evil technological genius, like you have this tablet and you have so much control.

Brandt Krueger:

Well, you and I were playing with some new event technology in our session earlier today, and it suddenly struck me. I was like, "You know? Wait a second. This polling software" ... The software we were using actually allows you to control the laptop that's presenting. I'll give the guys a plug; it's Eventium. They've got a connects me product that lets you actually not only manage your polling and all that kind of stuff from an iPad, but you can actually then control the presentation laptop. But it occurred to me, that's all being done over the internet, which means you could actually have someone run their presentation from anywhere in the world, from an

iPad on the beach somewhere. But be actually controlling the physical laptop in the room with the attendees. That kind of had another like, blow my mind moment on that.

Will Curran:

Definitely. I think you bring up some really hyper-specific technological use cases of tablets, too. Because I actually, during the presentation, was trying to bring it up on my phone. Granted, my phone is a little special. Tease. But I think one of the interesting things is that tablets really are great for presentations. I remember the first time I used the Keynote presenter app; it allows you to see your notes and everything like that. A lot of times for speakers, having a tablet with you can be really game changing and really, really cool. I thought one of the cool things that it allowed you to do too was it allows you to draw on the slides. Gone are the days of laser pointers and pointing at specific stuff in slides. I don't do any presentations that really require it, but if I was doing something that did, instead of using a laser points and things like that, imagine just drawing with your finger on the tablet or using a stylus to be able to do it as well.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, and a lot of my early presentations, I would have very, very minimal slides and would draw almost everything. So if we wanted to talk about Lekos, I would literally kind of draw a little Leko on there and say, "Okay, this is this and this is this and this and this." Because I never knew for sure what we were going to talk about because it was like AV town hall stuff. That's always a lot of fun, to do something like that. So there's another aspect where these types of devices are capable of taking over and doing stuff on your events, and that's presentations. Absolutely.

Will Curran:

I think another really cool use case, and again, this one's probably hyper specific, I think, to the AV world; but what we're finding is a lot of audio engineers, lighting engineers, video engineers are really highly relying on tablets. So for example, now audio engineers can go around and control the audio board from their iPad. They can adjust the levels. So what that means is instead of them being stuck in the back corner or the back center or wherever it is, they can go down to the front row. They can go to the fifth row. The weird corner that someone else is sitting in. They can hear every single aspect of it, and then during the event they can get up and leave the audio board. Most guys don't end up leaving the audio board because there's a lot of quick toggles that are really nice to have, but I notice a lot of audio engineers, when they're moving around.

Will Curran:

Same thing for lighting guys. Same things for video. It's really, really cool how much control you can have over your event. Mission critical stuff can run though ... Not necessarily all off a tablet. These are more like remote controls. But it's still pretty-

Brandt Krueger:

You still have the console, but you're able to kind of remote control it.

Will Curran:
Definitely, definitely.

Brandt Krueger:
Well, same thing with presentation laptops, too. So what you're doing with Keynote is you're using the iPad to control a physical laptop. If you do go down that route, I still recommend having a click or whatever just in case.

Will Curran:
Just as a backup.

Brandt Krueger:
Just in case, just as a backup.

Will Curran:
I'm not sure if you have any other specific event use cases. I realized I forgot something from pre-production, if I can hope back to pre-production world and we can come back to the main-

Brandt Krueger:
Sure.

Will Curran:
... production world. So I realized, I was telling you this story before we were recording, and I think this is a good use case of, again, tablets being used. We had an event coming up, and essentially it required a little bit of ... Due to budget constraints, we couldn't spend a ton of money on lighting in one room and then also a ton of money on lighting in one. But what we realized is each was going on separately from each other, and we were doing battery-powered up lights and we were having to move speakers and things like that. It was one of those things where there was a lot of stuff having to be moved at specific points in the event, from one room to the other.

Will Curran:
Instead of saying like, "Okay, we're going to move this many lights to this, and this many to this" ... For one of my techs who hadn't been to that venue before, it was tough to explain. So what I realized is like ... what I did is I pulled up my Surface, I brought the floor plan of the event, and I literally put on a screen record with audio, and I recorded talking through it while drawing on the pen. Saying, "Okay, so this is where this light's going to go. This is where the speaker's going to go. This is where this is going to go. Blah, blah, blah. This and that. This is what we're going to do. This and this. And then at this time, 6:45, that's when the dinner's going to start to wrap up and we need to go start setting up for the after party. We're going to slowly start moving the up lights over here, and they're going to get moved to here, and this and this and that." I did it

almost like a Monday Night Football style, where it was literally like you're drawing over and you're like, "Wam, bam, ka-bam."

Brandt Krueger:
Boom!

Will Curran:

What was funny is it took me 15 minutes to explain versus having to really explain it, he could watch it whenever he wanted to because I just uploaded it as a video file to him. Afterwards he was like, "That helped me so much understand what was going on." When he came in, I didn't ever have to explain it twice. He understood it perfectly. I think this idea of screen record plus drawing plus audio annotation can be extremely powerful. I think we far too often get stuck in our text emails. We get stuck in our images and pictures. You're starting to see a little bit of drawings, right? And maybe scanned documents. But one thing that we really miss out, I think, on is the use of video, too, and this idea of screen capture and annotation.

Will Curran:

I just did our quarterly update for our company, and I literally just took OneNote, screen captured it, and drew out these things. It was way more engaging, almost as if I had a whiteboard in front of me. Everyone loved it; everyone thought it was really fantastic because I got to put a lot of metrics up and explain things and draw things. People just loved it. So I think people really like that format. And it didn't cost me anything; it was ... I mean, obviously it cost my computer. But I have a Surface, I used a normal screen capture tool that allowed me to do audio recording, and then just upload it. There's free tools like loom.com that allow you to screen capture and instantly upload. There's GoVideo that allows you to do the same. I think it helps with that communication gap, especially if you're working remotely from the venue or with your vendors. It allows you to just help on that communication standpoint.

Brandt Krueger:

It's another one of those a-ha moments for me as well, is I was blown away by the power of the pen. I mean, I was surprised how much I've enjoyed having a stylus, having a pen on these devices. I talked about on the last episode that for a while, I flirted with a high-end Chromebook. One of the things that I loved about that Samsung Chromebook is that it had a built in pen, like an S pen, like what they've got ... I think it actually literally was an S pen; the same pen that they use in the Note 10. But it had a slot for it, right? So you could just click, click, and the pen would pop out and you could use it, and you could click, click and put the pen back in. It was awesome. That's one of the things I loved about that device. I just couldn't make Chrome work for me and my use cases. Go back and listen to that episode if you want to find out why.

Brandt Krueger:

But so having the pencil for the iPad, having the Surface Pen for the Surface Pro, has been really a lot of fun for doing art and drawing and doodling and things like that, but also work. Actually being able to sketch out effectively a stage set. "This is what I think it should look like,"

and being able to have the digital ability of like, "Oops, nope. Not that one. Erase that," and, "Yep, just like that." And duplicate and copy and all of the things that come along with computing devices. It's huge. So yes, don't underestimate the power of the pen.

Brandt Krueger:

So, anything else on the front end there?

Will Curran:

Yeah, yeah. That's it, that's it. So we can circle back into on site during the event, benefits of the devices.

Brandt Krueger:

So in addition to all the benefits that we've got for the planners out there, also think about ... Don't forget the event technology side. We already talked about being able to use tablets for presentations, for notes, for all that kind of stuff. But also, there's a really good use case for attendees to have tablets as well. One very effective use that I've seen of that is in some of the more high end financial and medical meetings that I've worked on, where there's a little bit higher security and you don't want people tweeting things and you don't want people putting things on Instagram and things like that. One of the more effective ways of doing that is to find ways to keep their phones in their pockets. So when you're using things like a mobile app or something like that and you're asking people to install that on their devices, it forces them to use their own devices, right?

Will Curran:

Good point.

Brandt Krueger:

So you bring out your own phone, and you're going to go check the schedule or something like that. But oh, look. I've got an email from that client. Oh shoot, I should probably get back to them. And now, oh yeah, wait. Now there's Instagram. So you're actually distracting your attendees potentially. But then also once that phone is out, they're more likely to take a snapshot of whatever's having on stage, and maybe that's something that you wanted to keep private. Or maybe there's a presentation; I want to take a picture of my coworker Rob because he's doing something kind of funny because we're in the back row and we're making fun of the person. But in the background is the PowerPoint that's got this year's financials, or something along those lines.

Brandt Krueger:

So for companies that are trying to just, not lock things down, but just discourage people from getting their phones out for whatever reason that might be, if it's not too ... What?

Will Curran:

They're handing out iPads?

Brandt Krueger:
Yes, absolutely.

Will Curran:
Wow.

Brandt Krueger:
So if it's not too big of a show, what happens is you walk into ... Because at some point, it starts to get cost prohibitive. But it's actually not that expensive to rent an iPad these days. So you have a couple crates of iPads shipped to you directly from any number of rental houses that are out there. Literally if you just type "AV rentals," you're going to find one of these places. They'll usually ship it to you as part of the price.

Brandt Krueger:
So yeah, you walk into the room and each attendee has an iPad that's got the mobile app preloaded, got the schedule preloaded, note taking capabilities, all that stuff right there so that people aren't having to use their own devices, and they're less likely to get sucked in to other things. They're less likely to post things. It's a really effective way of doing it. The one caveat that I'll throw in there, is you do have to tell people, "These are not for you to keep." I did run into that; people thought, "Oh, wow. They gave us an iPad." "No, no. We just wanted to" ... So you might want to get that out of the way right away, in your first speaker of the day, to just let people know that's not for you to keep.

Brandt Krueger:
But I will say, it was really effective. It was really effective at ... Because now you have 100% uptake on the mobile app, because literally everybody already has it. You're not counting on people to install things on their personal devices that maybe they forget about later. You've got 100% control over the technology, so again, nobody's going to take a screenshot and post it on Instagram or something like that, because you don't put Instagram on that.

Will Curran:
Instagram locked.

Brandt Krueger:
You can lock down the devices to only have access to the apps that you want them to. Then you can decide things like, "Do I want to be able to let them take notes on the slides?" or things like that, and then send it to themselves. So yeah, a very effective way of kind of taking things to the next level using tablets.

Will Curran:
I love it. I love it. I'm trying to think of anything else that can be used for on site at the event itself.

Brandt Krueger:
Registration.

Will Curran:
Yeah, registration. Besides, I think, the common cases where it's like, "Oh hey, this could replace." But more so like work flow for planning the event. But if you have ideas for how you use it on events, again, let us know. I'm doing this call to action-

Brandt Krueger:
Do it.

Will Curran:
... a lot during this, because I want to hear from you guys. Because I don't think this is something that's out of reach. I feel like a lot of you guys probably already do use tablets or convertibles or two-in-ones, things like that, already for your events. I want to hear how you're using it and what's your favorite use case of using it that's really made your work flow a lot better.

Brandt Krueger:
So let's get into the form factors. I know you've got one that you're dying to talk about.

Will Curran:
Yeah, yeah. Well, let's start with the ones that are obvious, everyone knows, before we go into the shiny new-

Brandt Krueger:
Sure.

Will Curran:
So, I think there's the obvious iPad. Right? iPad. The Galaxy Tab S6, I think, just came out, which is Samsung's version. But a lot of people are saying, "Hey, this is the iPad competitor."

Brandt Krueger:
I have not been super impressed by the Android tablets.

Will Curran:
Oh, no. Not at all. But people have been saying good things about the Samsung tablet this year, saying it's really, really good. Super snappy, very fast, and good things like that. So those are kind of obvious; everyone knows those tablets.

Will Curran:
Then you kind of go into the ... Let's go into the touchscreen laptop, foldable convertible.

Brandt Krueger:

Also, real quick before we go into that. So, I think I mentioned it on the last episode about hardware. That if all you want is basic pen support and handwriting recognition and being able to doodle on things, the iPad nothing, so not the Pro, not the Mini, not the Air or anything like that; the iPad nothing is a great device.

Will Curran:

It's like 200 bucks.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, it's super cheap. I think I got our last one for like 275. Then the pencil's extra and things like that. But that's a fantastic device and does everything that I need it to do. So you don't have to go iPad Pro. You don't have to go ... Unless you want that bigger screen. Unless you want the 10 ... I think the 10" or whatever it is.

Will Curran:

Yeah, or you need more processing power to video edit or photo retouch and things like that.

Brandt Krueger:

Right. We talked a lot in that last episode about exactly that. So just being honest with yourself, "What am I going to use it for?" If all you're doing is what we've been talking about today, like spreadsheets and drawing on things, that iPad nothing is a great device.

Will Curran:

Totally. And I think, too, when you're looking at it, too, I think as we look at this, too, look at your ecosystem that you are using and what you feel comfortable with. So for example, one of the reasons why I don't have an iPad in my daily uses is I do believe that the iPad OS is probably the most powerful out of any of them, especially, oh my gosh, after all these updates they had at these last couple keynotes. The multi-tasking ability, they have a file system now. But the problem with it is just that I would take ... It would pull me so much out of the comfortability of understanding the work flow that it would take me longer probably to learn than it would be for me to gain any benefit from it.

Will Curran:

But, the same could be for you for an Android, or as we go into these other devices, maybe the same as well. Choose what you're comfortable with and that you feel fast on. Don't let anybody say, "Oh, this is how it is." If you work fast on it and makes you productive, doesn't slow you down, then it's the way to go.

Brandt Krueger:

On the other hand, I would not mess around with a \$50 Android tablet.

Will Curran:

Yes, that's true. Yeah, no like-

Brandt Krueger:

Definitely in Android land, you get what you pay for.

Will Curran:

Yeah, no Fire Kindles. No FireHD Kindles ever.

Brandt Krueger:

So while the low-end iPad is just fine, I would not go low end on the Android tablets.

Will Curran:

Absolutely. So yeah, so then we got the nicer tablets. The one that everyone recommends is, yeah, that Samsung. Check that one out. Getting a lot of good reviews on it.

Will Curran:

Then convertible laptops. We're talking laptops that fold back on themselves.

Brandt Krueger:

Right. It's called a two-in-one.

Will Curran:

Yeah, two-in-one. You had one that you liked a lot for a while.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, the Samsung Chromebook that I had, I think it was called the Samsung Chromebook Pro, I believe, was fantastic. It was snappy, it was fast. If you live in Chrome like I live in Chrome, as far as Gmail and all my widgets and add ons and all that kind of stuff, which is another episode where you could go listen to where Will and I went through all of our Chrome add ons and all of the software that we use to run our businesses and run our events; you can go back and listen to that one. So yeah, that was a fantastic device. But again, if you have to do things like working with a lot of PowerPoints, you're combining PowerPoints, you're taking stuff from this one and mixing it with that one; you can't do that on a Chromebook.

Will Curran:

It's got to be a Windows or Mac device.

Brandt Krueger:

That was the biggest limitation. The other limitations that I would say is if you're presenting a lot of things, there are some things that don't work quite so well with Google Slides. It's not quite up to snuff. The web version of PowerPoint also has its quirks as well.

Will Curran:
Totally.

Brandt Krueger:

But again, if you're dealing with spreadsheets and just want a little handwriting recognition but you want a little bit beefier clam shell type feeling of your laptop, that from time to time you want to flip it over ... And that's the same with all of these two-in-ones, not just the Chromebook. But all of these two-in-ones. That's actually what kind of got me closer and closer to going to the Surface, is that I had a two-in-one for about a year and realized I was really liking it in tablet mode. So I went full on tablet.

Will Curran:

That's one of the problems, I think, with the two-in-one, the flipping kind, is that you end up kind of getting stuck in this having a keyboard always attached. It adds a little bit of weight to it. We'll talk a little bit about some form factors that allow you to remove your keyboard or have keyboard optional.

Will Curran:

Another reason why it's a downside too if you're doing Chromebook, if you're doing any sort of video editing, photo editing, or if you're your an incessant tab-leaver opener, right?

Brandt Krueger:

4700 Chrome tabs, yeah.

Will Curran:

Yeah, you're the person who's like, "Why is my computer so slow?" And then your coworker looks over and is like, "Jesus, you have so many tabs open." Yeah, probably Chromebook's not right for you on that end.

Brandt Krueger:

The high-end Chromebooks, though.

Will Curran:

The high end, like the Pixelbook.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, the ultimate would be a Pixelbook from Google. You can have as many tabs open as you want-

Will Curran:

Yeah, as much as you want. But then if you're looking to go from Chromebook land or maybe inexpensive Windows laptop flippable to a little bit more high end, I think you and I are big fans, we said it multiple times, is the Surface line has been huge for us. I started with the Pro; you

have a Pro now. We've been really, really happy. They even have, if you're looking for a little bit less power, the Go series, which is a little bit lighter mobile-based processor, I believe, version of it that's very inexpensive as well. Go ahead.

Brandt Krueger:

Well, I was just going to say now they've announced, along that same line, is the ProX.

Will Curran:

Wow, hey. I don't want to tease them too much in the new stuff yet because we're probably going to talk about that new exciting stuff soon, but-

Brandt Krueger:

But that's tablet form factor.

Will Curran:

Yeah, tablet form factor that keyboard detaches. That's almost like where you go into iPad land, too, is that the new iPad allows you to do a detachable keyboard. So you get that benefit of, "Oh hey, you just want to have it on your arm. You want something light." I like that for form factor a lot. But if you're looking for a little bit more power; again, you're doing video editing; maybe the Surface Book, which has a detachable keyboard but it's a hardware keyboard. It can't just ... That's the one thing I do kind of miss, is that mine technically can flip to the back but it's more like that laptop that can flip backwards.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, and that's something, again, we covered on that last episode. But just to recap, the Surface Book is more like a laptop that you can attach the screen. The Surface Pro is more like a tablet that you can attach a keyboard to.

Will Curran:

Totally, totally. And also, I love that form factor, because as much as I love tablets, and we'll talk about it when we talk about all the future stuff coming out, I sometimes ... Onscreen keyboards are tough for me. Sometimes I'm quicker with a mouse. Sometimes I want the precision of a mouse or the ability to ... I don't know what it is. I've been having this ... As we talk about to get to my new device, I've been having this inkling of, "Ugh, man. Okay, I can pull out that laptop and do this. I know I can do this in five seconds." But then I have to push myself to be like, "No, I know I can do this on this device." Sometimes it kind of takes that pushing of work flow, I feel like. But you've gotten really good at onscreen keyboards, handwriting recognition. I feel like you can do the whole gamut.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, I will say that Microsoft onscreen keyboard is not fantastic. It's gotten better. It's gotten better over even just the year or so that I've been working with them. But it's still got some work

to do. Apple just nailed that onscreen keyboard for the iPad. I can literally touch type on the onscreen keyboard on an iPad.

Will Curran:

That's crazy. I just learned that if you swipe up on a Q for example that has a one above it ... You swipe up, that's how you get to the one. I didn't know that's how you ... I was always like, "How do I get to the one?" I'm pressing and holding. Then finally I'm like, "Oh, hey. Swipe."

Brandt Krueger:

And they're opposite, too. So on the iPad, I think it's a swipe down. Then on the Microsoft, it's a swipe up.

Will Curran:

That was a ... Oh my gosh.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, so I bounce back and forth between the two, so that's fun. Sometimes I'm like, "Come on. Can we just agree on this?"

Will Curran:

Totally, totally.

Brandt Krueger:

All right. Anything else on those before we get into the future stuff?

Will Curran:

Yeah. I think there's a whole host of devices. Find what works for you. Oh, this is the thing we didn't talk about, is that the nice thing about the Surface line is it's full Windows.

Brandt Krueger:

Right. It's not like iPad, where it's kind of like MacOS but not MacOS. It really is a full-fledged Windows. That's the thing that I've really loved about it. So many times I need my full Chrome, I need my full set of things, then I need my full PowerPoint. I need the ability to be real PowerPoint.

Will Curran:

Yup, yup. That's what's nice about it, is that you get that full power.

Brandt Krueger:

I'll throw one more thing out on the two-in-ones, is that that might be a great way to kind of test the waters. I mean, that's basically what I did, is that I had that nice HP Spectre two-in-one foldy-over, and I just found myself really liking the fold over tablet mode a lot more than I

thought I was going to. Like, "You know? I think I could get away with having just the Surface and the detachable keyboard."

Will Curran:

Totally. I think I might have mentioned this on the last episode about my customer service experience I had from Microsoft, I believe.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah.

Will Curran:

But if it's one of those things too, that if you're, for example, considering that you like this form factor, we obviously all know that Mac has not created a sort of touchscreens or tablets; it's iPad or laptop. It's one of the choices, right? But if you're looking maybe and you like this convertible form factor, I would highly recommend considering doing a Microsoft device because you get the support of the Microsoft store. If you like that idea of just being able to take your computer in and being like, "I don't know what's wrong with it; please fix it," it really is helpful, I think, to have that on there as well. So that was just another shout out I kind of wanted to give on that.

Will Curran:

Or again, you can go in and play with this stuff in person. Now that I'm condoning this, but feel free to buy it and then there's always a return policy. If you don't like it, a lot of these companies are really relaxed when it comes to return policies. That if you don't like it, they probably will take it back. They'll be like, "Well, we don't-

Brandt Krueger:

Especially if the next possibility is more expensive. So I mean, start low and, "Nope, that's not going to cut it." You can move up to the next one. They're always going to be willing to sell you a more expensive thing, especially if you're going to be returning something.

Will Curran:

Definitely, definitely.

Will Curran:

So, let's talk about the future of tablets and convertible devices and everything like that. I think first starting off with the Surface news that came off this last week, and then we can talk about my new favorite thing in the entire world. But Microsoft just had their Surface event, as they called it, and they announced a whole load of devices. New Surface Pros; more powerful Surface Pros. New laptops with touch screens. But the cool thing that you just teased at is that they announced the Surface ProX. Do you want to explain what the Surface ProX is?

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah. So I mean, the Surface Pro that I've got is a little bit bulky for a tablet, compared to like an iPad. So it's about a solid almost half an inch thick compared to ... I don't know what an iPad is, but less than a quarter inch.

Will Curran:
Much thinner.

Brandt Krueger:
Yeah, yeah, yeah. It's a little boxy. So this new Microsoft Surface X looks probably half as thick as the current Pro, and it's supposed to be just a screamer, too. The things that I'm going to kind of wait and see a little bit is ... Not to get too nerdy on this, think the difference between a laptop desktop processor versus a phone processor. So it's just a different beast, it's a different animal.

Will Curran:
Well, I think the thing you need to mention is that it has that kind of mobile phone processor, not a laptop processor.

Brandt Krueger:
Yes, exactly. So the Surface Pro and the Surface Book and all of those guys, those are using Intel or AMD processors, which are what are traditionally in laptops, desktops, all of those kinds of things, and have been for decades. That's what windows runs on; Windows runs on those chip architectures. This new Surface Pro X is a mobile chip. I'm pretty sure it's Qualcomm.

Will Curran:
Yeah, Qualcomm. Yeah, Qualcomm partnership.

Brandt Krueger:
Right. So it's a Qualcomm Snapdragon; I'm sure I can look it up. But anyway, it's going to be a mobile chip, so it's got-

Will Curran:
Yup. Custom designed just for this.

Brandt Krueger:
Yeah, custom designed for this. Now, so we're going to be putting Windows on this totally new chip architecture. I'm just going to reserve judgment to make that it's running properly and all those kinds of things before I rush out and buy one.

Will Curran:
To play the devil's advocate for what Brandt says is that according to their ... Again, we only have press announcements and like one person's gotten hands on with a prototype version of this. But they have said that this is faster; the Pro X is faster than the Surface Pro 6. If that's true-

Brandt Krueger:

Faster, and amazing battery life, because you're getting that mobile phone battery life.

Will Curran:

Yeah, and I think you bring up a good point, too, and we didn't even talk about this with tablets like iPads, Androids potentially, things like that. Is that also with this tablet, it's always on. So imagine you just put your device to sleep, not just going to close it; it lasts forever. It said something like 24 hours of battery life.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, it's crazy. Well, it's going to be a lot more like iPad or better battery life. Because that's the thing, is that iPads, Apple has those chips custom made. That's not an off the shelf chip. So they're all the way down at the hardware level making sure that they can squeeze every ounce of battery out of those things. This is going to enable Microsoft to start going down that same road.

Will Curran:

I love it. I love it. I think one of the cool features it has, too, is that right now, the pens so far, other than maybe the S Pen for maybe the Pixelbook and the S Pen for the Note device ... We didn't even talk about the Note, oh my gosh. That's a form factor potentially for...

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah. I mean, it's a phone, but it's so big it might as well be a tablet.

Will Curran:

Yeah. Exactly, exactly. But all those, they've had their tablet pens sliding inside of them. Surfaces so far, we just have the ... The less cool it is, the magnetic on the side. It's still possible to lose it. This new device, I love this design. If you get a chance, watch a video on the Surface Pro X. They put the pen in the keyboard holder. So basically you put the pen right on the edge, you snap it up to snap it on, it charges it and it hides it in there. So your pen's always nearby, and I think that is just so brilliant. Again, just really clever design.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, I would love that as well. Like I said, I'm resisting the urge to run out and get this thing.

Will Curran:

Pre-order it.

Brandt Krueger:

I want to get this in the hands of about a couple million people before we really say, "Yup, it works great on this new chip."

Will Curran:

Well, I think your testament to your philosophy on technology was, "Will Curran says he's going to go buy the Samsung Galaxy Fold," and Brandt says, "Cool, I'm going to see what you think of yours."

Brandt Krueger:

Right, now I don't have to. Exactly.

Will Curran:

Because Brandt's one tier behind me. I'm the innovator who just buys and doesn't even know what anyone's going to thing, and Brandt's the early adopter.

Brandt Krueger:

Well, before we get to your Fold, it's important since we're talking about the Microsoft event, they also released two folding devices.

Will Curran:

Which are so cool, the Neo and the smaller Duo.

Brandt Krueger:

But it's not like the Galaxy Fold where it's all one screen. They're actually dual-screen devices.

Will Curran:

Yup, yup, yup.

Brandt Krueger:

That's the biggest thing to remember. They are foldable devices. So imagine basically a phone that folds out and has two screens, as opposed to the Fold where it folds out into one screen.

Will Curran:

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm . I think it's so cool. I think this is where we can start brainstorming on how this is going to be so effective for planners, is that, for example, the Duo, Neo ... Just to give the difference, the Neo is running a new version of Windows called Windows X-

Brandt Krueger:

I'm blanking on it, but I believe so, yeah.

Will Curran:

I think it's Windows X.

Brandt Krueger:

It is Windows X, yeah.

Will Curran:

Yeah, or Windows 10X or something like that. That's going to be a new version that's designed for dual screen. Then there's the Surface Duo, which is the smaller device, which is actually running Android. It's like an Android tablet, essentially. But either way, no matter what the operating system uses, obviously one's more Android apps. The other one's more for Windows. I'm really excited because the idea of the multi-tasking abilities. I'm curious to know from our audience how many people split screen stuff when they have either dual monitors, have snap to edge when they're using their laptops, or maybe using an ultra-wide monitor or things like that to multi-task simultaneously. But it can be really, really powerful when you're in an event.

Will Curran:

I think the example I used for you was having the agenda open on one side, and maybe attendee list on the other, on another screen. So then that way you can kind of work off both of them. Right? Or maybe have some stats related to your event, and on the left-hand side you're actually doing some messaging back and forth and things like that. I think it's super duper cool.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, there's a lot of possibilities there. Again, going back to what we were talking about earlier with your management software, being able to, like you said ... Maybe you've got your registration system and then you're messaging your team on the right. The split screen stuff on even iPad and Android devices in and of themselves is not elegant. So having, I think, two physical screens I think helps make that work maybe a little bit better.

Will Curran:

Totally. This is a really small demo, I think, for everyone. I don't think this necessarily applies just to event people, but also just one of the demos they showed is, okay you open up your email and the list of emails is on the left that you can click through, and the preview of the email is on the right. Almost like Outlook when you have it on the desktop, which I think a lot of people in the world in general will want too, for sure. So I think really exciting where we're going with tablets and devices. We're moving away from this land of the traditional laptop.

Brandt Krueger:

Well, and we're starting to see innovation again, too, which is what you ... It's probably time to talk about your new friend. But we're actually starting to see some movement again, away from black slabs. Let's try some things. Let's get weird. Let's get a triangle device. I don't know, something along those lines, just to try some things. You never know, that might be the next new amazing work flow.

Brandt Krueger:

So, talk about your new friend.

Will Curran:

So my new friend is named Samsung Galaxy Fold. I teased it, I think, two weeks ago. We were talking about how I wanted to get this phone. I don't think this show is the place to tell the story of how I ended up getting this phone; that's kind of a side story. But I really wanted this phone, and I almost went through hell and back to try to figure out how to get it. I got it primarily for two reasons. One, I think it's cool. But two, I'm also an early adopter. I love supporting technologies that I think should move in. I think I may have mentioned this in the hardware one, about the Droid Bionic transferring a phone into a laptop. Then again, I guess, I bought the ASUS tablet that turned the Android tablet into the laptop. I love the Surface devices. I guess I'm just really curious about-

Brandt Krueger:

You like things that transform.

Will Curran:

I do. Transformers; more that meets the eyes.

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah.

Will Curran:

I thought this device was really cool. Honestly, one of my desires I always have is that I want to take work load off of my laptop, because I spend ... I would consider my laptop my most valuable device because ... Not necessarily valuable in the sense that if I lose it, I would cry. But that I love working off a laptop; I do so much work off of it. If my laptop crapped out right now, I would literally go drop money to get another laptop because I need it. So one of the things I was curious about was could this replace my laptop for things like longer-based emails, for being able to view bigger documents? The things that I'm like, "I don't really want to do that on my phone." Could that do that? So far in my ... I almost said my relationship with my phone. Totally like getting to Her level status. It does look like the tablet from Her too, doesn't it?

Will Curran:

So in the time that I've had with this device, it has already started to make a ... Obviously there's been a couple times I've mentioned that I feel a push to go to my laptop. But I've remembered, "You can do that on this device." But the thing that's probably the most incredible is just the fact that the screen folds. I just love bringing something up, like an image, and then just being like ... Holding it right where it's about to close, and you're like, "Oh my god, it looks like it's going to break. It's fine."

Brandt Krueger:

And then it doesn't.

Will Curran:

It's totally fine. So I don't want to turn this into a review at all of the phone because I don't think anyone gives a crap as much as I do about this.

Brandt Krueger:

No.

Will Curran:

There's that one guy that's always like, "No, tell me all about the phone."

Brandt Krueger:

Right, right, right.

Will Curran:

But I think I'm excited to see, especially as I get more comfortable with the fragility of it, that I will be bringing this on site to bring up site maps, to bring up drawings, to feel comfortable letting other people touch it.

Brandt Krueger:

I think there's something to be said for the ability of this is the thing that I keep in my pocket. Then it can expand to something ... I think that's where there's a lot of appeal for things like the Note, the Samsung Note, is that it's big enough that you can do start to do handwriting recognition, taking notes, showing people pictures, looking at things like that. This takes that even one more step further than that. Now it's really the size ... It is the size of a small tablet when you've got it open. It really looks like you've got a small tablet in your hand. I would say it's got to be close to the same size as an iPad Mini.

Will Curran:

I don't know; I've never had an iPad Mini, so you can tell me.

Brandt Krueger:

Well, yeah. It's about this size.

Will Curran:

I just handed it to Brandt.

Brandt Krueger:

Yes, and he's got laser kitties for wallpaper. So I mean, it's a beautiful screen. It really is like having a tablet. Only when the light hits it in just the right way can you really see the fold, the crease in it.

Will Curran:

For sure.

Brandt Krueger:

So it's the kind of thing that ... I think that's where you're going to see the benefit is, that this is the thing that I always have on me.

Will Curran:

Totally.

Brandt Krueger:

And when I need it to, I can make it into a nice, decent-size tablet.

Will Curran:

One of the interesting things I just thought about too is that I constantly ... I'm now thinking where this is going to benefit people that aren't just me, too. But I bet most people in the world do not bring their laptop with them everywhere. Not like everywhere, like I don't go to the barber with my laptop. I sometimes do. But I have it always ... If I have my backpack on, my laptop's in there. I'm always ready to work because I work remotely. I bring it with me everywhere. But I bet you there's a lot of people who are like, "Yeah, I'm going to go out to get drinks with a friend," or something like that. Obviously I don't bring my laptop with me. But imagine, "Oh hey, I want to knock some emails in while I'm waiting for him to show up." I think that's where that could be powerful, too.

Will Curran:

One of the case scenario ... I tested it for a little bit. I haven't done it since I got here, because I haven't had the need for it, is I actually hooked up a Bluetooth keyboard to it. I'm waiting for someone to make one that's really nice, that can fold a little bit better to it or use it as a kickstand, too. But I bought a kickstand and a keyboard and I started answering some messages. Oh my gosh, I feel so fast. Obviously there's no difference between using a Bluetooth keyboard and a phone necessarily, but I just have a little bit bigger of a screen. But the multitasking has been great. I used it to watch a movie on the plane; that was great. That has nothing-

Brandt Krueger:

I'm a little surprised they didn't find a way to jam a pen in there somewhere.

Will Curran:

That's what everyone says. I think it's, honestly, they want to maximize battery life. I think they have to figure out a way to make the front screen a little thinner, too, so they can maximize that end. I think it will get there. I think-

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, that's generation one. It's the first one, yeah.

Will Curran:

Actually, sorry, I do remember why they decided not to do a pen, and it's not necessarily a technical specification thing. But everyone's been hearing about the ... I keep using the word fragility.

Brandt Krueger:
Fragility.

Will Curran:
... fragility of this phone, but it has a very soft screen because obviously it bends. So the inside screen's all-

Brandt Krueger:
Fragile.

Will Curran:
Yeah, fragile. It has a plastic screen. So I think their issue is that they were worried about how soft it was. That if they gave you a pen-

Brandt Krueger:
Right, you'd be scratching the heck out of it.

Will Curran:
... people would scratch it and crap.

Brandt Krueger:
Yup, yup, yup, yup.

Will Curran:
So I think that's the number one reason why I think they got rid of it.

Brandt Krueger:
Generation two.

Will Curran:
So, generation two, we'll see. Maybe they can figure out some way to do a glass/plastic hybrid, so right around the fold it's plastic, but the rest is glass. I don't know.

Brandt Krueger:
I think this would appeal to a Note fan. I think one of the things, though, that people love about the Note is the pen.

Will Curran:

Yup, absolutely. I think this would appeal to anybody who uses an iPad regularly, but also has a laptop to support them. So for example, reading Kindle books on it, looking at documents, reading messages, things like that. Super duper ... Basically replaces me ever needing a tablet now. So now, honestly, if I just had a normal laptop, I'd be fine with just the Galaxy Fold. But it's nice that I technically have two tablets; one is a laptop and stuff. So yeah, that's my neat new phone.

Brandt Krueger:

Yay.

Will Curran:

Let's see if it makes it to six months, and-

Brandt Krueger:

Yeah, we'll check back in.

Will Curran:

Check back in.

Brandt Krueger:

We'll do a Fold check every now and then, see how you're liking it. I think this was, again, much like the previous episode, I think a good exercise in ... Hey folks, there's a lot of options out there. If you're stuck behind the big clunky Dell laptop that we see far too often, start to explore. Start to try these things. As a continuation of that conversation and this one, I think we're just trying to tell you out there, don't be afraid to try stuff. And that at this point in time, there's a form factor that's going to work for you, and there's a form factor that's going to improve your life, chances are. Like you said, you're kind of forcing yourself to use this new phone, but that's how you find new work flows. That's how you find the ways like ... You break out of the rut of, "Well this is the way that I've always done it, so it's the best possible way of doing it." We know that's probably not true. So don't be afraid to try things. Don't be afraid to use these different form factors. Like I said, a two-in-one is a great way to start experimenting to see if this is a world you want to start playing in. Can you go totally tablet? Versus bringing three different laptops with you on the way.

Brandt Krueger:

So, what did we forget? Let us know, as always. Event Tech Podcast, #eventtechpodcast or eventtechpodcast@helloendless.com. Let us know. Are there some use cases? What are you finding? What are you liking? Have you recently made the switch to one of these devices or form factors? Have you bought the Fold? Are you thinking about getting one of these new Microsoft Duo or the Neo or any of those things? Let us know out there. We love hearing from you so much, and we really do appreciate it.

Brandt Krueger:

Thank you, as always, for joining us. Will, thanks for joining me-

Will Curran:

Thank you.

Brandt Krueger:

... on our continuing hardware adventures.

Will Curran:

I love it. I love it. It's so much fun getting to talk about nerdy technology.

Brandt Krueger:

Nerdy technology stuff. So, thank you all for listening out there. We really appreciate it, once again. You can check us out at eventtechpodcast.com, or you can subscribe and click all the buttons as far as subscribing. Because you know, you want to subscribe to us on your iPad and then subscribe to us on your phone-

Will Curran:

On your Surface, and then on your Galaxy Fold.

Brandt Krueger:

Those all count. So, thank you so much for listening. We really appreciate it. We'll talk to you next time on the Event Tech Podcast.

Thanks again for listening to the Event Tech Podcast. Be sure to rate and review us on your favorite podcasting app. Also, be sure to head to eventtechpodcast.com and leave us a comment about this week's episode. We'll see you next week on the Event Tech Podcast.

Will Curran:

Event Tech out!

Brandt Krueger:

Out?