



Strengthen the Human Experience in the Hybrid Workplace

Hybrid work is the norm for today's workforce



Create a welcoming environment for your distributed workforce

Without conference room small talk and pre-meeting coffee runs, virtual collaboration doesn't present the same team bonding opportunities as in-office collaboration. The challenge with collaborating as a hybrid workforce is how to create a feeling of unity, camaraderie, and being part of a team. That's why your technology has to offer more than just basic audio and video. It has to help dispersed collaborators communicate clearly and connect in ways that create a more human experience. You can create a welcoming environment for your distributed workforce by choosing technologies that make hybrid meetings more human.

Communicating naturally—like you do with friends—means using the same tools you use outside of work, like messaging, phone, video, and multimedia platforms. Email has its place, but real-time digital face-to-face communication can make collaboration seem more natural. It also allows more clarity and timeliness when teams need the input of colleagues who aren't in the room. Creating this kind of environment isn't as easy as ordering hybrid communication technology. You need a [hybrid workplace roadmap](#)—a strategy that will help you with your current needs, as well as a plan for flexibility and business continuity for the future. It helps to enlist collaboration technology professionals who can share their insights and tools.

¹ <https://www.salesforce.com/news/stories/collaboration-impact-on-company-culture/>



75%

of workers want to interact with colleagues the way they do with friends.¹



Hybrid work is evolving

When you're figuring out how to create a truly hybrid work experience, consider that employees want flexibility in both location and schedules. They also want a say in the meeting tools they use, so flexibility of technology and spaces is key to collaboration success.

Executives predict the workplace is well on its way toward a hybrid model, with [81% of them saying hybrid work will be the standard by 2024](#).

However, they don't all have a plan for the best way to get there—[71% say they don't have a comprehensive hybrid work strategy](#).

Technology is key to the hybrid workplace

Depending on what kind of workplace an organization had been previously, transitioning to a fully hybrid model may require a culture shift, more flexible management, evolving expectations, and improved connectivity. Technology is key to the hybrid workplace—particularly the connectivity aspect since people may be working together from all over the world.

There are various technologies that can create equitable and human experiences for hybrid collaboration. Companies like Poly have focused on ways for their solutions to unite dispersed teams. They're embracing the idea that distance doesn't have to impede working "All Together".

² <https://futureforum.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Future-Forum-Pulse-Report-January-2022.pdf>



Only
30%
of knowledge
workers around
the world go to the
office every day.²

Design from the user perspective

When designing—or redesigning—your meeting spaces, consider details that impact the collaboration experience like sightlines, field of view, and what the far-end users will see. Consider elements like display sizes and AV solution placement. It's especially important to consider the new requirements and challenges that come with hybrid work, like users having to toggle between content and the faces of presenters and other attendees. What and whom participants can see and hear can not only impact how much information they glean from a meeting, but it also affects their human experience. Without an inclusive design and technology, it's easy for remote users to feel frustrated, confused, or left out from what others are experiencing.

Challenge

Users can't see both the speakers and the content during video meetings.

Tech Solution

In the room: Poly Studio Room kits for Microsoft Teams Rooms feature cutting-edge Poly DirectorAI that intelligently frames active speakers with pinpoint accuracy to make everyone feel like they are in the room together combined with adding a second or larger meeting room display.

Far End: Add a personal video display that acts as a second monitor to individuals' computers.

Poly Studio P21



Product Options

- Poly Studio Room Kits featuring [Poly DirectorAI](#) with an advanced automatic camera experience.
- Personal video displays in the office or at home like [Poly Studio P21](#).



Create flexible rooms that support a human experience

Collaboration spaces have evolved beyond old-school boardrooms and conference rooms. There are now huddle spaces, Zoom Rooms, Microsoft Teams Front Row rooms, and flex spaces that don't necessarily need a label. No matter what kind of space you're building for today's workplace, designers not only have to assure clarity, but meeting equity. This means that all participants have access to the same information, communications, and opportunities to participate and be heard.

Flex spaces save money and space because they can be configured in different ways as needed throughout the course of a workday to meet the needs of different teams. For example, a single room can host a stand-up scrum meeting where everyone needs to see the screen and interact with the whiteboard. Later, the room can be easily transformed into a space that accommodates hybrid meetings, giving on-site participants a clear view of the displays while ensuring remote teammates can see everyone, too.

Challenge

Room users need to reconfigure rooms on the fly.

Tech Solution

Choose AV technology— including webcams, video bars, and microphones— that is portable, durable, and can serve a variety of collaboration purposes.

Poly Studio X30 with TC8



Product Options

- Rugged and portable webcam like [Poly Studio P5](#)
- Easy-to-set-up video bar like Poly Studio 15 and Poly Studio X30 with TC8
- Microphone array for flex rooms like [Poly Sync 40](#)



Update traditional spaces

Some rooms may only need minor updates. There are simple ways to modernize existing spaces to make them more user friendly and improve the audio in the room. Audio issues are one of the biggest barriers to holding effective meetings. Communication is impaired and information gets lost when participants can't hear each other or ask questions. You may need to upgrade conference phones and microphones to create a better experience for remote attendees.

Even with great audio, remote participants may not feel like they're part of the meeting when they can't read faces in the room. They may not know when it's a good time to jump in and talk, or not be able to tell how their input is received by other meeting attendees. Adding video with intelligent speaker tracking will help the flow of hybrid meetings and make remote participants feel more engaged.

Challenge

Phones are the original meeting room technology and they're still a staple, but outdated phones lack features that would improve calls with remote attendees.

Tech Solution

Update spaces with Poly legendary audio and video solutions featuring Acoustic Fence and NoiseBlockAI working together to keep unwanted sounds from interrupting meetings and Poly DirectorAI, the brain behind Poly's cutting-edge video experiences.

Poly Sync E70



Product Options

- [Poly Studio X70](#)
- [Poly Studio Large Room Kit with E70 camera](#)
- [Poly Studio Small Room Kit with Poly Studio R30](#)



Give employees a consistent work-anywhere experience

Some technologies will need to travel or stay with hybrid or remote workers. Employees will have a more human experience if they can work the way they want to at home, in the office, from the airport, at a coworking space, or wherever. The technology you choose will depend on the type of work and collaboration each team does. Every employee, though, will need access to collaboration software and technical support.

Challenge

Users need to work and collaborate from a variety of places. They need moving between workspaces to be as simple as possible.

Tech Solution

Provide employees with accessories, apps, and technical support that let them work anywhere.

Voyager 5200 UC



Product Options

- Headsets (wireless or wired) like the Voyager 5200 UC
- Collaboration device apps like [Poly Lens](#)
- Technical device support for hybrid teams like Poly+



Using VR to design a better hybrid experience

Traditional design can require a lot of calculations and make it hard to imagine the finished solution. AVI-SPL's [VR reference designs experience](#) improves form and function. We can show consultants, architects, and end users their room options with Poly solutions in real time.

How it's different from traditional methods

We use VR technology to help your team visualize design and technology options. Our VR team will help you understand how the plans would look and work before investing the time, work, and budget.

Design proof-of-concept for your rooms much faster than using traditional means. The drag-and-drop feature allows you to easily visualize features and verify the design. Everyone involved in the design process can see what a solution will look like to users from every room location and angle.

How VR design helps in-person and remote teams

The 3D experience lets you see how the room will function and feel before installation. You can find and fix issues when upgrading existing spaces, as well as consider configurations in new spaces, including furniture layouts and AV solution placement.

For example, with VR design services, in a matter of seconds you can try different table shapes, move seats around, add monitors, or change to a wide-angle camera. You can test sight lines to make sure everyone can see content and remote users can see the expressions of everyone in the room. You can get necessary feedback before you spend the time and funds to physically set it up.

Challenge

Limited space makes it hard to know what technology you need and where to place it.

Tech Solution

VR design tools and prepacked video conferencing room kits can simplify room design and installation. Kits may include tools like controllers, microphones, and video bars.

Poly Studio Focus Room Kit



Product Options

- Poly Studio Focus Room Kit for Microsoft Teams Rooms on Windows
- AVI-SPL VR design services

Empower your employees with flexibility

Taking a human approach to the hybrid workplace means empowering people to be themselves in how they work and collaborate. With so many technology choices, it's as easy as ever to provide employees with the tools and flexible spaces to work anywhere and in a variety of ways.

Talk to us about how we can help you [create a human-focused hybrid workplace](#).

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