Is Your Training Department Ready to Train a Remote, Tech-driven Workforce?

In this fast-moving digital age, businesses have to embrace innovation while keeping their workforce and customers trained for new technological developments.

When it comes to developing technology skills, there's no substitute for hands-on learning. However, providing hands-on learning typically means sending people to a traditional in-person class, which can be expensive.

Virtual training labs levels the playing field for remote workers and distant customers. Read this article to learn how virtual training labs:

- Reduce travel and equipment costs.
- Improve learners' technology skills.
- Make instructors more effective.

Read now to learn how to develop more confident, productive customers and employees.

Is Your Training Department Ready to Train a Remote, Tech-driven Workforce?

Technology is the driving force for many businesses. Businesses have to be quick on their feet and more responsive than ever before to keep up with fast-spreading, revolutionary advances. To thrive in this environment, it's crucial to embrace innovation, and at the same time keep their customers and workforce trained, so they are ready to adapt to new technological development.

While advances in digital technology have made many aspects of our working lives easier, they have also created new challenges. Enabled by high-speed internet access, more people than ever are telecommuting—working remotely but never more than a click away from a face-to-face video meeting.

At the same time, companies are expecting employees and customers to be conversant with a list of tools and technologies that grows longer by the day. Software touches every part of our lives and the companies that make it are casting a long shadow over every other industry. Compare, for example, the top ten largest companies in 1998 vs. 2018:

1998	2018
Microsoft	Apple
General Electric	Amazon
Exxon Mobil	Alphabet
Royal Dutch Shell	Microsoft
Merck	Facebook

Whether working remotely or on-site, and regardless of profession, a significant portion of the world's workweeks involves completing tasks using various software platforms and applications.

How is your organization handling the challenge of keeping its employees and customers fully educated about the state of technology? And trained to use your software to the best of their abilities?

There's No Substitute for Hands-On Training

Learning how to use any new technology is a skill. Like any skill, you can't master it just by reading text or watching a video. Hands-on training is the best way to learn a new skill. When students are trained to use a new technology platform under the supervision of an expert instructor, they can practice and experiment in an environment where successes can be reinforced, and mistakes quickly corrected.

The problem with hands-on training in today's world is that it's not always easy to gather people in one location for training. In-person training at a physical location is ideal for on-site employees or nearby customers, but for everyone else it means dealing with travel expenses and logistical issues.

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About ReadyTech
ReadyTech is the easiest and most cost-effective way to deliver worldwide IT training. Our proprietary technology eliminates the most cumbersome, technical and administrative functions of running an IT training program. Students can connect through a browser from anywhere in the world to a high performance lab-environment suited for their needs. Our online training software gives instructors complete oversight and control of the lab environment and virtual classroom.

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Getting to choose the best people for your team without limiting yourself by geography is one of the greatest advantages of a workplace culture that supports telecommuting. However, there are some disadvantages to having workers who can't just head to the training center down the hall when a mission-critical software platform releases a major update.

The way to train a distributed world is to bring them together with technology that lets the training meet them where they are.

Virtual Training Labs Level the Playing Field for Remote, Tech-Driven Students

Online education has been around for a long time, but it took the advent of high-speed internet to make virtual training labs a practical equivalent to in-person training. With virtual training software, the look and feel of a state-of-the-art workstation running a full installation of the software being taught can be replicated on any student's personal computer.

For the student, it's like having their own copy of the software and a device fully equipped to run it. A remote server hosts the virtual training environment and runs the actual software, while their own device provides the inputs and displays the environment's visuals.

To maximize the efficacy of this virtual training environment, ReadyTech provides a platform for virtual instructor-led training (VILT), which allows instructors to interact with students in the virtual training lab much as they would in an actual classroom. For example, they can access an "over the shoulder" view to see what a student is working on, draw and write on a whiteboard, and set up breakout rooms to facilitate discussions.

With VILT, virtual training is more than just a sandbox. It becomes a way to make the key elements of in-person training accessible to all of your employees, wherever they're located, and at any time when they would benefit from further training.

Where to Learn More About Virtual Training Software

The use of virtual training labs in both business and academic settings has been researched and written about extensively. The current state of virtual computer training has been informed by studies that have helped identify best practices for this developing field.

For those interested in learning more about the theory and uses of virtual training labs, Training Industry has reported on the experience of using virtual training labs from the learner's perspective.

You can also find a wealth of information about the benefits of virtual training at ReadyTech's resource section which includes ebooks, case studies, infographics, and more.

Conclusion

In 2019 and beyond, workers need to be adept at navigating a wide range of technological platforms and digital tools, no matter what industry they're in. To deliver the best they're capable of, they need access to the educational resources that will enable them to keep pace with the relentlessly fast advancements of modern technology.

Virtual training labs offer a high-tech solution to a high-tech problem. They allow training departments to provide the highest quality training and education to customers and employees, whether they're two doors over or two time zones away.

Virtual training labs gives your customers and your employees the opportunity to interact directly with full-featured software as run by high-powered workstations, while being supervised by an instructor who knows how to leverage the advantages of the virtual environment. This allows them to derive all the benefits of hands-on training without having to set foot in an in-person classroom, and levels the playing field for training a remote, technology-driven world.