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### WORKFORCE **MOBILITY**

THE TIMES

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EMPLOYEE RELOCATION

## Away win: relocations make the unlikeliest of comebacks

At a time when millions of people can work remotely from anywhere with an adequate internet connection, the number of companies looking to move employees is on the increase

#### Sam Forsdick

mployee relocations can be expensive affairs. A firm looking to move a member of staff and their family to an office in another territory may need to cover the costs of their travel, temporary accommodation, language and/or cultural training and, potentially, schooling if the employee has children. Moreover, the proven effectiveness of remote working tech since the pandemic has made it harder for employers to justify such a hefty outlay

Despite this, interest in employee relocation seems to be returning, if the results of the latest Corporate Relocation Survey published by US removals firm Atlas Van Lines are anything to go by. Of the 575 employers it polled at the end of 2023, 70% reported a year-on-year increase in the number of employees they had relocated. Of the 80 large companies in the sample (those employing 5,000-plus people), a quarter said that they'd moved 400 or more workers over the year.

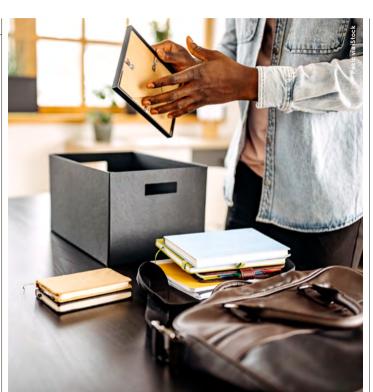
Relocation budgets for 2024 are also increasing, with most respondents setting more money aside for such purposes than they did the previous year.

Such figures contrast starkly with those recorded during the depths | that can be done remotely, but a lot of the Covid crisis, Oliver Beswick, founder and managing director of Beswick Relocation Services and a Relocation Professionals, describes the pandemic as a challenging period for his business. While he was kept "very busy" in early 2020 as expat workers wishing to return to their home countries sought help, lockdown restrictions soon forced such activities to "grind to a halt".

The Covid-driven rise of remote working made some industry insiders fear that their services would never be needed again. The market for domestic relocations in particular "fell through the floor", Beswick says. "After all, why would a company pay all the expenses associated with moving an employee when they might be working in the office only two or three days a week, or not at all?"

But demand for relocation services is growing once again, he reports, noting that "a lot more companies are investing at the moment".

Return-to-office directives are likely to have played a significant role in this trend, as more and more



employees who relocated during the | they seek to expand internationally. pandemic are summoned back to HO by their firms.

"Many of our clients want their emare seeking to build an environment in which people can learn from each other," Beswick explains. "Part of of that must still be done in person."

An improvement in trading conditions has been another factor in the the Atlas survey citing the growth of their businesses as their main reason for relocating employees.

Matt Monette is country lead for the UK and Ireland at Deel, a USingemployerstohireinternationally. number of small and medium-sized

Typically, this will involve sending people from HO to a target territory to better understand that market ployees to feel part of the team and and then start hiring a local team with a view to establishing an office.

locating people to new regions to tax implications and whether local share and transplant the institu- payroll is required. With regard to tional knowledge and culture of their organisations," Monette says. "You can't just hire in a new region board member at the Association for U.S. with a third of respondents to and expect local recruits to operate employees of their place of work. the same way as people do at your headquarters.

There are no guarantees that anyone given a relocation opportunity will take it, of course. Almost twobased firm that specialises in help- thirds (64%) of respondents to the Atlas survey reported that at least He reports a "massive uptick" in the one of their employees had turned down a chance to move in 2023. businesses using its services as Safety concerns and family ties were

the most commonly cited reasons or declining such offers.

Monette would encourage any ompany looking to relocate staff to proach the subject with care.

"If you sit someone down in the boardroom and tell them that they could be moving to a new region they might be shocked," he says "But, if you open up the idea to a broader group, people will typically get excited by the opportunity.

Financial incentives can prove persuasive here. Monette reports that he has seen companies dangling relocation perks ranging from ar allowances to food expenses some even offer to pay the travel osts of visiting relatives.

Beswick says that the cost of one elocation can range from £5,000 to £100,000, depending on who's in olved and the scope of the project n the case of a senior executive, for instance, a company may offer to move their entire family, pets and all, and pay for their children to be orivately educated.

Although this may seem like a high price to pay, foreign assignments can improve talent retention according to a recent survey of HR chiefs by Crown World Mobility.

Other things that companies need "Many companies see value in re- to consider are visa requirements employment law, there is a requirement under the Employment Rights Act 1996 for all companies to inform Mobility clauses allow them to alter this location - if such a change is deemed reasonable.

"A move could be considered unreasonable for numerous reasons, says Mary Walker, a partner and employment law expert at Gordons. "I could be the amount of notice that's given, where the new place of work is or the role and its requirements. If the employee works as an interna onal business development professional, it might be more reasonable that they be asked to move abroad

This still leaves scope for a UK employer to relocate people if

Despite the Covid-enforced changes to the way many of us work, relocations can still serve as a useful tool for businesses. The associated cost can be considerable, but that may prove a worthwhile investment if it helps the employer to realise commercial opportunities in a high-potential new market.

# WORKFORCE SECURITY

While employers generally acknowledge that the responsibility for protecting the remote workforce from cyber threats such as malware falls mostly on their shoulders, they are still struggling to establish effective safeguards. Some of the key findings arising from Fortinet's 2023 Work-From-Anywhere Global Study Report make sobering reading for corporate IT security chiefs

### THE SECURITY RISKS OF A REMOTE WORKFORCE

Share of security chiefs citing the following as among the two biggest cyber risks posed by remote working · 41%

· 38%

Unknown user access on home networks

Lack of visibility across the

Growing sophistication of the

Incomplete implementation of

zero-trust security framework

Lack of actionable threat intelligence

Poor visibility of IT asset ownership

Patching prioritisation

Fortinet, 2023

Preventing social engineering attacks

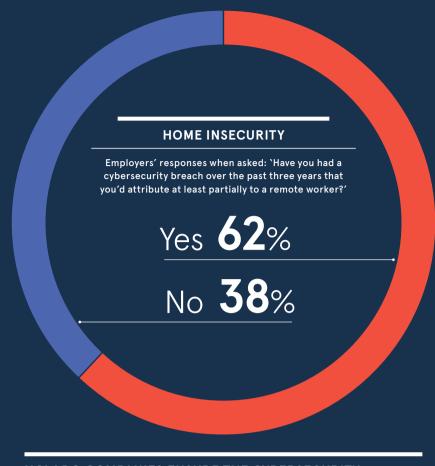
distributed network

threat landscape

### THE CHALLENGES OF SECURING A DISTRIBUTED WORKFORCE



there's a sound business case.

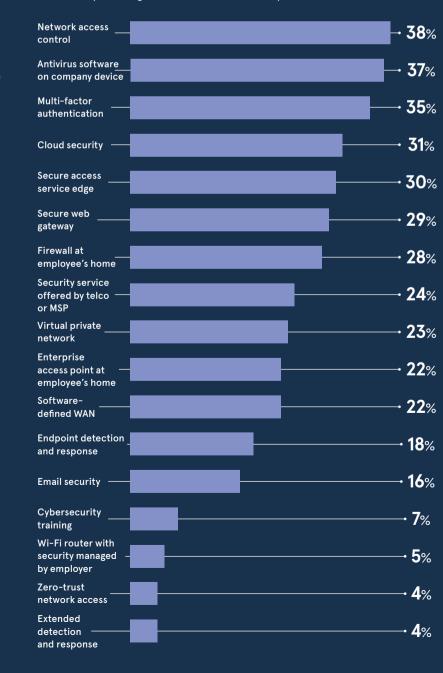


#### HOW DO COMPANIES ENSURE THE CYBERSECURITY OF THEIR DISTRIBUTED WORKFORCE?

Share of security chiefs citing the following as among the four most important methods of protecting their remote workers from cyber threats

30%

**(5)** 



## 66% of firms expect the number of employee relocations

at their organisation

to increase in 2024

will be the main driver of relocation activity at their organisation

raconteur.net

orkforce-mobility-june-2024





## Global workforce agility: unlocking success in 2024

Smart businesses have much to gain in an increasingly fluid and borderless talent market

the last few years over? Not quite. But forward-thinking organisations are increasingly finding that a different approach to global talent mobility may hold the answer.

Indeed, the opportunities to source or redeploy skilled professionals across borders have never been greater.

Rapid technological advance ments and interconnectedness con tinue to transform the nature of work Traditional methods of acquiring and deploying talent are dissolving, giving rise to a more fluid and borderless global talent market. The benefits for those able to seize them are huge.

With global workforce agility, organisations can access broader talent pools, cut recruitment costs, redeploy existing skills faster and boost productivity with | to global talent mobility. Organisation fewer resources. All of which can ladder | must prioritise the issue at the highest



Employers need to see workforce agility holistically, thinking about the structural changes, technology, data and skills needed to manage a distributed workforce successfully

up to a distinct competitive advantage over their peers.

Yet this evolution necessitates a deep understanding and proactive approach

levels, ensuring it aligns with wider I forward-looking organisations are business strategy and diversity and

They must also do this in a way that mitigates compliance risk, while navigating increased geopolitical instability | ties based on skills and not geograand the higher cost of doing business.

#### Why talent mobility matters

The pivot toward distributed work since the pandemic has radically reshaped the global labour force, says Rumi Das, head of global workforce consulting with Global Employer Services (GES) at Deloitte UK

It has also come at a time when the apabilities required by leading companies are changing in line with rapid shifts n society, technology and industry.

According to a recent Deloitte survey, around 80% of businesses now have remote / hybrid working arrangements in place as they seek to meet a more complex range of business objectives and address changing employee needs. Meanwhile, 51% of employers expect to see an increase in their overall global mobility activity, while one-infour workers are willing to move for the right opportunity.

workforce mobil-"Global ity has always been with us, but must be viewed as a strategic priority

taking it to the next level," says Das. "Not only does it enable them to tap into a broader talent pool by matching candidates to opportuniphy, but also helps develop a global nindset across the organisation, and ultimately leads to greater business impact and innovation"

#### Taking advantage of a more fluid skills marketplace

As demand for talent agility has their policies to support a wider variety of move types, allowing employees to obtain new skills and a degree of personal flexibility aligned to the organisa wider strategic goals.

Regulators have also modified their approach by offering more flexible nmigration arrangements. "There are so many new ways to

access talent globally and routes to deploy skills," says Andy Cowen, telecoms, media and entertainment sector lead within GES at Deloitte UK. "They offer significant opportunities and are crying out to be used." To be successful, talent mobility

taking an interconnected approach

65%

instability as the top disruptor to business in 2024

An increasingly dispersed workforce means new employer obligations - many of which are complex unclear and inconsist-Moreover, while financial

operational and compliance flexibility in work times and locations risks are familiar territory for will have the greatest impact on global organisations, societal, attracting and retaining talent environmental and persona safety risks are creating new Fortune, Deloitte, 2024 demands and pressures and should be considered by talent mobility

#### Technology as an enabler

leaders as a top priority.

To help manage the complexity organ isations are turning to technology. By prioritising integrated solutions, business leaders can address a wide range of risks and optimise processes, costs and employee experience.

at board level and then cascade across the wider organisation to

create a culture of agility.

thorough understanding of the existing talent make-up and skills gaps of their organisation, as well as the challenges they face in

moving talent across borders.

"It is about knowing what work actually looks like today, what it will look like tomorrow and the diversity of skills that will be required

by your organisation," says Cowen. "It's also about understanding the

changing nature of the workplace and the wider world. Where are the

skills you need and where will you

access them?'

ently enforced.

New technologies such as Al have evolved significantly over the past few years, and digitised data has grown exponentially, says Alister Taylor, head of global workforce analytics in GES at Deloitte UK.

"Global talent mobility has the opportunity to tap into these insights and technologies to improve employee experience, compliance, and cost efficiency with a well-defined data strategy.

Rather than seeking a single "off the shelf" solution, he says, many organisations are supplementing, connecting and optimising existing tools to craft curated and flexible environments.

However, organisations should evaluate each technology with care to build an ecosystem that operates as an enabler rather than a blocker

#### The bottom line

Global talent agility is no longer a niceto-have but a must-have for successful companies. Forward-thinking organisations are quickly discovering that to succeed they need to take a joined-up

"Employers need to see workforce agility holistically, thinking about the structural changes, technology, data and skills needed to manage a distributed workforce successfully," says Jurga McCluskey, immigration leader at GES, Deloitte UK.

"Too often companies tackle issues such as workforce planning, tax and immigration in isolation rather tha she adds.

Clearly being able to move talent around the world remains a business nperative in an intensely competitive global landscape. And companies must take action to leverage their global networks or face being left behind.

66%

of organisations who state they plan

to use generative AI in the next two

years, will focus its use on driving

global talent mobility efficiencie

"It is about unlocking the power of global mobility in your organisaion using technology, insights and through a culture of agility," concludes McCluskey. "Those able to go further with their distributed workforces will have failed to make it the strategic pri

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## How should CEOs approach workforce mobility?

Chief executives and their teams must ensure access to global talent is at the heart of wider company strategy. With this in mind, what are the key areas they should focus on?

#### Organisational agility

Globally agile businesses are better placed to react quickly when circumstances change, which allows them to continue focusing on growth-driving activities such as cross-border expansion and acquisitions.

Chief executives must therefore ensure their company's mobility strategy aligns with wider talent planning and communicate the benefits to the board.

"They need to challenge teams to align stakeholders across the organisation, deliver strong programme leadership and have a clearly defined mission for employees. In doing so they will embed agility within their organisation". says Rumi Das, head of global workforce consulting with Global Employer Services (GES) at Deloitte UK.

"They also need to have a deep understanding of their talent challenges and goals and work outwards - developing a comprehensive distributed workforce strategy, driven from the top down.

Executive career paths Organisations not only need to attract the best talent from around the world, but also nurture it from within, particularly across the top tiers of their businesses.

Chief executives

teams to align

deliver strong

leadership and

defined mission

for employees

have a clearly

programme

need to challenge

stakeholders across

the organisation,

Yet many fail to prioritise the capabilities of global executives or properly support C-suite succession planning. That leaves many in "reactive mode

and becomes an Achilles heel, savs Andy Cowen, telecoms media and entertainment sector ead within GES at Deloitte UK. "CEOs need to pay particular atten-

complex challenges that arise when working cross-border," he savs. They also need to communicate the

benefits that a broad, geographically and culturally diverse executive bench can deliver to the rest of the business.

tion to senior talent planning, given the

Sustainability and climate An effective global talent strategy must align both with a company's growth ambitions and its sus tainability targets, but striking the right balance isn't always easy

Companies must tread a fine line between controlling business travel and enabling the free flow of workers round the globe.

The green jobs of the future will also require skills that are in short supply, from technology and engineering to investment and planning. Crossborder talent will be key to solving this and driving the green agenda forwards.

"Almost every big firm has a carbon reduction plan but only a few mention global employee mobility," says Jurga McCluskey, immigration leader at GES, Deloitte UK.

"That's an issue because business travel, digitisation and the flow of top talent could have a huge influence on

workforce will expect their choser employer to act responsibly, equitably and in a sustainable manner. Adhering to your values in this space will be increasingly important in the war for

#### Technology and digital

Technology plays an outsized role in facilitating global workorce agility, with automation and artificial intelligence transforming busi ness operations, compliance and the plovee experience

CEOs need the right technology strategy to make sure they build an integrated and nimble technology ecosystem based

Perhaps the biggest challenge for organisations going forward will be nanaging the vast quantities of data eded to power the next wave of advanced generative AI tools, says Alister Taylor, head of global workforce analytics at Deloitte UK

"Ensuring your distributed workforce strategy and data strategy are aligned

"If you want to get GenAl right you have to have the right data. So, it's about making sure you know where it is, and gathering and processing it effiiently to achieve the desired results.

"Being able to deploy the best chief technology officers, data scientists and governance experts where you need a company's environmental footprint. them will be key to making this a reality.

#### CONTINGENT WORKERS

# The ins and outs of using pools of contingent talent

Branded talent pools – offering carefully curated cohorts of contingent workers to choose from – enable employers to source scarce skills on a flexible, temporary basis. Here's how they work

manent workforces.

One obvious reason for their inc-

reased keenness on contingent

workers has been the economic

downturn, which has stifled busi-

ness growth and, hence, the crea-

An additional contributing factor

which may be even more influential.

has been a widespread change of

bility from their work. That's the

view of Fiona Halkyard, global head

"Talent owns the market more

tion of permanent full-time roles.

#### Natasha Serafimovska

he delicate balance of | freelance contractors, rather than supply and demand in the traditional temps – are changing. mployment market is While companies in other parts of shifting - and not in a way that | the world have tended to remain favours employers. A recent inter- warv of embracing contingent worknational survey of more than 1,000 ers, those in the UK and the US espebusiness leaders and HR chiefs by cially are coming to recognise them Randstad Enterprise has revealed as a valuable extension to their perthat 72% believe that skills shortages will become increasingly problematic for their firms.

At the same time, many workers are seeking greater freedom and flexibility in their careers. For them, the appeal of full-time employment, especially in a role that requires their presence in a central office five days a week, is waning.

So how can employers close the gap attitude among workers of all ages, between their growing need for tal- who are increasingly seeking flexient and the waning supply of skilled people seeking permanent jobs? So-called branded talent pools – of talent marketing delivery at containing contingent workers who Randstad Enterprise. have been vetted and can be hired on demand - could be the answer.

Employers' attitudes towards con- of employees taking more ownertingent workers - highly skilled ship over where they work," she says, ownership over where they work

adding that young people just starting their working lives are seeking careers that are "less fixed and | Proportion of senior HR managers and chief HR officers citing the static" than those that previous gen- | following as their main motivations for seeking contingent talent erations have pursued.

Many members of generations Z and alpha in particular don't view contingent working as the next best option to full-time employment. Indeed, it's become their primary choice. Companies that want to attract them must therefore adjust their approach.

This shift in how people want to work, along with a growing demand among recruiters for skills-based hiring, has made branded talent pools significantly more appealing

Barry Matthews is the president of Bench Talent Cloud, a US-based firm that creates pools of skilled contingent workers for corporate IT teams and tech companies to access. He reports that businesses are increasingly turning to open-market pools to reduce their expenditure on traditional agencies.

This trend, which is strongest in | how they think about their work- | interested, available) checks to enthe US and India, is being driven mainly by the technology and creative services sectors, Matthews says. He adds that, if a role can be broken into tasks, it can be outsourced.

"Companies that want a very specialised consultant, but may not need a full-time member of staff for that role or be able to find one, can find this freelance-based model useful," he says.

contingent workers instead of fulltime employees, problems can arise. Matthews stresses that there's room

We've seen this revolution

than ever. We've seen this revolution  $\mid$  of employees taking more

Access the firm's peaks in tasks more specialist

KEY REASONS FOR USING CONTINGENT WORKERS

productivity workload quickly

force as a whole.

than we could do otherwise."

full-time staff is also a factor.

tions this as a separate expense from

of criteria.

that are the cost skills

for both, but employers must change | performs so-called OIA (qualified.

"One mistake that companies its books are ready for deployment. make is to use this model as a re-Corporate culture plays a huge placement for full-time roles," he role in building a brand that em says. "Contingent work is obviously ployees and customers alike want to useful for purposes such as backassociate with. Some companies filling, but the best use cases are | fear that having a large contingent found in companies that say: 'Let's | workforce could have a negative redesign how we think about work cultural impact, but others believe and break some of our roles down that contingent workers can be into skills. Then we can use this type culturally refreshing, bringing new When firms start trying to use of model to get the skill we need and innovative ideas with them. more quickly and cost-effectively

sure that the contingent workers on

culture "is becoming more impor Sourcing talent via different chan- tant, which is perhaps slightly counnels can create unnecessary frag- | terintuitive to the idea that people mentation and silos in a business. are becoming less tied to the organi-Bench Talent Cloud aims to elimi- sations they work for", Halkyard nate this risk by pulling contingent | says. "But they still want to feel like workers from various sources into | they're fitting in, even if they're a single online platform that its present only for a short period. And clients can search based on a range | that's where having a community as part of the talent pools comes in."

Rich Wilson, the co-founder and A company can use these talent CEO of talent-sourcing platform communities to build its employer Gigged.ai, reports that there's still | brand and highlight all the benefits some reluctance among HR teams to | that people would enjoy by becomtreat open talent pools as a viable | ing part of its contingent workforce. way to source temporary workers. | she adds, arguing that it would be The IR35 rules governing off-payroll "wrong to assume that, just because working have a lot to do with this in someone's working with you on a the UK, but the concern that contin- temporary basis, they aren't congent workers might end up replacing | tributing to your culture. A person can make just as much of an impact Gigged.ai has been successful in in a short time as someone who's convincing potential clients to try been with your firm for 20 years."

its services by pitching to a senior While businesses are becoming internal sponsor and offering its more receptive to the idea of using technology for use in a pilot scheme. contingent workers, they could do "You need an executive sponsor to more to attract that talent, accordget started. In our case, that person | ing to Halkyard. For instance, most s usually the CIO," Wilson says. "We | firms still don't have a careers page always start with a pilot solution on their websites highlighting the before offering anything whitebenefits on offer to contingent work labelled. Procurement then posi- ers, she says

a managed-service provider, either | nies have some work to do to give as a service or a SaaS expenditure, to contingent workers the same level of respect that they afford their full-For an employer seeking a partner time employees. to deliver and manage contingent

Full-time employment isn't going workers, it's important to choose a anywhere, but contingent roles are firm that can handle all the asso- just as important for creating an ciated admin. Gigged.ai conducts agile and dynamic workforce. The several rounds of vetting, using adjustment period can be hard, but reference checks to ensure that can- it could be the key to attracting didates have the qualifications and skilled people with more choice skills they claim to possess. Bench | than ever over where they apply Talent Cloud, meanwhile, regularly those skills.

## How to manage a workforce spread around the globe

The potential benefits of having employees in several terriories and time zones are considerable – but so too is HR's task of ensuring regulatory compliance across a diverse range of jurisdictions

#### **Daniel Thomas**



forced the hasty adoption

of remote working throughout the UK, there has been a huge internationally and letting employcies, which have proved particularly these employers to trawl a wider talent pool and better serve customers located in different time zones.

But managing a widely distributed workforce presents several logistical challenges, especially the task of complying with a host of differing sistent HR policies across borders is rarely straightforward either.

Lorna Ferrie is global compliance ated with employing people there. as early as the recruitment stage.

ver since the pandemic en- | prompting them to curb or even scrap distributed working.

She cites the recent case of a med tech company that was operating in growth in the number of firms hiring | Australia and Europe but thinking about quitting several other juris ees work from anywhere. Such polidictions. The business was "facing challenges managing local workers attractive to gen Zers, have enabled | because it didn't have enough HR expertise in those territories.

"The management team's cor cerns about non-compliance with complex local laws and the com pany's lack of legal knowledge in those countries forced it to hire expensive lawvers in each location tax and labour laws. Applying con- But even doing that caused its own headaches," Ferrie recalls.

Many companies don't feel sufficiently equipped to handle the comand HR manager at Mauve Group, a pliance challenges associated with consultancy that helps employers to having a highly distributed worksolve such problems. She reports that force, which makes them reluctant some have found that having a pres- to adopt flexible working policies. ence in certain nations is outweighed | This is hardly surprising, given that by the complexities and costs associ- regulatory complexities can crop up

"Different jurisdictions have differing requirements relating to employment contracts, including important provisions including notice periods and termination conditions," notes Holly Insley, a partner specialising in employment law at Freshfields. "There'll be different requirements in relation to working hours and overtime pay, as well as varying laws on data protection and benefits such as pensions and health insurance.

An international employer might try to take a consistent approach and use standard templates for all staff, wherever they're located, but Inslev warns that this won't necessarily work in every jurisdiction.

The risk of non-compliance with local tax laws is another key concern. If social security contributions are handled incorrectly, for instance, the ramifications for both employer and employee can be serious.

The challenge takes several forms. notes Lucy Delaney, MD of the people and transformation practice at FTI Consulting. She says: "It could be on hand to review complex cases. an employer paying taxes in several countries for individuals; having to register for social security purposes abroad; potentially operating payroll in multiple countries for one a taxable presence overseas."

to consider when employing people in several countries, Insley notes. An employee working remotely from a territory in which they aren't resident may require specific visas or work permits, for instance, while some jurisdictions apply constraints on remote working arrangements involving foreign nationals.

Immigration law is another factor

"Organisations must therefore ensure that they comply on an ongoing | Chief strategy officer basis," she says. "This can involve a significant amount of admin.

Any firm that's established a workfrom-abroad policy in recent years may find it worthwhile to review its provisions and check whether these are still fit for purpose. An effective

### If most employees are at head office, splitting into regional divisions may not be practical

nication protocols, data security point of control to ensure as much measures and flexible working ar- consistency as possible, but the rangements". That's the view of extent to which the burden should Amanda Arrowsmith, people and be shared from there will depend transformation director at the Char- | heavily on each company's unique tered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), who adds: "These policies must be applied consistently at all levels.

distributed workforce? One option is of autonomy required. to establish separate legal entities for your company in different marnering with so-called employers of ment can be a great solution." record. These act as the legal emplovers of individual workers in countries where the hiring company has no other presence.

An employer of record will provide the services of that employee exclusively to the hiring company while handling the administrative aspects of the employment relationship.

This offers clear benefits, says Kathleen Healy, another Freshfields partner who heads the firm's people and reward practice in London. But she points to some caveats, particularly in cases where a fast-growing business is using employers of record to hire and manage people in large numbers. These include issues concerning compliance with pension enrolment requirements and the granting of equity-based rewards.

Ferrie, whose own firm offers an employer-of-record service, adds that not all providers are working to the same standards.

"As with any industry, there are good and bad operators. Due diligence is therefore important," she warns, noting that the best employers of record can bring substantial international experience to bear and stresses. "While some of the rules have their own legal support team that firms encounter internationally

much management responsibility to | that will trip them up."

policy will include "clear commu- | devolve. It's vital to have a central circumstances, according to Ferrie.

Factors to consider include the size and reach of the organisation, the suitability of the firm's systems and So how can firms avoid the pitfalls processes in its various territories, and realise the benefits of having a the nature of the work and the level

"If most of your employees are at head office, splitting into regional kets and make them responsible for | divisions may not be practical." she all local compliance matters. But says. "But, if your customers are all this can be costly, which is why an over the world and need support in increasing number of firms are part- their time zones, regional manage

Whatever the arrangement, it's im portant that policies are implemented consistently and benchmarked internationally to ensure fairness in areas such as pay. The CIPD advises applying the same approach to ward across the organisation mandating performancerelated pay letting each overseas HR team decide how this will be implemented to

Alternatively, says Arrowsmith 'vou could decide on a set of general principles, such as paying a fair and iveable wage, and leave it to each ocal HR team to fill in the details".

Delaney believes that most employers seeking to implement a distributed workforce model will need some kind of external support. In doing so, they must ensure that their chosen partners are familiar with their business and can give useful guidance whenever it's required.

"An organisation shouldn't get sur rounded in red tape where that's unnecessary, nor should it be obtaining advice from a provider that isn't succinct, clear and actionable," she are relatively straightforward, it's A key consideration for companies often the practical details, such as with distributed workforces is how the mechanics of payroll processing,

### employee; and even having to create | CEOs ARE THE MOST ACCOUNTABLE FOR WORKFORCE STRATEGY

roportion of business leaders citing the following roles as among the mos esponsible for developing and maintaining workforce strategy

