



Fall 2020

Summary of the Alumni Breakout Discussions Pertaining to the Impacts of Covid-19



About half-way through the meeting, the attendees were randomly divided into breakout rooms to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on their work, and on how their companies operated. After 20 minutes, the groups reassembled and reported their key discussion points. These include observations such as the following:

How Has Covid-19 affected your professional activity?

- Previously, my job required me to travel internationally at least 10 times a year; but none during the pandemic.
- Requirement to be 50% onsite to observe the production line, production flows and facilities to collect data and propose redesign options has not changed. The other 50% of her work can be done remotely.
- For some work load has been increased as well as productivity along with it; for others work has become hectic and very difficult due to family interaction and distraction during work hours.
- For some colleagues this time has been quite effective, especially for those working globally. They have been saving commute time and distractions. There was more work done within the same week; for other colleagues the lack of physical interaction has caused a negative effect and productivity.

How is the IE profession impacted by Covid-19?

- It seems Covid has pushed technology to enable us to do a substantial amount of work virtually.
- At the same time it has created new opportunities such the acceleration of purchasing thru internet. This generates new IE jobs such as in Supply Chain.



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What are some solutions that you have found to be most helpful to you?

- Designating a place at home to work remotely.
- Enhanced time management strategies. Set boundaries for at home daily activities to provide sufficient time for work responsibilities.

How your company has changed or evolved?

- Our companies continue their business thru virtual meetings, text, and phone calls and video calls. However manufacturing work was hard to deal with,
- Company may hold weekly or monthly leadership meetings with individual contributors on the status of Corona Virus and new guidelines.
- Weekly meetings about COVID to help employees about what are our personal impacts of COVID, focused on mental health.
- Moving all the workout classes online. There is an app that people can use to mental health.
- Company took the opportunity to develop COVID related medical devices, tools etc. Check symptoms, self help devices and tools.
- Use zoom, slack,
- Holding monthly zoom party. Developing team is all over the world, very international gathering.
- Did a lot of lunch-and-learns. Offered people to order food to door dash and deliver food to home.
- Travel has stopped, gives time back to the family. Will travel internationally be the same going forward.
- Working from home is new to Locked Martin. Security is a major concern. A lot of production is being done in house.
- Maintaining safety a top concern.
- Need to define and track Covid-19 KPIs.
- (Pharmaceutical) - 80% is covid testing kits. Super busy. Manufacturing team needs to be in-person, food is provided.

What great new ways of working your job/position have you?

- Having a room or office at home was the easiest. Some companies were already into remote work many years ago, and some colleagues work remotely across the global with their teams.
- Also, in these days there are more jobs opportunities by working remotely.