



## Are you creating the best approach to hybrid working?

By Craig Lewis, Head of Enterprise Printing, Ricoh Graphic Communications, Ricoh Europe

**Ricoh Europe, London, May 20 2022** —What does a post pandemic work environment look like for both employers and employees?

At the height of the lockdowns many companies were forced to adapt to accommodate home working and remote operation. At the same time employees experienced what it is like to work from home and how their days could be structured differently in the future.

This has created a choice and an opportunity for organisations to use their learning from the past two years to positively shape business practices.

The 2022 Work Reimagined Survey by multinational professional services business Ernst & Young Global Limited, known as EY, found 80% of employees want to work at least two days remotely per week. A reluctance toward fully remote working was voiced by only 20% of employees, compared to 34% last year. The insight was gathered from more than 17,000 employees and 1,575 employers across 22 countries and 26 industries.

However, there is not always the infrastructure in place to support this as new Ricoh Europe commissioned <u>research</u> has found. It reported that just one in five office workers say their workplace has a hybrid working policy in place. The Opinium survey of 3,000 office workers across the UK, Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Spain, found almost two thirds (64%) believe it should be the individual's choice to return to the office in 2022.

The report highlighted inadequate technology as one of the factors holding back the creation of more accommodating and agile ways of working.

But there are plenty of solutions and services that can help.

During the pandemic we supported organisations across a broad spectrum of sectors change their ways of working to maintain responsiveness, flexibility, and productivity. These relationships have continued as the businesses have adapted. They have gone on to strengthen their ability to effectively respond to demands from their employees, customers, and markets.

## Some inspiring examples are:

Retail – After investing in print production solutions to create social distancing signage we helped leading British retailer, Next UK, to expand into printing Point of Sale material on demand. B By using intelligent templates, staff can customise POS and signage material to strict brand guidelines wherever they are working, in store or at home.

Legal companies – The need to generate, print, and securely store time critical documents has prompted investment in internal production capabilities. Increasingly legal businesses are looking to maintain high data protection standards while being confident that legal records and documents are rapidly available, via a streamlined workflow to optimise efficiency and client demands.

Banking and Insurance – The focus on maintaining critical customer communications in a centralised way that ensures accuracy and consistency has resulted in the adoption of different ways of working. The right software enabled <a href="DZ Bank">DZ Bank</a> to upload customer letters to a portal for approval, print, and distribution. This can reduce local administration and save time and money, while allowing bank employees, working from home, to process and distribute financial correspondence, without compromising security or customer experience.

## Ricoh can help operations:

- Connect to centralised printing workflow to reduce home or external printing with solutions such as <u>TotalFlow Job Ticket</u>.
- Create ad hoc customer correspondence in print or digital on demand from any location with <u>Hybrid Mail</u>.
- Digitise documents for regulatory compliance and provide customers and business users with access to those documents via a self-service portal with <u>ManagingEnterprise</u> Output.
- Digitise the mobile workforce to initiate document workflows from handheld devices with <u>Objectif Lune</u>.
- Enable real time access to documents for staff wherever they are working using <u>Managing Enterprise Output</u>.

Individually, or as part of a combined approach, these solutions support highly responsive hybrid working practices. They can deliver maximum productivity and client satisfaction whether employees are working from home or the office.

Contact us to learn more about how you can enhance the flexibility of your operation and support a happy working environment for your employees.

## | About Ricoh |

Ricoh is empowering digital workplaces using innovative technologies and services that enable individuals to work smarter from anywhere.

With cultivated knowledge and organizational capabilities nurtured over its 85-year history, Ricoh is a leading provider of digital services, information management, and print and imaging solutions designed to support digital transformation and optimize business performance.

Headquartered in Tokyo, Ricoh Group has major operations throughout the world and its products and services now reach customers in approximately 200 countries and regions. In the financial year ended March 2022, Ricoh Group had worldwide sales of 1,758 billion yen (approx. 14.5 billion USD).

For further information, please visit <a href="https://www.ricoh-europe.com">www.ricoh-europe.com</a>

© 2022 RICOH COMPANY, LTD. All rights reserved. All referenced product names are the trademarks of their respective companies.