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# 7 Facts That Will Help You Better Enable Your Remote Workforce

Consider these seven data points as you move from responding to the surge in remote work due to the pandemic and prepare for the new normal.

## FACT #1

**74%**
of companies plan to permanently shift to more remote work post COVID-19.[i]

**There has been a massive shift to work from home.**
And, it is unlikely to reverse itself anytime soon. To enable a hybrid workforce, your IT team needs to ensure that users can access business-critical applications quickly — anywhere they work.

## FACT #2

**Business continuity planning now includes digital resiliency.** The way we approach business continuity has changed. The focus now is on digital resiliency — which looks at where employees work, their tools, and how they are managed and motivated.

**71%**
of executives are worried about continuity and productivity during the pandemic.[ii]

## FACT #3

**SaaS application usage will rise to support virtual and mobile workers.**
Business-critical applications such as Microsoft 365, Salesforce, and Box have become essential tools for getting work done. Yet, poor performance can impact workforce productivity.

**75%**
of enterprises said that **Microsoft 365** helps them support workforces that are increasingly virtual and mobile.[iii]

**50%**
of respondents report IT must field multiple inbound complaints and tickets related to SaaS performance per month.[iv]

## FACT #4

**It's outside of your control...or is it?**
Your IT team is tasked with supporting work-from-home and remote workers where much of the environment is outside of your control and dependent on the availability and performance of service providers and Internet routing. Latency and bandwidth are unpredictable yet workforce productivity depends on fast, consistent, and reliable application delivery.

Employees are turning on video **2x** as often as before the pandemic.[v]

## FACT #5

**Video usage is up, so is home network saturation.**
Use of video-based collaboration tools has increased as a replacement for face-to-face meetings and hallway conversations. As employees gradually return to the office, your IT team will need to optimize network bandwidth to support video-based collaboration for those who continue to work from home and remotely.

**37%**
increase in hacking and phishing attempts during the pandemic.[vi]

Most organizations rely on **3-6** tools to monitor their network, making it difficult to identify issues and resolve them quickly.[vii]

## FACT #6

**The cyberattack landscape has changed.**
Cybercriminals are taking advantage of the fact that remote employees do not have the same level of security on their home networks. Many enterprises are in the process of rolling out new security policies and technologies to support work-from-home models. Yet, every network connection and every web-based application a potential entry point for security threats or performance problems.

## FACT #7

**More (tools) may not be better.**
Most IT teams use a large and diverse toolkit to manage complex environments and support remote and office-based employees. Yet, with so many tools, it can be difficult to connect the dots — delaying problem resolution and forensic investigations.

## Remote Workforce Solutions from Riverbed

Riverbed helps enterprises address the productivity challenges work-from-home and remote employees encounter, maximizing application performance through massive data reduction and latency mitigation across networks. Workforces can stay productive anywhere, anytime with fast, consistent, and available applications they need to get work done. To help ensure business continuity and security, we also offer a comprehensive suite of network and application visibility and analytics solutions.

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## Sources

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vii EMA, Network Performance Management for Today's Digital Enterprise, May 2019