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Assignment 4.2

Virtual Team Communication

With the wave of stay at home employees, virtual meetings, and communication have become the new norm, and as the assignment question states, its not as “cut and dry” as we may think. On the outside it seems like a great idea for many, not having to bother getting all dressed up, and having less stress being in a cubicle. Though with the wave of stay at home employees came about more ways to communicate, Zoom took over as a way to host virtual meetings, and Slack became an essential way to type to your employees and coworkers. For some people online communication isn't all that good, as being around other people can boost morale and help get work done. Over the last 2 years I’ve had a few internships and freelance jobs that were mostly online. We would communicate through skype, slack, email, and by text. For me who is more introverted this was great, I was able to be at my personal computer, with my setup that I know well, and I was able to get my work done comfortably in my home. I didn’t see a problem with anything on a communication level, I would write to them, and they would reply to me almost instantly thanks to slack. The people I was working with were from India, so it was a bit difficult to understand them when talking because of their accents, but thanks to Slack and Skype I was able to fully understand what they wanted through emails and text. Virtual employees have the benefit of multiple ways two-way communication, telephone, email, text, and a plethora of communication apps like Skype, Slack, and Discord, while face-to-face employees have all of those, while also being able to talk to their coworkers face-to-face, which may or may not be faster. Building trust in an online virtual team is as easy as staying in touch with your coworkers and employers. Staying up to date with everyone is important, and shows that you care about the work you are doing. There are a plethora of ways to improve collaboration between team members. As I’ve mentioned before there are the communication apps like Slack, Skype, and Discord. The apps help you to communicate with you team members by text, and speech, but they also allow you to share files. When I was working with the team in India, they had a server of files hosted on a microsoft platform, I don't remember the name but it was a great way to share large files. At the end of the day the most effective thing is to keep in contact with your coworkers and employers to make sure that the work that needs to get done is getting done, and that people are doing what they are supposed to be doing.