

The future of **WORK SECURITY** amid
COVID 19 | | Securing today's
distributed workforce

October 2020



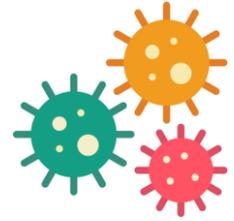
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COVID 19 is going to 'SPUR' the future of Work Security!



Foreword



The COVID-19 outbreak is a cue that these sorts of unprecedented pandemics have already happened way back in the past and have the potential to happen in the future again. It is not in our hands to prevent life-threatening viruses from developing, but we can prepare ourselves to truncate their effects.

The current outbreak has impacted the economic status of countries across the globe, this has not only affected the economies but has also affected every aspect of society. The (IMF) has already stated that there will be an economic recession of the magnitude similar to that of The Great Depression which happened way back in the past. After surviving this pandemic, we will enter into a completely different realm of the world. Ultimately this has led to dramatic changes in the operation of businesses and the behavior of consumers.

It was initiated in China and has moved to Iran, Western Europe, as well as the US. The repercussions of this have created dis-balance in the concepts of both business and work. This outbreak has compelled many businesses to shut down, leading to disruption of commerce. The working world is greatly impacted by this outbreak, it has hampered the long term livelihoods and well beings of millions.

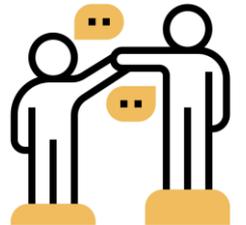
In India, the government has proactively enforced a nationwide lockdown by clear and firm government policies. In view of this pandemic, the Indian organizations so far have managed to move business and work in a different well-oriented stage. The core operations of many industries are at halt, while some industries are pushing their organizations to get the work done even in these tough times. It seems obvious that there is a dramatic escalation in the numbers of work-from-home.

At Digitalogy, we have been writing blogs about the Future of Work for quite a time. It mainly constitutes the following dimensions:-

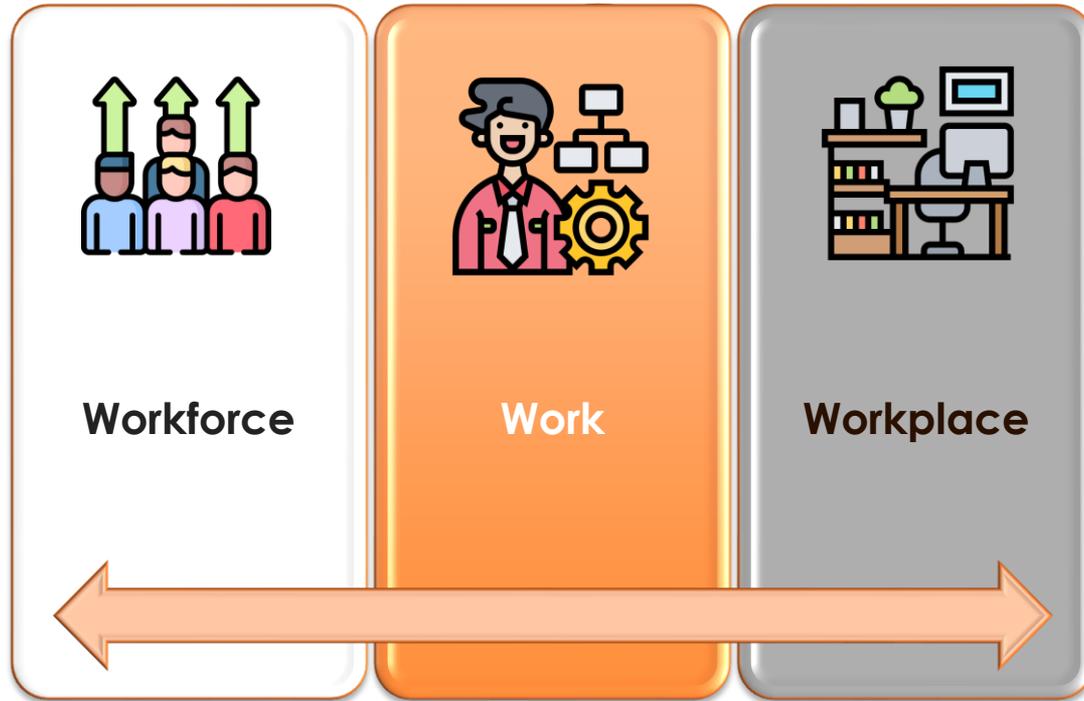
- ✓ 'workforce'
- ✓ 'work'
- ✓ 'workplace'

On the basis of our past experiences, a majority of the companies in the past have focused on the 'work' dimension. However, the other two dimensions have received little attention. The current pandemic situation has compelled businesses to switch over to the different workplace and workforce models.

In this e-book, we are going to be talking about The future of WORK SECURITY amid COVID 19 and securing today's distributed workforce.



Business Dimensions Affected by COVID-19



COVID-19: Implications for Business

- ✓ The unusual COVID-19 has disrupted business operations throughout the globe. The employees are compelled to work from home and this pandemic has driven many organizations to adopt “tech on the fly” mode in order to maintain the continuity of their businesses.
- ✓ Leaders are constantly researching to find a broad range of issues that have arisen from this pandemic. Every sector has been greatly impacted by the sudden arrival of this disease.
- ✓ Organizations are required to alter their old methods of conducting business operations into more modernized methods which are susceptible to change.



Disruption Percentages Across Various Industries



Note:-

These high percentages of disruptions are responsible for the companies to adopt new ways of working in order to ensure business continuity in these unprecedented times.

Lessons From the Crisis



Virtual tools are widely accepted and adopted for operation.

The pandemic has changed perceptions and has made employee wellness and engagement to be the topmost priority.

Workforce has reassembled behind the companies in their roles respectively.



A collaborative initiative was necessary to minimize disruption generating from improper IT infrastructure, tools etc.

Leaders earnestly believe that individual employee productivity has definitely shown a significant growth due to remote working.

The agility of enterprise has come out to be a strength for organizations, which have been successful in minimizing work distortion.

The Future of Remote Workforce is Now



A Paradigm Shift to 'Remote Work'

Work from home has become the 'NEW NORMAL'

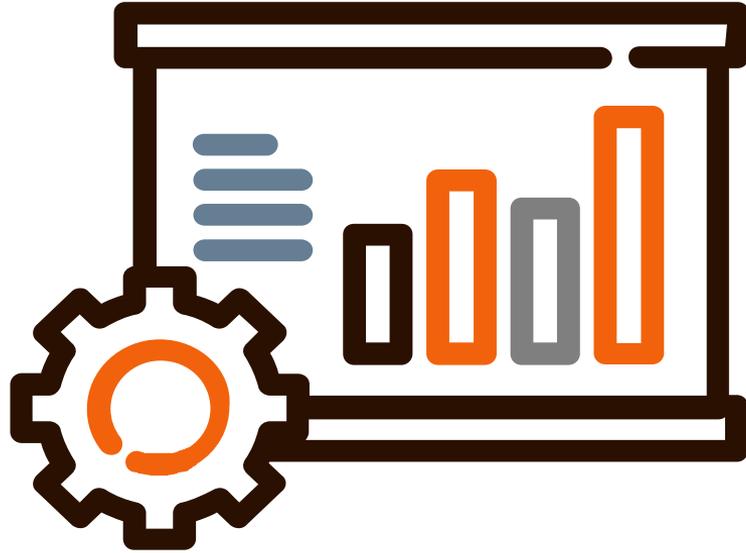
The outbreak is concurrently spreading across countries at an exponential rate. Due to the rise in the number of cases, companies have enabled work from home policy.

For top-notch companies, the infrastructure and policy required for remote working are already in use and a majority of the workforce have laptops and good internet connectivity. Conversely, for smaller companies, the situation is very different as remote working is feasible for a few which might hamper the productivity rates if continued for a longer time period.

A few prerequisites are needed by all the remote workers in order to be productive. They are as follows-

- ✓ A computer
- ✓ A good internet connection
- ✓ A workspace
- ✓ A phone
- ✓ Conferencing Applications
- ✓ Discipline and a strict routine

Surprising Stats on Remote Work



✓ **Remote Work is going to stay for a longer period of time**

75% of the companies are planning to permanently shift to remote work.

✓ **Technology and infrastructure are some of the biggest barriers to connectivity and workforce productivity**

54% of HR leaders concluded that poor technology and/or infrastructure for remote working is the biggest barrier to effective remote working in their organization.

✓ **Coronavirus has been a catalyst for remote work**

According to 31% of the people, (COVID-19) was the trigger to begin remote work at their company.

✓ **Business continuity tops C-level concerns**

71% of executives are worried about continuity and productivity during the pandemic.

✓ **Organizations are utilizing crisis response teams to coordinate their response**

81% of companies now have a crisis response team in place.

✓ **Business continuity is a major concern**

71% of executives are worried about continuity and productivity during the pandemic.

✓ **Remote work has a positive impact on workforce retention**

To retain staff in recovering from the COVID- 19 pandemic response later in 2020, organizations should expect that 75% of their staff will ask to expand their remote work hours by 35%.



Pros and Cons of Remote Work

Of late, people have realized that remote working is a trend that is going to go a long way and is not going to slow anytime sooner and is moulding the structure of the global space's operation.

This type of working is being incorporated in all the businesses all around the world, both huge companies and smaller businesses are getting indulged in remote work.

However, there are two sides to this on-going trend and we must keep into consideration the advantages as well as the shortcomings that remote work offers.



PROS



CONS

Budget friendly with better cost management.

Commuting time is spent working rather than wasting.

Flexible hours of working

Increases productivity and reduces distractions.

Cyber Security becomes a major concern.

Larger costs for technology and IT support.

Communication Challenges

Impacts company culture.

Strategies to Secure Today's Distributed Workforce



- ✓ Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a sudden shift to move towards a more distributed workforce. Many businesses have been witnessing significant challenges as prior to COVID 19 they had a firewall-based approach for centralized office-based environments but now they'll have to adapt significantly in order to secure a network which is best suited for a remote workforce.
- ✓ The usage of cloud computing and SaaS apps has seen a skyrocketed rise in recent years. They have allowed various businesses to operate effectively with a distributed workforce. According to the statistics, almost three-quarters of companies run their operations entirely on the cloud.
- ✓ Due to its incessant growth in the utilization of cloud computing, it has become a target for cybercriminals. It is highly risky to transfer data outside the office premises and across a globally connected network of devices as security has become a major issue for the companies working remotely.
- ✓ It is highly important to understand the dangers that are related to remote working. These risks can be avoided by adhering to the following steps mentioned in the subsequent slides.

5 Steps to Ameliorate Distributed Remote Security

✓ Installation of a good quality Firewall

The first and foremost line of ensuring protection in computer security is the installation of a good firewall as it determines what sort of traffic is allowed through. The Firewalls can be individually set up, and can block certain specific sites for the users; therefore, keeping the clients and company's data protected from external threats and breaches.

✓ Adding Endpoint Security

All the users work remotely from devices also called endpoints like laptops, mobile phones, and desktop PC's in addition to servers in data centers. Endpoint Security is a process to make sure that these endpoints are safe and secure to use. These endpoints provide a way for the cybercriminals to enter your well-protected network, and therefore endpoint security systems should be used along with antivirus software to inhibit cybercriminals. Endpoint Security can be enabled by endpoint encryption and application control.

✓ **Employee Training**

The digital security of a company can be secured by training the employees with adequate knowledge about the dangers that they might come across while dealing with sensitive information online. Training giving emphasis on detecting phishing emails and suspicious emails which appear to be legitimate, the threats of clicking on links and opening attachments from unauthorized accounts can reduce the rates of cybercrimes significantly.

✓ **System Monitoring**

It enables the IT department to remain aware of the dangers that can cause damage to the system before they have had a chance to even damage the system. Tools such as (SIEM), (IDS) and (BA) systems detect suspicious items on the system and will immediately alert the IT department about the potential danger.

✓ **Avoid Public Networks at all costs**

With the increasing number of companies working remotely it becomes essential for them to not use unsecured public networks. If in case anyone uses an unsecured public network, then it has the potential to invite any third-party to hamper with your company's and clients' data.



Digitalogy's Way of Remote Working

✓ Tell Us Your Requirements

Let us know what kind of contract developers or agency you're looking for, and one of our technology consultants will reach out to schedule an introductory call.



✓ We Find The Perfect Match

Every project is different. And we know that the right fit can make the difference between failure and success. We'll handpick 1-2 developers or dev shops from our pool within guaranteed 48-hours that best fits your project's requirements.

✓ Discuss Your Project

Speak to engineers, dev shops or developers that you want to work with before signing up with them. Decide whom you want to hire as part of your dream project!



✓ Work With Them Safely

Once hired enjoy reliable and stable cooperation. Discuss roadmaps, develop features, estimate deadlines, and streamline communication. Pay as per milestones.

✓ World Class-Support

The support we provide is truly world-class. When you hire devs from us, you'll work with an optional dedicated Digitalogy Rep who will answer questions, resolve any issues, and generally do anything to ensure you are completely satisfied with your experience.



Source- <https://www.digitalogy.co/how-it-works>

In View of 'THE HOLIDAY SEASON'

(from Thanksgiving to New Year's Eve)



We are providing a special discount on our services this holiday season.

So avail this offer as soon as possible!

"DIGI10"

STAY HOME STAY SAFE

