

SURVEY: Nine in 10 Employees are Frustrated by their Workplace Technology

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Freshworks survey of nearly 9,000 workers around the world reveals software crisis despite pandemic-driven tech spend surge

SAN MATEO, Calif., June 09, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- <u>Freshworks</u> Inc., (NASDAQ: FRSH), a software company empowering the people who power business, today unveiled <u>new research</u>*, revealing that businesses globally face a potential workplace crisis due to inadequate technology, damaging employee productivity, mental health and the ability to retain talent. Despite the global shift to hybrid work igniting the biggest surge in technology <u>investment in history</u>, an overwhelming 91% of employees report being frustrated due to inadequate workplace technology.

Tech Not Keeping Pace With Employee Expectations

During the pandemic, businesses spent the equivalent of \$15 billion USD extra a week on technology to enable remote working, according to KPMG. Despite the consequent rapid changes to the way we work, Freshworks found that employees reported widespread failures from the workplace technology they use every day. Top complaints included slow speeds (51%), extended response times from IT teams (34%), lack of collaboration between departments (30%), missing important features/capabilities (28%) and lack of automation (25%).

When trying to get employees to embrace new technology and tools, leaders say their biggest challenge is hard to use applications with a high learning curve (68%). More than two thirds (69%) of leaders feel that employees are not given sufficient time to learn to use new software and that the benefits are often not adequately explained to employees (67%).

Good Tech Gives Strategic Advantage in the War for Talent

As a fierce war for talent rages, and half (44%) of employees globally are still considering changing jobs, easy to use technology is an essential contributor to employee satisfaction. In fact, while pay and benefits top the reasons to move jobs, lack of flexible working opportunities and innovative tech are in the top five. This is recognised by business leaders globally, 71% of whom acknowledge that employees will consider looking for a new employer if their current job does not provide access to the tools, technology or information they need to do their jobs well.

Broader Business Impact of Inadequate Tech

The employee experience isn't the only thing impacted by insufficient workplace technology, it's also harming the wider business. Freshworks' survey reveals that dated tech is restricting business productivity, as frustrated employees grapple with daily IT challenges. More than half (57%) of unsatisfied employees say their current software makes them less productive. Nearly half (44%) of employees surveyed say the time spent dealing with technology issues has increased since the beginning of the pandemic.

More worryingly, employee stress levels are soaring due to inadequate workplace technology; nearly half (49%) of employees surveyed report that inadequate workplace technology causes them to feel stressed and 48% claim it has negatively impacted their mental health. Business leaders agree, with 38% reporting that their failure to deliver adequate workplace technology to their stakeholders causes them to feel stressed. And in an extreme indicator, almost half of business leaders (48%) say stress from hybrid working makes them want to leave the tech industry.

"Software used in the workplace is simply not keeping pace with rising employee expectations," said **Stacey Epstein, Chief Marketing Officer at Freshworks**. "Our report reveals that sticking with bloated, legacy platforms is materially hurting productivity and the employee experience. This technological inertia couldn't come at a worse time, as organizations all over the world are battling to keep a handle on both talent shortages and economic uncertainty, creating threats on two fronts."

<u>Download</u> Part 1 of the "State of Workplace Technology" series titled, "Workplace Tech: The new battleground for the war on talent, productivity & reputation." Part 2, "Bloatware: The difference between love & hate for workplace tech," will be available in July.

Methodology

Censuswide, on behalf of Freshworks, surveyed 6698 employees and 2000 Line of Business (LOB) leaders aged 18+ in businesses with 100-500 employees across Europe, USA, Latin America, APAC and MEA. Statistics were collected in April 2022.

About Freshworks

Freshworks Inc. (NASDAQ: FRSH) makes business software people love to use. Purpose-built for IT, customer support, sales and marketing teams, our products empower the people who power business. Freshworks is fast to onboard, priced affordably, built to delight, yet powerful enough to deliver critical business outcomes. Headquartered in San Mateo, California, Freshworks operates around the world to serve more than 56,000 customers including Bridgestone, Chargebee, DeliveryHero, ITV, Klarna, Multichoice, OfficeMax, TaylorMade and Vice Media. For the freshest company news visit www.freshworks.com and follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.

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