Equipping the Future Workspace

Technology that Lifts Collaboration

Dell Technologies recommends Windows 11 Pro
and the Intel vPro® platform: It's built for business

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Windows 11

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Introduction

The relationship between the physical office and employees has reached a huge inflection point. The rise of hybrid and remote work has turned the relationship between workers and offices on its head.

Employees now expect more than a desk and a cubicle, or even a flexible work-at-home policy. The hybrid work revolution has sparked a change in the way organizations plan, design, and equip their spaces, giving employees the tools they need to achieve their best work. And it's not just about comfort and flexibility. Tomorrow's office layouts will encourage both group and individual creativity, enabled by hardware and technology.

More people are accepting hybrid work arrangements, where they split their time between the office and home, but they still yearn for a sense of connection, belonging, and meaning in their careers.[1] Creating office neighborhoods and improving video conferencing are just two examples of emerging ways to improve the quality of both digital and physical interactions, making workers feel more creative, comfortable, and collaborative.

New ergonomic components have merged with design innovation to create workspaces that breed a sense of comfort, inclusion, and connectivity among an organization's workforce. And when global teams do gather, offices of the future provide a platform to make real-life meetings rewarding for everyone involved.

The growth of hybrid and remote work is enabled and improved by technology. So the time is now for companies to start evaluating what they need to carry them forward. From enhanced collaborative monitors to the latest in ergonomic tech, the right equipment is critical to making tomorrow's workforce feel included, important, and productive.

Equipping Private Spaces for Flexibility and Collaboration

Hybrid and remote work is changing why people come to the office in the first place. Rather than being chained to a desk five days a week, it's more about connecting with those they rarely see physically for meaningful collaboration. The office of the future should accommodate these shifting requirements and provide flexible private spaces facilitating collaboration between those in the building and virtual workers.

"At home, people congregate in the kitchen," says Patrick Braswell, an expert in office design solutions. "I expect many companies to create these incredible kitchen areas and cafe spaces where people can bump into each other. By putting whiteboards and other collaborative resources near these places, businesses will propel collaboration in new and meaningful ways."[2]

Collaborative cafes and kitchens blended alongside flexible private spaces that individuals or groups can utilize are just a few design features of the future office. An on-site team might even conduct virtual meetings from a kitchen area equipped with monitors and high-quality audio.

When outfitting flexible private spaces to fit tomorrow's era of collaboration, here are some tools and technologies that are likely to become essential.

Collaborative Monitors.
Whether it's a private office or a flexible open space, offices will need a variety of monitor shapes, sizes, and formats to accommodate in-person and virtual collaboration.

Monitors should also be integrated from a software standpoint to allow seamless movement and communication. Large format and portable monitors are a must, in addition to integrated conference screens.

Meeting Spaces.
Because collaboration can take place just about anywhere, organizations need meeting room tech ecosystems. Customize your monitor setups to meet a variety of purposes, from small open spaces to large group learning formats. Also, choose a single enterprise technology stack like Microsoft Teams or Zoom.

Docking Stations.
Workers will be moving seamlessly from private to public spaces and vice versa, so you'll need charging and docking solutions to ensure devices are operational. Modern solutions include laptop docking stations that also function as smartphone chargers. Phone docking stations should also enable wireless conferencing capabilities to foster collaboration at all times.

Dell Dual Charge Dock HD22Q

The world's first laptop docking station with a wireless charging stand for Qi-enabled cellphones and earbuds will allow every participant to collaborate to their utmost, even when their devices need charging.

The HD22Q is compact and unobtrusive, letting workers keep a clutter-free workspace where they feel uplifted.

— **90W of power delivery to your laptop via ExpressCharge**

— **Wide compatibility across Dell commercial laptops**

— **HDMI 2.1 port that can connect to a 4K HDR monitor**

— **USB Ports charge and connect USB accessories simultaneously**

With permanent, private offices on the way out, organizations should equip flexible private spaces with monitors and tech that encourage a mix of in-person and virtual collaboration.

Creating Equitable Meeting Space Experiences

Whether a worker is collaborating from a flexible private space or their own living room, it's imperative organizations ensure that everyone's meeting experience is equitable. Remote attendees shouldn't feel left out or underserved because they're not physically in the same room.

Companies and employees are more dispersed than ever, making invest-ments in virtual collaboration critical. This includes prioritizing in-office and digital workspace investments that facilitate an equitable experience no matter where workers attend from.

Today, employees at leading organiza-tions are over four times more likely to feel they're equipped for global collaboration than their peers and followers.[3] This indicates that there's a substantial gap between forward-think-ing companies and the rest of the herd when it comes to technology-enabled equitable meeting experiences. Key

considerations include mouse and keyboard setups, furniture, display formats, and headsets. All of these elements should combine in a way that promotes accessibility and inclusion.

One contributor to this gap is that at many companies, the physical office is akin to technical debt. Out of date meeting room equipment that hasn't been updated in years represents a logistical and financial liability.

For businesses just starting to fit their offices with technology that provides the most equitable experience possible, here are some things to consider:

— **Accessible Screens.** For those in physical attendance, equip meeting spaces with monitors and screens that people of all heights can interact with. The **Dell C Series monitors**, for example, come with side panel features and multiple height settings.

— **Advanced Webcams.** Make conference participants look and feel their best even under extreme lighting conditions with high-quality, connected webcams. Intelligent framing functionality ensures that virtual attendees images stay centered at all times.

— **Performance Soundbars.** Ensure that in-person attendees can hear virtual ones loud and clear by using slim, flexible, high- performance soundbars. The **Dell Slim Soundbar SB521A** is the world's slimmest soundbar and magnetically attaches to Dell monitors, and is an ideal solution to enhance audio equity.

— **Processing Platform.** An equitable meeting experience means no lags or delays in communication between physical and virtual workers. The latest **Intel® Core™ processor technology** with the supporting **Intel® Connectivity Performance Suite**, enables a smooth and seamless video conferencing experience.

It's important that team members have the necessary resources to participate fully in meetings so that their voices are heard and respected. With this focus on equity and access, organi-zations can ensure more meaningful collaborations for all stakeholders with the help of next-gen conferencing tools.

The Dell Meeting Space Solution is an entire ecosystem of technology and hardware that enable equitable meeting experiences. Combine some of the following technology for spaces of any size or designated learning environments:

OptiPlex Micro: Dell's smallest and most powerful commercial desktop for anywhere workers.

Logitech MeetUp ConferenceCam: RightSight technology automatically adjusts the camera position and zoom that every participant is seen clearly.

Dell 55 & 65 4K Interactive Touch Monitors: Allows multiple users to interact seamlessly.

Logitech Tap Controller: Workers can join and host meetings quickly and easily using this 10:1 touch controller with an HDMI input for content sharing.

Office Mobility Solutions for Modern Collaboration

As businesses move towards work-from-anywhere, employees become more reliant on constant connectivity in order to use cloud-based workflows, applications, and collaboration tools. But employees are growing weary of the mobility and connectivity challenges they face in traditional office settings.

- 27% **of employees cite frustrations with logins and passwords.**

- 24% **of employees say they're frustrated with outdated devices.**

- 18% **of employees experience poor connectivity as a frustration.**[4]

Tomorrow's connected office requires new thinking and strategizing when it comes to collaboration and mobility. The laptop is the primary technical device utilized by employees and has the biggest influence on daily productivity. That's why businesses need to adopt mobility and connectivity solutions that enhance the user experience even more.

Using the appropriate hardware enables businesses to deliver an experience that makes laptop, mobile, and PC collaboration simple and effective. It's crucial to use laptops with next-gen cameras and microphones, together with associated intelligent software, to ensure virtual workers get seen and heard clearly. It's essential to provide workers with mobile devices and solutions that allow for maximum productivity and communication from anywhere.

The Connected Laptop is Tomorrow's Mobility Hub

Professionals need reliable mobile solutions to collaborate in all settings. Enter the connected laptop, a solution for employee frustrations with mobility and a critical piece of equipment for tomorrow's hybrid office. These laptops will be fast and intelligent, powered by the Intel® Core™ processor.

Combined with the Intel® Connectivity Performance suite — and new Intel® WiFi 6E (Gig+) or 4G/5G cellular connectivity options — today's connected laptops enable a peak meeting and collaboration experience from any location.

Here are some key facts and features about connected laptops for tomorrow's workspace:

— **Systems Intelligence:** Equitable meeting experiences means that each individual has hardware and technology settings customized to their specific needs. Optimization software powered by artificial intelligence (AI) processing, learns from users over time, helps prioritize tasks, and automatically adjusts audio based on the environment. **Dell Optimizer** is a perfect example of how AI improves user experience based on preferences and pattern recognition.

— **Optimized Connectivity:** Laptops should be optimized for any connectivity environment or scenario. Dell **ExpressConnect** with the Intel® Connectivity Performance Suite employs the latest Wi-Fi capability in tandem with software that enables employees to join the best available network.

— **Collaborative Trackpad:** Trackpads built for both easy collaboration and comfort of use are key elements to the connected laptop of tomorrow. For example, the Dell Latitude 9400's haptic trackpad works alongside a zero-lattice keyboard for optimal productivity and comfort.

— **Always Connected PC:** A single mobility solution for anywhere work in the hybrid era. Like a smartphone, the device has a built-in cellular 4G or 5G modem to enable work-from-anywhere. Powered by the latest Wi-Fi and processing technology, the Intel® Wi-Fi 6E (Gig+) enables employees to take advantage of advanced connectivity options and additional connectivity frequencies. This eliminates traffic congestion and increases data speeds.

— **Sustainable Design:** Tomorrow's always connected PCs and laptops will also be lighter weight and more environmentally friendly than ever before. Manufacturing makes up over 70% of a laptop's carbon footprint[5], and Intel's CPU is made using sustainability best practices throughout the process, with Intel being named in the top two most sustainable American companies in the last two years.[6]

— Materials like reclaimed carbon fiber and bio-based materials are now being used to power connected laptops. And using devices made with things like ocean bound and post-consumer plastics also helps meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The connected laptop will be a leading force for office collaboration in tomorrow's business world. However, the connected laptop and mobile devices are part of a much broader move towards better ergonomics that encourage well-being, comfort, and communication.

The most intelligent and secure business PCs in the world let everyone in your organization work from anywhere. These business laptops and 2-in-1s are compact, light, and fashionable and are built for productivity and mobility.

The **Dell Latitude** is purpose built for the work-from-anywhere environment, connecting workers quickly, without disruption, and so that everyone is seen and heard clearly.

• Fast connectivity options like Intel® Wi-FI 6E, 5G, 4G LTE, and eSIM
• Intelligent Privacy, SafeShutter, and SafeScreen options
• Intelligent Audio, Neural Noise Cancellation and speakerphone
• FHD IR cameras with dual sensors for high quality video
• InfinityEdge and narrow border screens with ComfortView Plus

Ergonomic Tech Promotes a Healthy Workflow

From keyboards and chairs to screens and video conferencing, every piece of equipment should be comfortable and made with work-from- anywhere in mind. Peripherals like microphones and webcams are just as important, enabling better teamwork and more efficient collaboration.

Wireless peripherals with superior build quality, abundant features, and ergonomic design enhance worker happiness and well-being. To ensure efficient work time, these peripherals support employees' workdays, enhance comfort, and effortlessly integrate into their workflow.

There are a number of different ergonomic tech products on the market today that can help support and encourage physical activity, team interaction, and cognitive engagement.

— **Collaboration Keyboards:** The keyboards of tomorrow's office will go far beyond just typing. Employ a collaborative keyboard with Zoom command integration and charge-from-an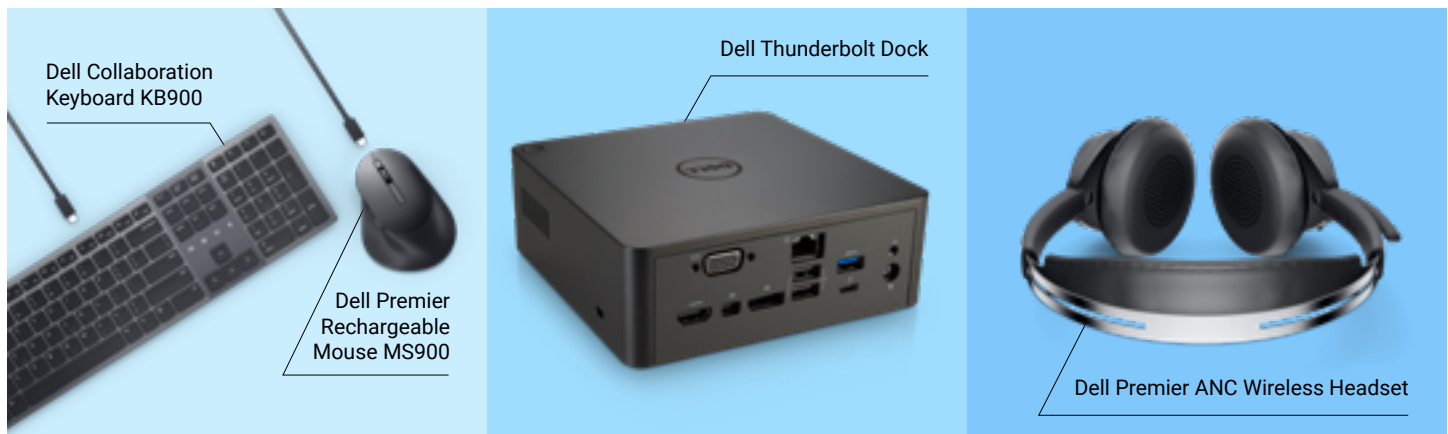ywhere capabilities. The Dell Collaboration Keyboard KB900, for example, can connect and operate with multiple devices wirelessly and is certified by Zoom.

— **Personalized Mouse Experience:** The ergonomic mouse is making new strides in connectivity, comfort, and personalization. Provide workers with advanced mouse functionality like bi-directional scrolling and multi-day battery usage. A mouse that workers can create custom shortcuts from, like the Dell Premier Rechargeable Mouse MS900, enhances personalization and comfort.

— **Intelligent Docking:** There's nothing that disturbs a workflow like unplugging devices, switching cables, or charging in an emergency. Equip flexible private and public spaces with modern docking solutions that accommodate a wide array of devices, maintain connectivity, and reduce cable clutter. Dell's Thunderbolt Dock, for instance, is the world's first modular dock for more charging station flexibility in the meeting environment.

— **Comfortable Headsets:** Working from anywhere means conducting calls and meetings in noisy environments, necessitating the need for audio headsets. The Dell Premier ANC Wireless Headset, for example, is Zoom-certified with Active Noise Cancellation (ANC) technology so that employees can speak, hear, and converse clearly.

Ergonomic tech is essential for offices of the future. Keyboards, headsets, and other peripherals promote a healthier workflow and increase productivity in the office. Support employees' comfort by providing users with personalizable devices to suit their needs and preferences.

Dell Collaboration Keyboard KB900

Dell Premier Rechargeable Mouse MS900

Dell Thunderbolt Dock

Dell Premier ANC Wireless Headset

Intelligent Hardware and Software Security

The office of the future will include even more mobile devices, cloud-based applications, connected laptops, and BYOD policies. As more devices and applications are added to the network, the potential for security breaches increases. Intelligent hardware and software protections are critical to mitigating these risks.

While organizations continue to roll out new tech and devices to support cutting-edge collaboration, enacting strong security measures gives workers the peace of mind they need to focus on what they do best.

Breaches are now happening at the hardware, firmware, and software levels. In fact, 69% of organizations have experienced some type of cyberattack due to some form of poorly managed internet facing asset. Therefore, businesses need intelligent solutions that can prevent, detect and respond to threats wherever they appear.[7]

With Dell, customers can access innovative hardware and firmware protections through Dell Trusted Workspace. We build Intel technologies into our commercial PCs to further bolster security below the operating system (OS) to mitigate foundational cyberattacks. The [Intel vPro® platform](#) provides unique out-of-the-box hardware- based multilayer security measures that actively monitors for threats below the OS and vastly reduces the attack surface. To further minimize the attack surface, Dell provides advanced threat detection via a number of best-of-breed software partners.

When integrating new devices and technology into the workspace, it's important to consider adopting a Zero Trust stance on cybersecurity. This means not automatically trusting access and logins from a device just because it's from within the company. You need strong multi-factor authen-

tication and other Zero Trust aligned measures to protect the follow five critical areas:

Endpoint
Workload
Identity
Network
Cloud

Users, devices, apps, and data are now more commonly found outside of corporate networks. As a result, user identity has turned into a blind spot, with identity compromise being the primary factor in most breaches. Adopting a Zero Trust stance greatly helps address these growing concerns.

With a Zero Trust policy, IT can easily maintain mission critical resources, preventing, detecting and responding to threats in real-time. Employ a hardware- based multilayer security system that actively monitors for threats and assists in securing the resources and data of your company.

Equip Tomorrow's Workspace Today

By equipping future workspaces with the right tools for collaboration, productivity, security, and communication, companies can create an environment that fosters creativity and encourages individuals to reach their full potential. As workplaces continue to evolve into the next iteration of hybrid and remote work, it will be crucial for organizations to stay ahead of the curve in areas like meeting room technology, connected laptops with built-in security, and ergonomic peripherals.

Workers want to collaborate and work in confidence from any location, venue, or setting globally. It's essential that

business leadership offer contemporary experiences to promote collaboration, creativity, and community. And Dell Technologies is the partner that can hasten the implementation of the future-of-work preparations outlined here.

Meet tomorrow's workers' desires and ensure that you stay competitive by utilizing sophisticated tools and experiences like the Latitude connected PC powered by the Intel vPro® platform and collaboration keyboard KB900.

Office of the Future Equipment Checklist

☑ **Flexible Private Spaces**
Rooms in tomorrow's office quickly transform from meeting spaces to individual ones. Use collaborative monitors and flexible docking to accommodate both on a whim.

☑ **PC Mobility Solutions**
The laptop is still at the heart of most workers' productivity experience. Employ cutting-edge, always connected laptops and PCs with 5G and Wi-Fi 6E capability to guarantee a top-notch meeting and collaboration experience from anywhere.

☑ **Equitable Meeting Tech**
Work-from-anywhere individuals shouldn't feel like their meeting experience is any less than those in person. Webcams and devices with best-of-breed processing speed optimize engagement for virtual attendees.

☑ **Ergonomic Peripherals**
Keyboards, mice, headsets, and other peripheral devices should be ergonomic, connected, and personalized. Issue devices with native monitor and meeting software integration to remove logistical productivity pain points.

☑ **Zero Trust Security**
Employees need to feel like they're working securely no matter where they are. Implement a Zero Trust cybersecurity stance, particularly with new hardware devices you're adding to the mix.

Why Intel vPro® for Business?

Anything is possible when you're equipped to do it all. PCs powered by the built for business Intel vPro® are designed to help IT confidently navigate the future of security and empower your users to connect and collaborate more seamlessly.

With Intel vPro®, business keeps moving forward so you can pivot and scale faster, capturing more opportunities.

Laptops on Intel vPro®, an Intel® Evo™ Design, are built for what IT needs and users want. These stylish thin-and-

light laptops deliver multilayer security, complete manageability, remarkable responsiveness, instant wake, superior video conferencing, and long real-world battery life.

Learn how your organization can use modern technology
to harness the productivity, efficiency, and collaboration needed to deliver the innovations customers require to increasingly do anything from anywhere.

Learn more about Dell Technologies Workforce Solutions

Click here

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