Envisioning the future workspace

Offices as we know them are unlikely to disappear in our lifetimes. However, these spaces where we conceive, plan, discuss, manage and learn, will morph as our accelerating change profoundly alters the very nature of work. As well, the infrastructure in which work is practiced - our connectivity between time and space while the essence of our interaction with the workspace - our peers, the information that surrounds us, and the machines we use to communicate - is irreversibly transformed.

This report and the accompanying map examines the technologically changing workspace - and how workers will adapt to it.

It also exemplifies four distinct professional archetypes to frame the impact of this cultural and technological transformation: the leader, the penpusher, the creative nomad and the labourer.

**THE LEADER**
Organizes, innovates and motivates a team or a taskforce, distributing responsibilities into different types of workspaces. Office space to manipulate information and human interactions.

- 20% engineering time and interdisciplinary studies become part of job descriptions.
- Dispersed workplaces organized like ant colonies enable startups to fill structurally expensive gaps.
- Big data analysis and literacy becomes inherent to the human decision-making process.
- Workless business management concentrates different spheres in physically disconnected groups.

**THE PENPUSHER**
Manipulates the information space, organizing the order of priorities that enable a steady and natural flow inside all the forms of the office space.

- Embedded learning becomes a fundamental skill adapted for business profiles across the board.
- Deep and creativity become invaluable in the age of attention spam.
- Gaming points and scores are used to track work progress, enhance employer’s participation and engagement.
- Programming proficiency becomes increasingly important when dealing with machines and AI.

**THE CREATIVE NOMAD**
Generates ideas, clarifies the complex, connects concepts and explores the boundaries created by technology - the fusion of space and time.

- The DIY economy caters to independent and self-sustaining businesses.
- The human energy saved through automation is used to boost intellect and creativity.
- Pattern-recognizing predictions enhance employer’s participation and engagement.

**THE LABOURER**
Physically manipulates material, for example in the factory floor, but can also remotely and instantly interact with complex information dealing with data analysis.

- The expansion of online interactions and content creation.
- The human energy saved through automation.
- Gaming points and scores are used to track work progress, enhance employer’s participation and engagement.
- Programming proficiency becomes increasingly important when dealing with machines and AI.