What is automation?

Automation is all about using technology to reduce the amount of human input in a process. Technology could refer to both software, like an automated email reply system, and hardware, like a robotic arm in an assembly line. Automation is commonly associated with manufacturing but can also be seen heavily in transportation and IT.





Worldwide, a third of all work tasks are carried out by machines and other technology, with estimates that this will grow to a fifty-fifty split by 2025 according to this World Economic Forum report from 2020. However, automation is not only found in the workforce. Tasks that we perform in our everyday lives can also be automated to reduce the chance of making mistakes or freeing up our time for other activities.