



Black Line IT

Remote Workplace Trends 2021

The Rate of Transformation

Remote
Workplace
Trends

|
Digital
Transformation



I. To Digital and Beyond!

- Due to the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic, many companies have had to make the change from in-person to digital communication and practice. According to [IOTNow](#) the transformation toward digital practices has been accelerated because of the switch. Many companies are also finding that their employees are not only more productive while working from home, but also more satisfied with their working conditions, which means companies could potentially continue with this trend for years to come.

II. Predicting the Future Today!

- According to [River Logic](#), prediction technology will grow, allowing business owners, marketers, and even scientists to predict outcomes in most every walk of life, from market outcomes to COVID case growth rates, and more.

III. Safety and Security

- As countries continue to open back up, many people are moving from working at home to working from anywhere in the world. According to [Smart Brief](#), this transformation will require companies to address any vulnerabilities in their networks. This means that network security will also experience growth and innovation in the years to come.

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Digital Transformation

Information Management



Information Management

I. Just Checking in

- According to **Forrester**, whenever the pandemic hit, the companies that were the most prepared were companies that regularly conducted employment satisfaction surveys and provided other Human Resource information. This is because they used this regularly collected HR information to make sure that their employees had exactly what they needed in order to work from home and abroad.

II. The Machines are Taking Over

- Maintaining and monitoring remote workforces will require the use of more automated tools. According to **Smart Brief**, analysts and other information-driven employees will move toward using automated tools such as software bots, robotic process automation, and artificial intelligence for information management.

III. We're All in this Together

- Information and project management tools like Microsoft Teams, Google Workspace (formerly known as G Suite), and Airtable are becoming more and more crucial due to the digital transformation, and for the next few years they will experience significant growth in popularity among businesses that utilize a remote workforce.

The Almighty Cloud

Remote
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Transformation

Information
Management

Cloud
Computing



I. **Improvise, Adapt, Overcome**

- In order to keep their employees connected and prepared for the growing changes in the business world today, companies have or will utilize cloud computing one way or another. In order to provide employees with the tools they need to adapt to this changing business environment, companies will be moving toward cloud computing networks to make sure everyone is connected and up to date with everything they need to know or have for their business tasks. **Forrester** predicts a 35% surge in public cloud services market in the coming year.

II. **The Best of Both Worlds**

- While public cloud services will experience growth, private cloud services will also see a surge in 2021. Many companies find on-premise services to be very beneficial for their company's network. Although, in order to capitalize on the services and features of both public and private cloud services, analysts predict that many companies will move to a sort of hybrid structure that utilizes public and private services to get the best capabilities of both services. At **Black Line**, we predict this hybrid model will be very beneficial for our small and medium-sized business clients.

Cybersecurity

I. Ignorance Isn't Bliss...

- According to a survey conducted by **Malwarebytes**, showed that 20% of respondents experienced a breach caused by a remote worker. Many of these breaches were caused by malicious emails that had links embedded with viruses in them, and many of them could have been prevented by conducting better end user and employee training. With many employees still working from home, many hackers will also be getting smarter and more intricate with their schemes, so watch out! Check out **Black Line's** blog on Whale Phishing [here](#)

II. The Not-so-Private Network

- Because of the overall growth in cyber security breaches, many companies are utilizing Virtual Private Networks (VPNs) in order to work remotely. For some, their effectiveness is coming into question because of the employees' ability to access excessive internal resources. Many experts are promoting the use of zero-trust security systems, which block access to files more stringently than VPNs. According to **Security magazine**, with the implementation of this zero-trust system, about 60% of companies will switch from VPNs to zero-trust networks, making sure that they are safe and secure to work remotely. Rest assured, if your VPN is with **Black Line**, you are safe as we offer superior bandwidth!

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