THE FUTURE OFFICE

BIOPHILIC DESIGN

The idea is to put more nature in touch with the human experience. In the workplace, this means bringing the elements of nature into the work environment, such as plants, water, and natural light. The concept is based on the idea that people are interconnected with nature and can benefit from contact with it.

OFFICE SHARING

Companies are starting to boost collaboration between workers. One trend is growing for companies to share office space. A new model for this is called “office sharing.” This allows workers to share office space with others. In this way, companies can reduce their office space needs and save money.

VIRTUAL REALITY

The workplace of the future will rely on virtual reality (VR). Most of the publicity surrounding virtual reality (VR) headsets has been around gaming, but office applications are numerous. Companies can use VR to work with breakout models of their work. Employing firms will be able to see what their world looks like, and new areas will be created.

DRIVEN BY DATA

Data will play a major role in the future of work. Companies are using data to better understand employee performance dynamics. They are using data gleaned from its employees, it learnt that call centre performance increased by 25 per cent for those who turned up half an hour late are on their way out. A study by the Federal University of Lavras in Brazil revealed that employees who use mobile phones are 25 per cent more productive and 15 per cent more creative overall."

WORKING STYLES

The office of the future triggers a lot of different opinions. Some people love open plan offices because they are more engaging, while others love having their own space. The trend is towards more flexible working environments, where employees can work in environments with elements such as natural light and live plants. For example, employees at HOK London get to lunch in an indoor garden, with grass, flowers, and deckchairs. Oliver Heath, managing director of Hunterlodge, says: “This is tied to the concept of having an agile workforce and people appreciate our environment and aesthetics."