**Electronic office**

The **electronic office**, or **e-office**, was a term coined to cover the increasing use of computer-based information technology for office work, especially in the 1980s. It was a marketing buzzword at the time, but now is not so widely used since all modern offices are electronic offices. The term appeared much earlier in the name of the LEO computer, that first ran a business application in 1951 in England. The ongoing process that led to e-office adoption was elimination of paper and making most of the office communications electronic. The definition of electronic office is not precise, and it might be either: ▪ the introduction of individual computers running office software applications, such as word processors, ▪ or to the interconnection of office computers using a local area network, ▪ or to the centralization of office functions via web applications. The introduction of e-office improved accuracy and efficiency of organizations and thereby improved their level of service, while theoretically lowering costs and drastically reducing the consumption of paper.

**Virtual Workplace**

This is a **workplace** that is not located in any one physical space. Rather, several **workplace**s are technologically connected (via the net) without regard to geographic boundaries. Employees are thus able to interact and work with one another in a collaborated environment regardless of where they are in the world. A **virtual workplace** decreases unnecessary costs by integrating technology processes, people processes, and online processes. In this chapter, personal pages of politics are rendered as peculiar **virtual** political offices for their owners providing great opportunities to communicate with their target audiences.

**Telecommuters and Telecommuting**

**Telecommuting**, also called **telework**, **teleworking**, **working from home**, **mobile work**, **remote work**, and **flexible workplace**,[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommuting#cite_note-usopm_def-1)[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommuting#cite_note-2) is a [work](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Employment) arrangement in which employees do not [commute](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commuting) or travel (e.g. by bus or car) to a central place of work, such as an [office building](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Office_building), [warehouse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warehouse), or [store](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Retail_store). Telecommuting came into prominence in the 1970s to describe work-related substitutions of telecommunication and related information technologies for travel.[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommuting#cite_note-3) Teleworkers in the 21st century often use [mobile telecommunications](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mobile_telecommunication) technology such as [Wi-Fi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wi-Fi)-equipped [laptop](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laptop) or [tablet computers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tablet_computer) and [smartphones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Smartphone) to work from [coffee shops](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coffeehouse); others may use a [desktop computer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desktop_computer) and a [landline phone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Landline_phone) at their home. According to a [Reuters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reuters) poll, approximately "one in five workers around the globe, particularly employees in the Middle East, Latin America and Asia, telecommute frequently and nearly 10 percent work from home every day."[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommuting#cite_note-Ipsos-4) In the 2000s, [annual leave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annual_leave) or [vacation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vacation) in some organizations was seen as absence from the workplace rather than ceasing work, and some office employees used telework to continue to check work [e-mails](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E-mail) while on vacation.

In the 1990s, telecommuting became the subject of [pop culture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Popular_culture) attention. In 1995, the motto that "work is something you do, not something you travel to" was coined.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommuting#cite_note-5) Variations of this motto include: "Work is something we DO, not a place that we GO"[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommuting#cite_note-6) and "Work is what we do, not where we are."[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telecommuting#cite_note-7) Telecommuting has been adopted by a range of businesses, governments and not-for-profit organizations. Organizations may use telecommuting to reduce costs (telecommuting employees do not require an office or [cubicle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cubicle), a space which has to be rented or purchased, provided with lighting and climate control, etc.). Some organizations adopt telecommuting to improve workers' quality of life, as teleworking typically reduces commuting time and time stuck in [traffic jams](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traffic_jam). Along with this, teleworking may make it easier for workers to balance their work responsibilities with family roles (e.g., caring for children or elderly parents). Some organizations adopt teleworking for environmental reasons, as telework can reduce [congestion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traffic_congestion) and [air pollution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_pollution), as it can reduce the number of cars on the roads.