

COVID-19 and the Innovation of Technology While Companies Are Working from Home

COVID-19 has left the world speechless, as the world we know has drastically changed. Left and right, organizations have been forced to cease operations and go digital. As an attempt to save lives, America has shut down and required nonessential workers to stay home while encouraging a nationwide quarantine.

Organizations in every industry have been forced to innovate and adapt their business models. Presence, productivity, and collaboration have been reinvented. Science and technology have provided countless options to adjust to a new normal while keeping people connected at a safe social distance. Technology has enabled educational institutions, financial firms, banks, and healthcare organizations to adapt during a global pandemic.

Connectivity

Entire businesses are able to function while their employees operate from the comfort of their own homes. This is the result of decades of innovation, leadership, proficiency, persistence, and time devoted to the research and development of new technology.

Network connectivity is a technology instrumental to the ability of companies to work from home. Networks allow people to interact on their computers, tablets, and mobile devices, which are powered by software.

Without the ability to connect to email, Zoom, and various programs, it would be difficult to work from home. Wireless connectivity in the form of 3G, 4G, and recently 5G networks makes this possible. AT&T, Sprint, and T-Mobile have invested \$50 billion to create network space, provide quicker download speeds, and curate better networks that efficiently manage resources and meet America's demands for data consumption.

Wi-Fi makes it easier to connect non-LTE and non-5G digital devices. Wi-Fi 6 has been developed to meet the demands of COVID-19 in which entire families are required to remain at home during their usual workdays and schooldays. Each family member is simultaneously attempting to use Wi-Fi to video chat with colleagues via Zoom, download information from the internet, and play video games online. Wi-Fi 6 offers more bandwidth and stabilizes the load between digital devices for a stronger user experience.

Performance updates to our digital devices over the years enable us to work efficiently from wherever our location may be so long as there's Wi-Fi. People are "always-on" and responsive on their numerous digital devices thanks to extended battery life to last all day. This is huge for professionals who are always on the road or in the sky. The benefit of this functionality feature has been highlighted while professionals are confined to their homes, attempting to locate a quiet corner in a busy household. It is also beneficial to connect to a wireless network separate from your home Wi-Fi as it often gets overloaded during peak hours with high levels of data usage.

Apps

Software is essential in allowing businesses to collaborate and work from home. Software can be downloaded in the blink of an eye, which is key for adapting during this time. The Cloud allows organizations to scale their capacity for storage and machine power instantly. Software is also portable and doesn't have to be transported from employees' offices to their homes. Company data can be accessed anywhere.

Collaborative software, such as Slack and Zoom, allow employees to work together across the globe. Organizations and their employees find new ways to innovate with technology daily and gain advantages over companies who don't adapt. COVID-19 has forced organizations to adapt to technology and sped up the process of digital innovation.

Many different kinds of technology have allowed the world to adapt. Drones and robots are delivering resources where humans can't go due to social contact. There has been an increase in automation in the industries of production and logistics, which has increased workflow when employees are out sick or at home.

The Internet of Things (IoT) and CCTV cameras help businesses manage and maintain systems with little human contact, practicing social distancing. Without technology, it would have been virtually impossible for the world to adapt the way it has. Investing in reliable networks and creating a large ecosystem of technology prepared people to adapt during COVID-19. This pandemic highlights the value of continued innovation.