Putting people first: Future-ready meetings and teamwork

Next-generation meeting solutions
Expectations are running higher than ever.

The seamless technology experience we’re used to at home has changed the way we want to work. The consumerization of IT is no longer a trend. It’s a reality that has defined a new workplace.

People expect to connect with co-workers instantly from anywhere, across devices that work together automatically, with just a single click to login. They want seamless HD video conferencing that makes everyone feel like they’re in the same room, even when they’re halfway across the world.

The expectations placed on today’s collaboration solutions have never been higher. Is your collaboration technology evolving to meet them?

Explore the factors shaping the future of meetings and teamwork, and make sure your organization is ready.

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Today’s workplace: A new approach

Your team members are on the go, working from anywhere, playing their roles to keep projects moving forward. Yet when it comes to meetings, staying productive doesn’t always mean staying connected—or secure.

Many of today’s meeting solutions come up short. An extensive range of vendors are offering solutions that claim to manage and improve every aspect of meetings, and some at a lower cost. However, these solutions vary widely in breadth of features, quality of service, or even data protection.

Modern meetings require a new approach. One that empowers employees to connect quickly and easily. To collaborate seamlessly and share work more securely, every single time.

Moving beyond challenges to better experiences

- **Connect dispersed teams.** Connect your global teams from any location, any time. Ensure that employees, customers, and partners can collaborate however they choose, using voice, HD video, and content sharing.

- **Make meetings work.** Get more done in less time. Start meetings in seconds with a consistent user experience across all devices and meeting rooms—all with simple installation and ongoing maintenance.

- **Manage complexity.** Spend your time getting things done instead of chasing information. By breaking down information silos and reducing ramp-up times, you can move work forward while lowering costs.

- **Meet compliance needs.** Stay in front of complex compliance requirements. Simplified reporting and built-in security, as well as retention and search capabilities, can integrate with your existing compliance software.

- **Step up security.** Stay proactive and vigilant in an escalating threat landscape. Get the right level of protection needed for sensitive business data, and provide secure collaboration from any device or location.

The people: Mobile and connected

Is your organization prepared for today’s workforce? New generations, from Millennials to Generation Z, now comprise the majority of workers. These younger workers bring high expectations for a flexible, mobile, and connected workplace. To attract and retain these workers, your organization must meet—or exceed—their expectations.

Shaping the future of your business

This means providing them with innovative mobile technologies and flexible work schedules that increase work-life balance. And it means providing them with the ability to connect, quickly and easily, as if they were in the same room.

In this multigenerational workforce, it’s important to consider the technology needs of the entire team. When it comes to technology, one size does not fit all. That’s particularly true when it comes to devices and workstyles. For example, when it comes to meetings, older workers may be accustomed to using more traditional technology, like a standard phone versus a PC.

It’s critical to strike a balance for all workers, with the right cutting-edge collaboration tools that enable people to work from anywhere, at any time, as valuable, contributing team members.

What can you do to attract the workers of the future?

Consider all perspectives

from Generation Z to Baby Boomers – when exploring collaboration solutions.

Seek out future innovations

Innovations that make collaboration experiences better—today.

75% of the global workforce will be made up of Millennials.2

61% of business owners surveyed are currently experiencing “extreme or moderate difficulty finding quality employees to expand their business.”3

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3 The Hill, Workers wanted: Skilled-labor shortage hinders business boom, June 2017.
The innovations: Artificial intelligence

The future of meetings is virtual, and the smarter the meeting, the more productive, more collaborative, and even more enjoyable it can be. Virtual assistants like Siri and Alexa are already in our personal lives—and they’re quickly moving into the workplace. In fact, artificial intelligence (AI) is already being incorporated in collaboration solutions like Cisco Webex Meetings.

What can you gain from smarter meetings with AI?

1. **Noise Detection**
   - Rustling papers, barking dogs, tapping on keyboards. Too often, distracting background noise is what you hear during teleconferences. Webex applies machine learning to detect the noises that distract in meetings, and alerts the people who can do something about them.

2. **Sight Lines**
   - It’s easy to know who is speaking at in-person meetings. But during video conferences, who is contributing what can be a guessing game. Webex smart cameras recognize faces in groups and intelligently frame everyone perfectly on-screen.

3. **Talk to a Helper**
   - Unlike all-purpose voice assistants, Cisco Webex Teams Assistant has one goal: to help your meetings run more smoothly. Start, control, and end meetings just by saying the words.

Statistics on smarter meetings with AI?

- 57% of workers say it will make meetings more productive.
- 51% of workers say it will improve their focus.
- 33% of Millennials understand AI.
- 32% have personal experience with AI products.

Cisco has more AI features to come. And offers the best digital whiteboard.

**Showing Your Work** – Cisco Webex Teams—included with Cisco Webex Meetings—lets teams brainstorm and move concepts forward from anywhere on any device by drawing together on a secure and savable virtual whiteboard, just like in person.

Evolving solutions: Cisco leads the way

The benefits of next-gen meetings go beyond seamless collaboration. IT departments can simplify services delivery and speed deployment by using fewer vendors. By quickly delivering the right resources to the right people, productivity increases and the ability to course correct and make decisions gets easier and faster. That all-important employee satisfaction goes up, relationships with clients and partners improve.

As the proven market leader in meeting and team collaboration solutions—with a notable stronghold in AI—Cisco can help you meet the challenges of today’s changing workplace and be ready for the future.

Cisco offers a robust portfolio of innovative, agile solutions, all under a single, unified cloud-ready umbrella.

116m professionals rely on the future-ready Cisco Webex Meetings experience each month.
Are you ready to make next-generation collaboration a reality?

Cisco Webex Meetings
The leading software-based platform for secure HD video conferencing and messaging, available on any device

Cisco Webex Teams (formerly Cisco Spark)
Cloud-based collaboration from any location, with messaging, online meetings, content sharing, and whiteboarding

Cisco Webex Board
Touch-based wireless presentation, whiteboarding, and video and audio conferencing that connects virtual teams on any device

Webex Room Kit
Fully integrated video collaboration room kits with automatic screen integration, in-room controls, and the ability to count participants

Video Conferencing
Scalable, affordable online meetings with flexible deployment models for organizations of all sizes and meetings on any device

Cisco Collaboration Flex Plan
A purchasing model that provides flexible options for combining meetings, calling, and team collaboration features in a single subscription

Choose a collaboration solution that helps you get stuff done. View the infographic

Ready to learn more about meeting solutions? Explore