

Distributed Staff, Connected Company

In a relatively short period of time, the number of businesses that allow their staff members to work from remote locations has skyrocketed. Telecommuting has grown from a unique and rare corporate allowance to one that is demanded by modern workforce applicants and even expected in certain industries.

While this trend can come with significant financial, operational and managerial benefits, it does demand a more comprehensive and intelligent approach to systems and employee management. Teo Technologies recently published an infographic that explained three of the more critical aspects of telecommuting program optimization.

For one, the first threat in this trend is the collapse of management and oversight channels, leading to hindered productivity and a lack of comprehension in operations. To prevent this from occurring, business leaders should ensure that scheduling and other administrative information is well publicized and transparent.

Another risk when launching or expanding a telecommuting program is related to fewer collaboration activities among employees in different locations. Considering the fact that communication is the most critical aspect of innovation, it makes sense that 87 percent of firms expect to be using video conferencing tools within unified communications frameworks to connect their workforce members digitally.

Finally, embracing the cloud can significantly improve workflow management efficiency and accuracy in telecommuting-enabled businesses. The cloud offers remote employees the most integrated and comprehensive pool of resources to complete their everyday responsibilities, and can actually reduce the amount of capital expenditures a firm must allocate toward IT and UC.

At the end of the day, the goal should be to cultivate a strategy that will ensure every employee is connected and well-prepared to tackle their tasks whether they are in the office, at home or elsewhere.

DISTRIBUTED STAFF, CONNECTED COMPANY

THREE ESSENTIALS FOR PRODUCTIVE TELECOMMUTING

As smart technologies and progressive policies enable more employees to work from home, careful consideration is still required to keep everyone on the same page.

PUBLICIZE YOUR PRESENCE

As work schedules become increasingly flexible, it's especially important for telecommuters to proactively relay their availability to their colleagues.

77% of companies are already employing social collaboration tools such as instant messaging.

EMBRACE THE CLOUD

Cloud communications tools afford remote employees seamless, real-time access to business assets while simultaneously reducing IT operating expenses.

STAY IN TOUCH

Personal interactions are crucial to team chemistry and morale, making videoconferencing a key capability for remote workers unable to meet in person.

87% of companies will add videoconferencing components to their unified communications architecture by the end of 2014.

2/3 of executives agree that cloud-based collaboration tools help their teams execute tasks faster than legacy solutions.

TEO

SOURCES

1. www.comscore.com/pressroom/press_releases/2013/03/13/0313130520/teofactsandfigures
2. www.marriott.com/ExecutiveResources/social-collaboration-global-study.pdf
3. [futures.com/insights/2013/05/20/futures-insights-survey-reveals-cloud-collaboration-increases-business-productivity-and-advances-global-communication/](http://www.futures.com/insights/2013/05/20/futures-insights-survey-reveals-cloud-collaboration-increases-business-productivity-and-advances-global-communication/)
4. infometrics.com/2013/03/13/UC-Strategies-Survey-031313.asp